



# Animal Health Law – information material

**Animal Health Advisory Committee**

7 June 2022

*DG SANTE – Unit G2*

# Animal Health Law (AHL): Fast facts

- ✓ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases ('Animal Health Law') (AHL)
- ✓ Adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in March 2016,
- ✓ Entered into force on 21 April 2016
- ✓ Supplemented by additional rules (delegated and implementing acts)
- ✓ Entered into application on 21 April 2021



# Information material on AHL

- The Commission has developed a set of information material on the AHL **in all EU languages**
- Intended to support raising awareness and give basic information about the AHL to various user groups.
- The material gives basic information on the AHL and supplementing legislation
- It will guide the users where to find the exact details on a certain topics in the AHL, as well as in the delegated and implementing acts.

# Information material


The AHL information material consist of:

- a poster
- a leaflet
- 9 factsheets
- Animated video

Factsheets on:

- General AHL
- Entry into the EU
- Livestock
- Aquatic animals
- Poultry, captive birds and hatching eggs
- Horses
- Animal keepers (other animals)
- Dogs, cats and ferrets
- Germinal products

# POSTER



## ANIMAL HEALTH LAW

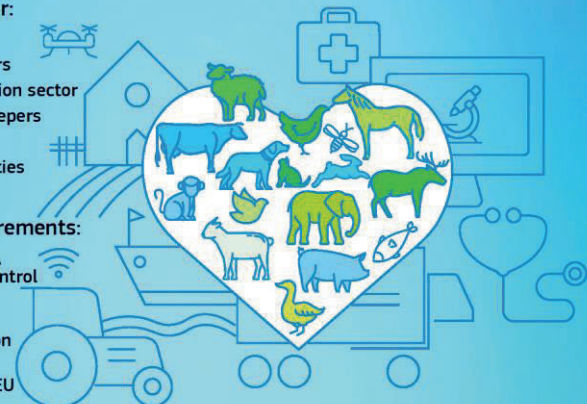
Preventing, controlling and eradicating diseases in animals

**Responsibilities for:**

- ♥ Livestock farmers
- ♥ Aquaculture farmers
- ♥ Artificial insemination sector
- ♥ All other animal keepers
- ♥ Veterinarians
- ♥ Competent authorities


**Harmonised requirements:**

- ♥ Disease prevention, surveillance and control
- ♥ Traceability (Identification of animals, registration of establishments)
- ♥ Movements in the EU
- ♥ Entry into the EU



Find out how the new law affects you!

## Animal health is your health



**For more information:**  
[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law_en)  
#AnimalHealthLaw #AnimalHealth #OneHealth #DGSante

Health and Food Safety

# Leaflet

## Moving animals, germinal products, and products of animal origin

The Animal Health Law impacts both the movement of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin within the European Union and when those animals and products enter the EU from abroad.

### Within the EU

An operator must ensure that animals, germinal products or products of animal origin meet animal health requirements when they are moved within the EU. The main rule is that this movement should not jeopardise the health of animals or humans at the place of destination or en route. This may include:

- ♥ basic biosecurity of transport;
- ♥ registration and identification obligations;
- ♥ animals should be healthy;
- ♥ animal health certificates to accompany the animals, germinal products or products of animal origin;
- ♥ if animals are moved to another Member State they may need to meet other animal health requirements, such as additional testing and screening for certain diseases

### Entering the EU from abroad

All animals, germinal products, and products of animal origin (e.g. fresh meat, eggs, dairy products, products from aquatic animals) can only enter the EU if:

- ♥ they comply with all applicable animal health requirements;
- ♥ the country of origin is authorised for the relevant commodity and included on a list of eligible third countries;
- ♥ they originate in a listed establishment in a third country (where appropriate);
- ♥ the applicable competent authority certifies compliance with an accompanying animal health certificate.

<sup>2</sup> The competent authority refers to the central veterinary authority of the applicable Member State.

## Disease control measures

The Animal Health Law outlines the rules to follow in the event of an outbreak of **serious diseases**,<sup>viii</sup> such as foot and mouth disease, African swine fever or classical swine fever. Starting with requirements to notify the competent authority about the outbreak of an animal disease, the law also stipulates a series of disease control measures that will apply:

- ♥ in the establishment where the diseases occurs; and
- ♥ in restriction zones surrounding the location where the diseases occurs.

These measures may include movement restrictions, cleaning, disinfecting of establishments and possibly testing and vaccination etc. In all such cases, everyone must closely follow instructions received from the competent authorities.

<sup>viii</sup> Animal diseases are classified depending on their risk of spreading, their economic impact to the livestock sector and the control measures that are required. The most dangerous is 'Category A' and these diseases that have control measures.



### Find out more

For more information on the Animal Health law, please visit the website:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law_en)

#AnimalHealthLaw #AnimalHealth #OneHealth #DGSanite



## ANIMAL HEALTH IS YOUR HEALTH Animal Health Law

*Key to the prevention  
and control of diseases  
in your animals*

Health and  
Food Safety



European  
Commission

# FACTSHEET



## ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

# Animal Health Law

### Did you know?

Measures to limit the spread of animal diseases in both humans and animals are harmonised in the European Union and go far beyond the control of outbreaks. Animal health should be respected when animals and their products are kept at farms or other establishments, when they are moved within the Union, or when they enter the Union from abroad. Prevention measures should always be in place, ready to act against diseases when they occur.

While EU animal health rules have existed since 1964, a single Animal Health Law (AHL) now replaces 39 past Directives and Regulations, aligning animal health legislation with the Lisbon Treaty. This legislation affects broad animal populations. There are around 12 million



livestock holdings in the EU. In 2019 there were around 77 million bovine, 143 million porcine animals, 74 million sheep and goats, and about 1.6 billion heads of poultry. In 2019 just over half of the EU-27's meat production was from pigs (22.8 million tonnes), while poultry meat production reached 13.3 million tonnes.



Health and  
Food Safety

# Video



AHL Video: <https://vimeo.com/705693777>



# Availability of information material on AHL

- Available on the Commission webpage for downloading:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law\\_en#information-material](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law_en#information-material)

- Info note and a letter to Member States, third countries (trading partners) and stakeholder organisations on 21/4/2022
- **Printed copies** of the poster, leaflet and factsheets in English sent in April 2022

# More information on new legislation

- More information on AHL available here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law_en)

- Delegated and implementing acts under AHL:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law/delegated-and-implementing-acts\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law/delegated-and-implementing-acts_en)

- Information material in all EU languages:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law\\_en#information-material](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-health/animal-health-law_en#information-material)

# Thank you



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