

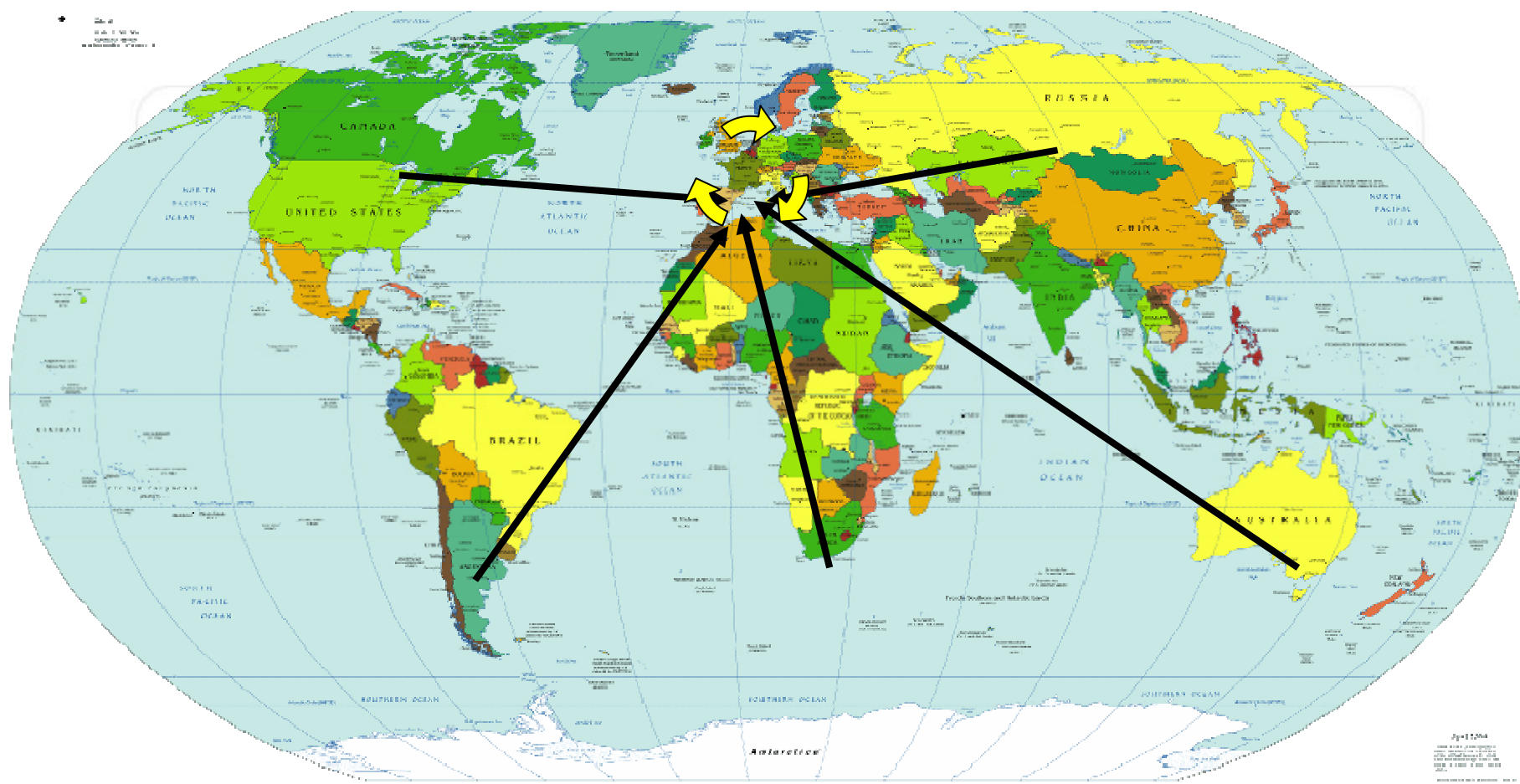


Recent actions by the European Commission concerning bee health

European Commission
Directorate-General for Health and Consumers

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Imports and intra-community trade



World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

- OIE establishes standards on:
 - disease notification;
 - international trade requirements in relation to animal health (terrestrial animal health code)
- Honey bee notifiable diseases (Council Directive 82/894/EEC)
 - Acarapisosis
 - American foulbrood
 - European foulbrood
 - Small hive beetle infestation (Decision 2004/216/EC)
 - Tropilaelaps infestation (Decision 2004/216/EC)
 - Varroosis
- EU is free from:
 - Tropilaelaps mites
 - Small hive beetle (*aethina tumida*)



Live bee imports from third countries

Commission Decision 2003/881/EC

of 11 December 2003

concerning the animal health and certification conditions for imports of bees (*Apis mellifera* and *Bombus spp*) from certain third countries and repealing Decision 2000/462/EC

Import requirements



■ Origin:

- Third country of origin
- Consignment packaging
- Health certificate



■ EU border:

- Documentary check
- Identity check
- Physical check



■ Destination:

- transfer of queen bees to new cages
- testing and/or destruction of packing material



Country of origin

- Third countries or parts thereof listed in part 1 of Annex II to Council Decision 79/542/EEC
 - Whole third countries
 - Parts thereof (regionalisation)
- Notifiable diseases
 - American foulbrood
 - Small hive beetle (*aethina tumida*)
 - Tropilaelaps mite



Consignments

- Queen bees/ queen bumble bees:
maximum of 20 accompanying attendants to
one queen bee in one single queen bee cage
- Bumble bees (*Bombus* spp.):
limited to a single colony containing a
maximum of 200 adult bumble bees per
container



Health certificates

Health certificates in accordance with the specimens set out in Decision 2003/881/EC (modified by 2005/60/EC)

- **Annex I:** queen bees and queen bumble bees and their attendants
- **Annex II:** bumble bees bred under environmentally controlled conditions within recognised establishments



Annex I certificate

The queen bees/queen bumble bees, with attendants:

- come from a breeding apiary, which is supervised and controlled by the competent authority
- come from an area which is not the subject of any restrictions associated with an occurrence of **American foulbrood**
- are from hives or come from hives or colonies from which samples of the comb have been tested in the last 30 days for **American foulbrood**
- come from an area of at least 100km radius which is not the subject of any restrictions associated with the occurrence of the **small hive beetle or Tropilaelaps spp** and where these infestations are absent;
- are from **hives or come from hives or colonies** which were **inspected** immediately prior to dispatch and show no clinical signs or suspicion of disease including infestations affecting bees;
- have undergone **detailed examination to ensure that all bees and packaging** do not contain the small hive beetle, or other infestations, in particular *Tropilaelaps* spp, affecting bees.

The packing material, queen cages, accompanying products and food are new and have not been in contact with diseased bees or brood-combs, and all precautions have been taken to prevent contamination with agents causing diseases or infestations of bees.



Annex II certificate

- The **bumble bees** have been bred and kept under a **controlled environment** within a recognised establishment which is supervised and controlled by the competent authority
- The **establishment** was inspected immediately prior to dispatch and all bumble bees and breeding stock show no clinical signs or suspicion of disease including infestations affecting bees
- All **colonies for export** to the Community have undergone detailed examination to ensure that all bumble bees, broodstock and packaging do not contain the small hive beetle or other infestations affecting bees
- the **packing material, containers, accompanying products and food** are new and have not been in contact with diseased bees or brood-combs, and all precautions have been taken to prevent contamination with agents causing diseases or infestations of bees.



Council Decision 79/542/EEC



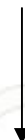
repeal



Commission Decision 2003/881/EC



repeal



Regulation EC No XXX/2010

Draft Commission Regulation laying down lists of third countries, territories or parts thereof authorised for the introduction into the Union of certain animals and fresh meat and the veterinary certification requirements (SANCO/4787/2009)

No changes to the animal health import conditions for live bees in force today.

Veterinary checks at Border Inspection Posts



- To ensure that EU law is complied with

- To protect
 - Animal health
 - Public health
 - EU trade and exports

- Checks
 - Documentary
 - Identity
 - Physical



Requirements at destination

■ Queen bees and bumble bees

- the queens shall be transferred to new cages before being introduced to local colonies.
- cages, attendants, and other material undergo a laboratory examination for small hive beetle, and Tropilaelaps mite
- Destruction of all material after laboratory examination

■ Bumble bees from recognised establishments

- Destruction of the container and packaging material either during or immediately after the life-span of the colony

Intra-Community trade





Intra-Community trade

Council Directive 92/65/EEC

of 13 July 1992

laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Annex A (I) to Directive 90/425/EEC

The intra-community trade certificate for live bees and bumble bees is laid down in Part 2 of Annex E to Directive 92/65/EEC



Heath certificate

Part 2 of Annex E of Directive 92/65/EEC

The bees (*Apis mellifera*)/bumble bees (*Bombus* spp.):

- Come from an area not subject to an American foulbrood prohibition order
- Come from an area of at least 100 km radius which is not subject to restrictions associated with the suspicion or confirmed occurrence of the small hive beetle or the Tropilaelaps mite
- As well as their packaging, have undergone a visual examination to detect the occurrence of the small hive beetle or other infestations affecting bees

Amendment to Part to of Annex E to Directive 92/65/EEC (already approved by MS on 04/11/2009)

The following condition has been introduced in the intra community trade certificate :

the bumble bees come from an environmentally isolated structure recognised by and under the supervision of the competent authority of the Member State which is free of American foulbrood and was inspected immediately prior to dispatch and all bumble bees and breeding stock show no clinical signs or suspicion of the disease,



Import requirements for apiculture products for use in apiculture

Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 - Chapter IX

Member States must authorise the importation of apiculture products intended for use in apiculture if they:

- come from third countries listed in part 1 of Annex II to Council Decision 79/542/EEC
- are accompanied by a health certificate that conforms to the model set out in Chapter 13 of Annex X



Apiculture products import requirements

Apiculture products, intended exclusively for use in apiculture:

- EITHER are new and have not been in use before and have not come into contact with bees or used apiculture products;
- OR have been subjected to a temperature of -12 °C or lower for at least 24 hours;
- OR in the case of wax, the material has been refined or rendered

AND must come from an area

- which is not subject to any restriction associated with
 - **American foulbrood** (*Paenibacillus larvae larvae*)
 - **Acariosis** (*Acarapis woodi* (Rennie))
 - **Small hive beetle** (*Aethina tumida*)
 - **Tropilaelaps mites** (*Tropilaelaps spp*)
- and where the diseases mentioned above are officially notifiable



Honey and other apiculture products intended for human consumption – *import requirements*

- come from an establishment implementing a programme based on the HACCP (hazard analysis critical control point) principles
- have been handled, prepared, packaged, and stored in a hygienic manner
- fulfil the guarantees provided by the residue control plans



Commission inter-service group on bees

- an **interdepartmental co-ordination group**
- **Members** from DG AGRI, DG ENTR, DG ENV, DG SANCO, DG RTD and SG
- to increase the **visibility** of the work being done
- to ensure that the Commission has a **consistent and complete approach**
- To ensure the internal **exchange of information** with all Commission Directorate Generals involved in bee issues
- **First meeting:** on 27 November 2009 attended also by EFSA and scientific experts

Future policy

- Regular **scientific expert meetings** to discuss emerging threats and topical issues including proposals or requests from Member States and third countries
- Drafting of **safeguard measures** for Member States for the small hive beetle and tropilaelaps (in case they enter the EU)
- **Bi-annual inter-service group meetings**
next meeting planned for end of January 2010 to address surveillance



Thank you for your attention

European Commission
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http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/index_en.htm

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