

The Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974 (as amended)

## Application to import live rodents or lagomorphs for research

Please send completed applications and any supporting documentation to:

Defra, Quarantine Section,  
Area 211,  
1A Page Street,  
London SW1P 4PQ.  
Telephone number: 020 7904 6222  
Fax number: 020 7904 6834

### Notes:

1. If the exporting research establishment is working with rabies virus, documentary assurance of separation of the work and staff from the colony will need to accompany this application.
2. If the rodent(s)/lagomorph(s) comply with the conditions specified overleaf they do not need to undergo six months quarantine.
3. If the rodents/lagomorphs are wild caught, you are not able to import them under this type of licence. These animals are required to undergo six months quarantine. You will need to complete and submit an application for a licence to import live animals (RM1).
4. It should not be assumed that a licence will automatically be granted. The importer should therefore not make arrangements to import the rodents/lagomorphs until they know that a licence has been or will be issued.
5. The application should normally reach Defra at least one month in advance of the consignment being landed in England.
6. Under the Commission Decision of 20/06/2003, on certain protection measures with regard to monkey pox virus, the following species cannot be imported from the countries specified:
  - Prairie dogs (*Cynomys* sp.) originating in or coming from the United States of America;
  - rodents of non-domestic species (gambian rat) and squirrels originating from or coming from third countries of the African sub-Saharan region.These animals may be able to enter under Directive 92/65/EEC. Please contact Defra for further information.
7. Under the Destructive Imported Animals Act 1932 importation of the following species is prohibited:
  - *Fiber Zibethicus* (or *Ondatra Zibethica*) – musk rat;
  - *Sciurus Carolinesis* – Grey Squirrel;
  - Any rabbit other than the European Species *Oryctolagus cuniculus*;
  - *Myocaster Coypus* – Coypu;The last of these may be imported if an additional licence under the Destructive Imported Animals Act is granted.

### Data Protection Act 1998

Any personal data that you have provided in this application form will be used to process the licence for the importation of live rodents or lagomorphs for research. It may also be used to provide an audit trail and to ensure the conditions that are attached to the import licence are being adhered to. In the event of a disease outbreak, the details on this application may be used for disease control purposes. Your personal data may also be used in aggregated form for statistical purposes.

In limited circumstances, Defra may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations, the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. Defra or its appointed agents may contact you in connection with occasional customer research aimed at improving the services Defra provides to you.

1. Details of applicant

Name and address of applicant

Postcode

Telephone number (incl. national dialling code)

2. Address of premises from which rodents or lagomorphs are being exported

Postcode

Telephone number (incl. national dialling code)

3. Details of exporter/shipping agent (if different from 2)

Name and address of exporter/shipping agent:

Postcode

Telephone number (incl. national dialling code)

4. Is the research/breeding establishment from where the rodents or lagomorphs originate working with the rabies virus? ..... YES  NO

If 'YES', further documentary assurances of separation of work is required with this application. See condition 2.4 overleaf.

5. Details of rodents or lagomorphs to be imported (a) Species of rodents or lagomorphs to be imported

(b) Number of rodents or lagomorphs to be imported

- (c) Are the rodents or lagomorphs:
- laboratory bred? ..... YES  NO 
- wild caught\*? ..... YES  NO

\*Wild caught rodents or lagomorphs cannot be imported on this type of licence. See Note 2 on page 1.

6. Country of origin

7. Port of entry

8. Proposed date of landing

9. Details of importing research establishment (if different from 1)

Name and address of applicant

Postcode

Telephone number (incl. national dialling code)

10. Home Office Place of Certificate Designation (PCD) number (under Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986):

- 11. Type of licence required:
- one consignment only ..... 
- multiple consignment .....

Declaration by importer or their agent

I, (print name)

being the importer or agent of the importer of the rodents or lagomorphs referred to in this application, do hereby solemnly declare that the foregoing provisions are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.

Signed

Date

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## Conditions attached to the import licence for the importation into England of live rodents and lagomorphs for research

### 1. Health Status/Bio-Security of the Rodents/Lagomorphs

- 1.1 In the 6 months preceding export the rodents/lagomorphs must not have been vaccinated against rabies with a live vaccine.

### 2. Supplementary Certification

The rodents/lagomorphs must be accompanied by a certificate signed by the responsible veterinary or medical supervisor or other appropriately qualified responsible person of the originating research or breeding establishment stating that:

- 2.1 prior to the export the rodents/lagomorphs have been in the research/breeding establishment for not less than 15 days;
- 2.2 the colony has been closed for not less than 15 days or the rodents/lagomorphs to be exported have been caged and separated or isolated from any new introductions for a period of 15 days;
- 2.3 for the 12 months prior to shipment, the rodents/lagomorphs have been kept in an establishment(s) where no case of rabies was reported for at least 12 months;
- 2.4 no experiments with rabies or rabies related virus have been carried out in the breeding/research establishment during the 12 months immediately prior to the date of export;
- 2.5 showed no clinical signs of rabies on the day of shipment.

### 3. Transportation to and within England

- 3.1 The person(s) transporting the rodents/lagomorphs must ensure they are being transported in accordance with the requirements of the Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 1997.
- 3.2 If the rodents/lagomorphs are travelling by air, they must travel as manifest cargo in the freight compartment of the aircraft.
- 3.3 Animals entering under the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974, as amended, may only be landed at the following designated ports or airports:

#### Ports

- Dover (Eastern Docks)
- Harwich (Parkeston Quay)
- Southampton
- Hull
- Portsmouth

#### Airports

- Birmingham
- Gatwick
- Heathrow
- Manchester
- Leeds

#### Rail

- Eurotunnel terminal Coquelles (Calais)

- 3.4 Should the rodents/lagomorphs escape or be lost while in transit, or in the designated port or airport, the person(s) in charge of the rodents/lagomorphs must immediately report this to Defra by telephone or fax; contact details given on page 1.
- 3.5 The original import licence must be handed to H M Customs and Excise for endorsement at the time of presenting for Customs entry in respect of the consignment.
- 3.6 The original import licence must be produced by the person in charge of the rodents/lagomorphs at any time on demand for inspection by an officer of Defra or of the Police Authorities.

### 4. General

- 4.1 The licence will be valid for one year from the date of issue.
- 4.2 Importers must retain the licence and certification as required in Condition 2 for a period of not less than 6 months after the rodents/lagomorphs were landed in the UK. These records must be available for inspection.
- 4.3 If for any reason the licence is not used, it should be returned to Defra at the address given on page 1, as soon as possible after its expiry date.
- 4.4 If the number of rodents/lagomorphs landed in the UK is different from the number stated on the import licence, the importer must notify Defra in writing of the actual number of rodents/lagomorphs landed in the UK. If the licence is for a multiple consignment, the information must be sent after the total consignment has been received.