



Animal By-products (ABPs)

Background

The [EU Animal By-Products Regulation \(1774/2002\)](#) came into force in Scotland on 1 October 2003. These regulate the processing and disposal of products derived from animals and, in particular, prevent material from animals not fit for human consumption from entering the feed chain. The animal by-products legislation is complex and the information below is a brief summary. You are encouraged to contact Safety & Environmental Protection Services (SEPS) for further guidance prior to undertaking activities that may generate animal by-product waste.

Definition of Animal By-products

Animal by-products are animal carcasses, parts of carcasses or products of animal origin that are not intended for human consumption. This includes catering waste, used cooking oil, former foodstuffs, slaughterhouse waste, blood, feathers, wool, hides and skins, fallen stock, pet animals, zoo and circus animals, manure, ova, embryos and semen.

The legislation defines three categories of animal by-products based on their potential risk to animals, the public or to the environment. It also sets out how each category must or may be disposed.

- **Category 1** material is very high risk material (animals suspected or confirmed as being infected by a TSE, animals killed in the context of TSE controls, Specified Risk Material). This category also includes animals other than farmed and wild animals (e.g. pets, zoo animals and circus animals) and experimental animals.
Category 1 ABPs must be disposed of by incineration or rendering
- **Category 2** material includes other high risk material for example:
 - condemned meat
 - fallen stock
 - manure or digestive track contents (excluding excrement from wild, zoo, pet and experimental animals unless there is a known risk)
 - animal by-products presenting a risk of contamination with other animal diseases (e.g. animals which are killed in the context of disease control measures).
 - animal by-products containing residues of certain veterinary drugs and contaminants that exceed permitted levels
 - animal materials collected when treating waste water from slaughterhousesPermissible disposal routes for Category 2 materials include incineration and rendering. Unprocessed Category 2 material cannot go to landfill. However, some Category 2 ABPs

may be recycled for uses other than feeds after appropriate treatment (e.g. biogas, composting – subject to other legislative control, etc)

- **Category 3** material is the lowest risk category, and includes
 - raw meat that has passed meat inspection
 - parts of animals (e.g. hides, skin horns etc), slaughtered in a slaughterhouse, that did not show clinical signs of disease that is communicable to humans or animals
 - blood from animals other than ruminants where ante-mortem inspection showed them to be fit for human consumption
 - raw milk from animals that did not show clinical signs of disease that is communicable to humans or animals
 - shells, hatchery by-products and cracked egg by-products from animals that did not show clinical signs of disease that is communicable to humans or animals
 - catering waste

Category 3 material cannot be taken to landfill, but can be disposed of via a number of routes such as incineration, rendering, composting (subject to other legislative control) or anaerobic digestion, or be used in an approved pet food or technical plant in some cases.

Experimental animals are classed as Category 1 ABPs regardless of the procedure to which they have been subjected (including 'control' animals).

Carcasses of wild animals are exempt from the scope of the Regulations unless they are thought to be diseased or are used to produce game trophies.

Deceased pets are classed as Category 1 ABPs. However, a derogation is in place to permit the burial of dead pet animals.

Duty of Care and the Waste Producer

The legislation requires that ABPs must be collected and transported in leak-proof, covered vehicles and kept separate from other categories of by-product and other waste. All general waste duty of care requirements (including the use of transfer notes and ensuring that waste management company is suitable licensed and authorised) apply to the storage, transport and disposal of ABPs.

The legislation requires all premises where ABPs are received, treated or disposed of to be officially approved or authorised.

Further information on waste duty of care is available on SEPS web site.

Disposal Arrangements

The University has appointed an approved supplier for the disposal of ABPs. If you engage this supplier you may omit the steps to ensure that the waste manager is suitably licensed and registered as this process is undertaken centrally. Information on the approved supplier is available on the Purchasing office web site.

Further Information

Further information can be obtained from SEPS or at
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Agriculture/animal-welfare/policies/PolicyInfo/AnimalByProducts/Introduction>
and
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/byproducts/>