

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Trader Notice MPD 001/2011

To: All Food Business Operators approved or seeking approval to export milk or milk products to the Russian Federation

Subject: Russian allowable levels of Penicillin in raw milk and dairy products

The Russian Federation (Federal Law No.88-3: Technical Regulations for Milk and Milk Products) was amended by Federal Law No. 163 'On introduction of amendments to the Federal Law – Technical Regulations for Milk and Milk Products'.

One of the amendments to Federal Law No. 163, concerned the introduction of units for 'allowable levels' for antibiotics in raw milk and dairy products.

When the allowable level for Penicillin in raw milk and dairy products is compared with additional information from the RF Authorities (via the Commission) earlier this year, the allowable level should be read as <4ug/kg (litre), not <10 ug/kg (litre). (Ref: Technical Annex Addendum 1, 3 and 5).

This RF level is equivalent to the EC Maximum Residue Level (MRL) for Penicillin.

Those milk manufacturing plants which are already RF approved for export of dairy products to the Russian Federation/Customs Union (RF/CU), or which have applied for such RF/CU approval, should amend their Standard Written Procedures (SOPs) in line with this update, where their RF activities involve the handling and testing of raw milk.

Such manufacturing plants are already required to check raw milk in compliance with EC requirements and therefore the antibiotic test kits in use for raw milk controls should already have this level of sensitivity. Nevertheless, in the RF/CU context, the manufacturing plants are advised to check that the antibiotic test method for Penicillin in the raw milk used in the RF/CU supply chain is sufficiently sensitive to detect down to this allowable level of <4ug/kg (litre).

VPN 9 of 2010 will also be updated accordingly.

Substance	Russian Allowable Levels	EU MRL/ MRPL in milk
Chloramphenicol (levomysetin)	<10 µg/kg	Below 0,3 µg/kg (MRPL)
Tetracyclines group	<10 µg/kg	100 µg/kg (MRL)
Streptomycin	<500 µg/kg	200 µg/kg (MRL)
Penicillin	<4 µg/kg	4 µg/kg (MRL)
Grisin	500 µg/kg	No EU MRL
Bacitracin	20 µg/kg	150 µg/kg (MRL)

Milk Policy

21st September 2011