CropLifeUK

UK-EU Reset

Exploring the potential impacts of a Common Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Area

04 November 2025



Common Understanding



Policy paper

UK-EU Summit - Common Understanding (HTML)

Updated 19 May 2025

Contents

- 1. Introduction
- Security, defence, and development cooperation
- Putting people at the centre of the European Union – United Kingdom relationship
- Strengthening our economies while protecting our planet and its resources
- Internal security and iudicial cooperation
- 6. Irregular migration



1. Introduction

- 1. In view of the United Kingdom European Union summit of 19 May 2025, the European Commission and the United Kingdom explored areas with the potential to strengthen bilateral cooperation between the European Union and the United Kingdom [footnote 1]. This Common Understanding between the European Commission and the United Kingdom sets out the conclusions of those exploratory talks. We will proceed swiftly on the undertakings set out in this document, in accordance with our respective procedures and legal frameworks. We will respect each other's decision-making autonomy.
- 2. In order to strengthen the bilateral relationship, we stress the pivotal importance of the two main agreements that underpin our relationship: the Withdrawal Agreement, including the Windsor Framework, and the Trade and Cooperation Agreement. We reaffirm our commitment to their full, timely, and faithful implementation.
- 3. We note the political agreements leading to full reciprocal access to waters to fish until 30 June 2038 and extending energy cooperation on a continuous basis.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 16.7.2025

COM(2025) 408 final

Recommendation for a

COUNCIL DECISION

authorising the opening of negotiations between the European Union and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on a common sanitary and phytosanitary area between the European Union and the United Kingdom in respect of Great Britain and to link the United Kingdom and the Union's greenhouse emissions trading systems



Impact Assessment

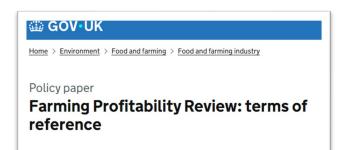
Published 19 May 2025



- UK secures new agreement with the European Union to support British businesses, back British jobs, and put more money in people's pockets.
- Package will help make food cheaper, slash red tape, open up access to the EU market and add nearly £9 billion to the UK economy by 2040.
- Prime Minister hails agreement as 'good for jobs, good for bills, and good for our borders'.

Policy paper
A UK government food strategy for England, considering the wider UK food system
Published 15 July 2025

Impacts on wider policies

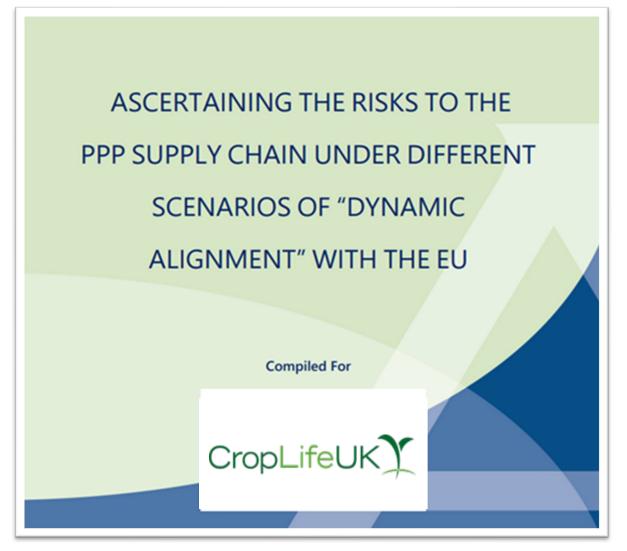


UK Pesticides National Action Plan 2025: Working for a more sustainable future





Impact Assessment



3 potential scenarios

- Gradual dynamic alignment
- Time-limited dynamic alignment
- Immediate and retrospective alignment



Active Substances

Cinmethylin
Isoflucypram
Pydiflumetofen
Bixlozone











MRLs

Example - Acetamiprid





Commodity	GB MRL	EU MRL
Apples / Pears	0.4	0.07
Cherries	1.5	0.8
Wine grapes	0.5	0.08
Strawberries	0.7	0.5
Raspberries	2.0	0.6
Tomatoes	0.5	0.06
Sweet/bell peppers	0.4	0.09
Cucumbers	0.3	0.05
Broccoli	0.4	0.06
Lettuces	1.5	0.01
Spinaches	0.6	0.01

Maximum Residue Levels (mg/kg)



EU Direction of Travel





The Vision for agriculture and food fosters trust and dialogue across the entire value chain within the EU and globally. The Vision emphasises close engagement with relevant institutions, farmers, food chain operators and civil society at local and regional levels, addressing their concerns and ideas. An indicative timeline shows the roll-out and publication of the key underlaying initiatives and highlights when the various stakeholders will be involved.

Provide the conditions for a future-proof sector

Build an attractive agri-food

Foster a competitive and

Focus on food, fair living and working condition in rural areas

Documents

About the Vision

resilient sector

€900 billion added value

generated by the EU agri-food system in 2022

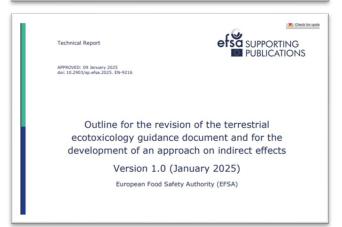
about 30 million

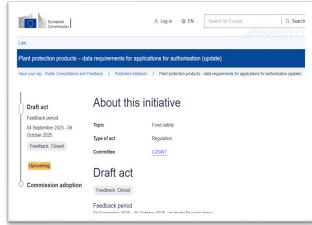
in the entire agri-food sector

only 12% of farmers

are under 40 years old

EUROPEAN Strasbourg, 8,7,2025 COM(2025) 526 final 2025/0526 (COD) Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2024/2865 as regards dates of application and transitional









Conclusions (or not!)

Still many unknowns with much uncertainty and much to think about...

- Loss of 'control' and regulatory autonomy
- Challenges from divergent areas not within the SPS deal e.g. CLP
- A gradual phased transition would be most sensible
- Also possible that the deal might not happen
- Regulatory performance needs to improve and be more transparent under any scenario
- What can we do?