

Guide to Exporting Barley to China

In 2015 the UK signed a protocol agreement with China for the export of UK barley. This was the result of many years of work by AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds, supported by UK government agencies and industry bodies.



This guide, written in conjunction with industry and government bodies, outlines the requirements of the protocol to **export UK barley to China**.

The protocol stipulates many requirements around plant health, in order to protect China's agriculture and environment. The majority of the requirements can be met by the farm and trade assurance schemes. Therefore only fully **assured barley** can be traded to China.

The protocol specifies a list of quarantine pests that the phytosanitary process must certify the barley is 'free from'. Therefore, some additional tests will be carried out by the official laboratories prior to issuing the required phytosanitary certificate.

China presents a sizeable market opportunity. With its large population and rising living standards, future demand prospects for agricultural products are promising.

China's traditional policy of self-sufficiency is beginning to shift in recognition of its growing reliance on imports. Within the barley sector, demand is supported by a fast-growing beer market and greater feed use.

Domestic barley area has been in long-term decline with demand covered by imports from a number of suppliers granted market access in recent years. Nevertheless, the terms of market access under 'protocol' agreements are challenging, indicating human, animal and plant health are important due to recent food scares.

Countries with a protocol agreement to export barley to China (as of 2015):

- Argentina
- Australia
- Canada
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Mongolia
- Ukraine
- UK

Requirements of the protocol agreement

- 1 The barley (specifically *Hordeum vulgare* L) to be exported is only for processing, not for seed. Sowing of UK barley in China is prohibited
- 2 The barley must be free from live insects and any of the pests listed in the annex (see below). It shouldn't be mixed or contaminated with other grain or extraneous materials deliberately
- 3 The barley must be sourced from farms certified to a recognised farm assurance scheme* to comply with the requirements that:
 - a. Enterprises must implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) systems to minimise the occurrence of pests, particularly those in the annex
 - b. Enterprises must carry out cleaning activities around storage and transportation to avoid significant debris, impurities and soil in the grain

Phytosanitary certificates will only be signed off if adequate evidence is supplied that all the grain is farm assured
- 4 Merchants, haulage companies, stores and port facilities must also be certified by a recognised trade assurance scheme** to ensure that as the barley passes through the supply chain it maintains the integrity of its assured status
- 5 The Chinese importing company will only accept barley from approved facilities. A list of companies that are certified by a recognised trade assurance scheme will be provided to the Chinese via Defra

- 6 The cargo must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the relevant plant health authority in the UK. Samples must be taken by a registered trade inspector and submitted to the official laboratory in order to issue the certificate
- 7 Import licences must be acquired by the Chinese importing company and barley can only be imported into ports designated by the Chinese authorities
- 8 When the barley arrives in China it will be tested by the Chinese authorities. If any of the pests listed in the annex are present, the consignment will be rejected, or destroyed at the exporter's expense.

The definition of 'free from' is taken from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms as follows:

'Free from' – of a **consignment, field or place of production**, without **pests** (or a specific **pest**) in numbers or quantities that can be detected by the application of **phytosanitary procedures**.

The protocol is the agreement that our phytosanitary procedures are considered adequate by the Chinese authorities for the purposes of this definition.

List of quarantine pests of concern to China

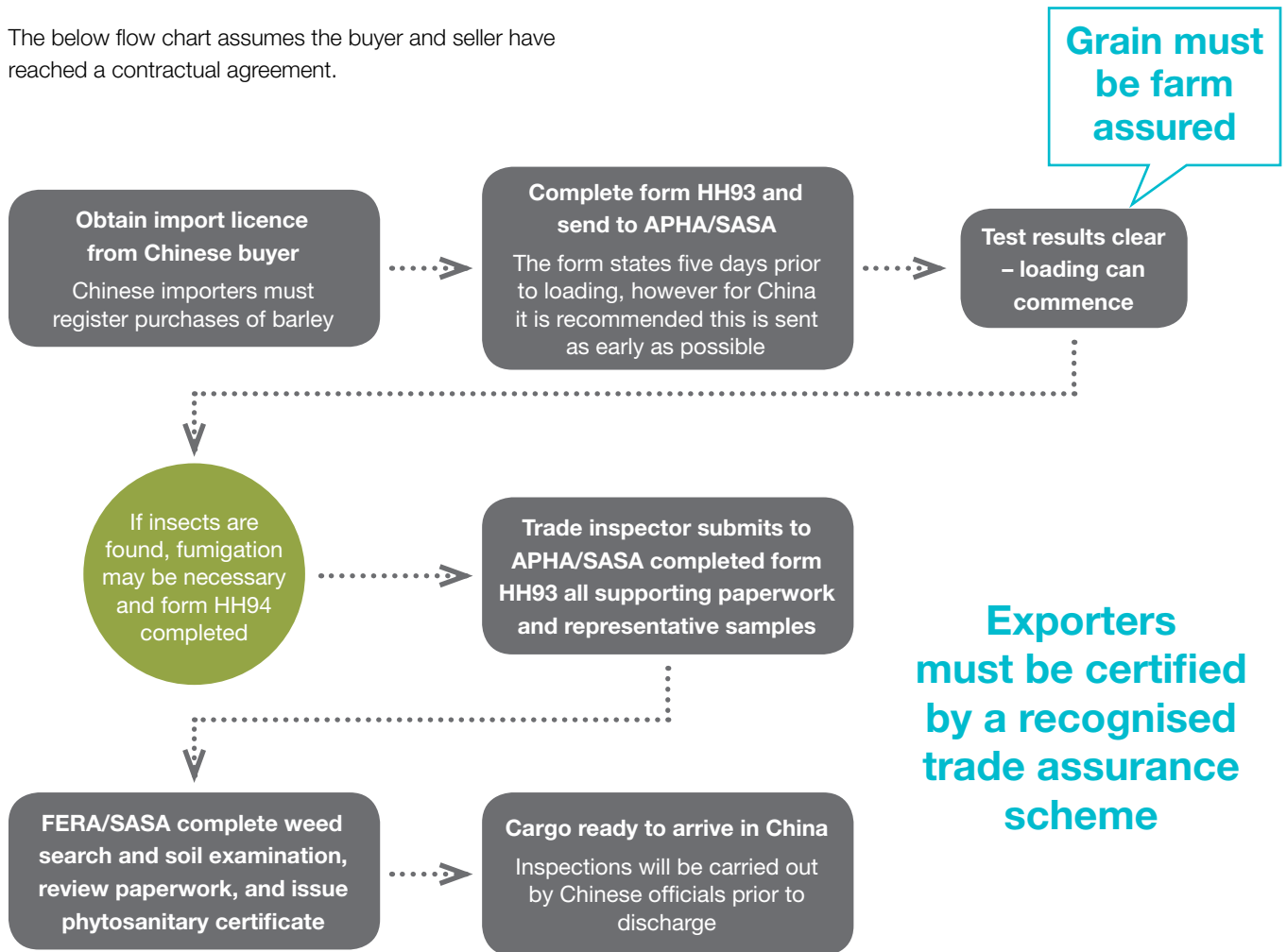
	Common name/type	Official phyto test
<i>Arabis mosaic virus</i>	Disease	Minimal risk, no test required
<i>Cephus pygmaeus</i>	Wheat stem sawfly (pest – plant)	Does not affect the grain, unlikely to be detected
<i>Mayetiola destructor</i>	Hessian fly (pest – plant)	
<i>Trogoderma variabile</i>	Warehouse beetle (pest – storage)	Visual inspection by trade inspector, presence = failure or fumigation if appropriate
<i>Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. Michiganensis</i>	Tomato disease	Minimal risk, no test required
<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn spurweed (weed)	Weed search at official laboratory
<i>Taraxacum officinale complex</i>	Dandelion (weed)	
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	Brome (weed)	
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Hoary cress (weed)	
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle (weed)	
<i>Lolium temulentum</i>	Darnel or Tares (weed)	
<i>Phalaris paradoxa</i>	Canary grass (weed)	
<i>Pseudocercospora herpotrichoides</i>	Eyespot (fungus)	Not seed-borne, no test required
<i>Emex australis</i>		Weed, not found in UK
Barley stripe mosaic virus		Disease, not found in UK

*Red Tractor Farm Assurance, Scottish Quality Crops, Farm Quality Assured Cereals Scheme.

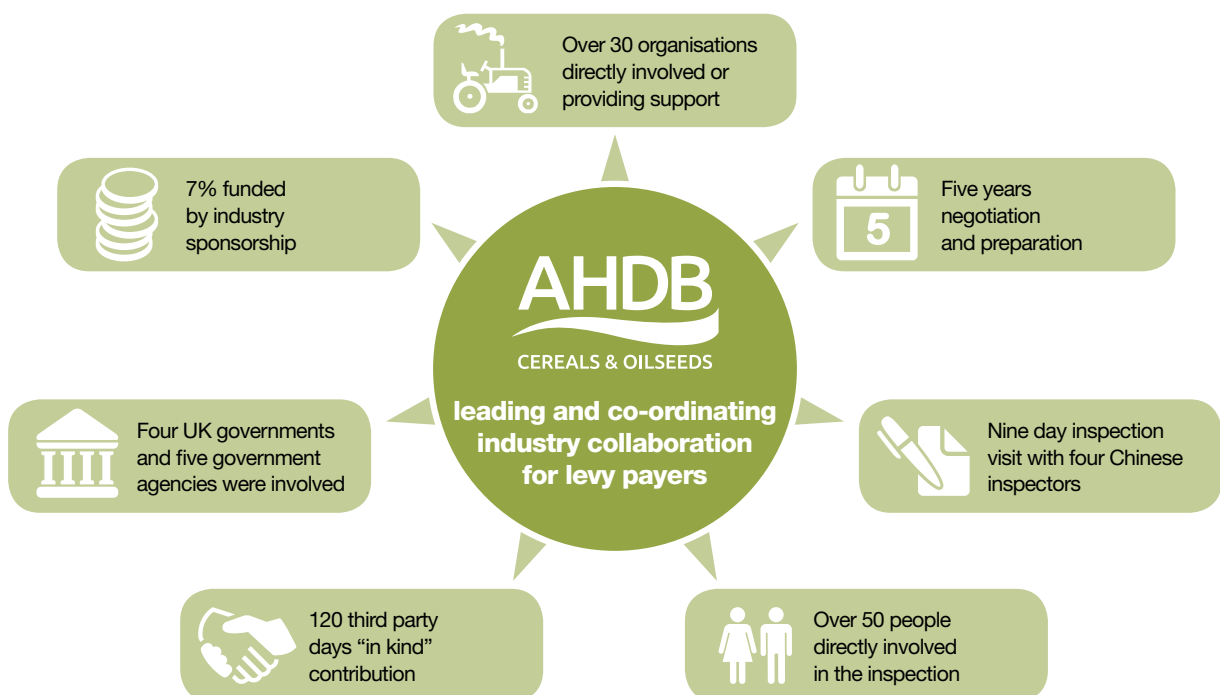
**Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops, Gafra Trade Assurance Scheme.

Exporting to China

The below flow chart assumes the buyer and seller have reached a contractual agreement.



Industry collaboration



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Key contacts

Official laboratories

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Inspectorate,
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The National Agri-food Innovation
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Sand Hutton,
York, YO41 1LZ

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gov.uk/guidance/exporting-grain-to-non-eu-countries

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0300 200 7843
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Farm Assurance Schemes

Red Tractor Farm Assurance (England and Wales)

Red Tractor Assurance,
Europoint,
5-11 Lavington Street,
London, SE1 0NZ
01932 589 800
crops@redtractorassurance.org.uk
assurance.redtractor.org.uk

Scottish Quality Crops

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Royal Highland Centre,
Ingliston,
Edinburgh, EH28 8NF
0131 335 6604
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sqcrops.co.uk

Farm Quality Assured Cereals Scheme (Northern Ireland)

The Ulster Farmers' Union,
475 Antrim Road,
Belfast, BT15 3DA
028 9037 0222

Trade Assurance Schemes

Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops (TASCC)

Agricultural Industries
Confederation (AIC),
Confederation House,
East of England Showground,
Peterborough, PE2 6XE
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aictradeassurance.org.uk/tascc/about-tascc

Gafta Trade Assurance Scheme (GTAS)

The Grain and Feed Trade Association,
9 Lincoln's Inn Fields,
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gafta.com/gtas

List of trade inspectors

A list of trade approved inspectors
can be found here:
gafta.com/superintendents

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