

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES POLICY

Policy Statement:

2 Sisters Food Group is the trading name for Boparan Holdings Limited, which owns directly and indirectly UK & EU companies constituting the Boparan Group of companies.

The Boparan Group requires that its suppliers have systems in place such that in the event of an outbreak of a notifiable disease its producers have robust systems to minimise the risk of being affected and that there is a robust traceability system so that if any producer is affected, all product from the affected farm and any associated exclusion zone, can quickly and easily be traced.

Scope:

All meat used in Boparan Group companies.

Background:

The WHO states that it is commonly accepted that climate plays a role in the transmission of many infectious diseases, and often these diseases occur as epidemics which may be triggered by variability in climatic conditions that favour higher transmission rates. It is accepted that there is now an increased risk for conditions to be found in countries where originally they would not have been present. Early warning systems are now becoming more feasible with recent advances in the availability of climate and environmental data and increased use of geographical information systems (GIS) and remote sensing.

The FAO in its biosecurity guidance notes give a very simple message:

- disease may not always be apparent, especially in its early stages;
- be clean, particularly if handling animals or moving between different premises.

The Boparan Group tries to ensure that the principles of “the Five Freedoms” and specifically “Freedom from pain, injury or disease” are standard practice in all its suppliers. The prevention of notifiable diseases especially is key in this.

While Boparan Group suppliers cannot prevent the occurrence of these diseases on neighbouring properties (and may therefore be caught in exclusion zones), they can enforce standards to minimise the risk that they are the source farm of an outbreak, and this is an expectation of the group supply base through adherence to UK & EU legislation as well as relevant farm assurance standards.

In addition, the status of notifiable diseases both in the U.K. and nearby countries will be monitored and management of the Boparan Group will be kept aware of changes to risk, with biosecurity procedures and health plans requirements being reviewed if risks are seen to be developing.

Reference	Version Number	Date	Issued By	Authorised By
Boparan Group Notifiable Diseases Policy	04	Sept. 2020	Head of Livestock Compliance	Group Agriculture Director