

## **The law about deer urine - 8.7.16**

The European Commission has recently reminded us that the importation into, or transit across, the EU of unprocessed urine from farmed deer is prohibited by EU law. As the standards for processing are very strict, deer lures are regarded as unprocessed urine. EU rules do not apply to import or transportation of urine from wild deer. However, in the absence of proof that urine originates from wild animals, the import rules for urine from farmed animals will apply.

In the event an operator can demonstrate that urine is obtained exclusively from wild deer, the importation would be subject to an import licence under UK legislation. Conditions for this licence would need to be agreed on a case by case basis and be limited to import from countries where CWD has not been detected.

We are aware that in the main, international trade in urine based deer lures takes place via the internet, which is likely to make it very difficult to monitor and enforce the above prohibitions. We are therefore seeking the co-operation of the farming, hunting and gamekeeping industries to help us protect the national herd from this CWD risk by publicising these prohibitions to their members.