

FAQs on Class R Agricultural Trailers

RSA

What are category R agricultural trailers? Trailers and trailed equipment are considered agricultural if they are mainly designed to be towed by a tractor. Other pieces of interchangeable towed equipment can also be classed as agricultural trailers e.g. slurry tankers, manure or fertiliser spreaders, grain chaser bins.

What category is my trailer? Category R trailers are intended mainly to carry loads or to process agricultural materials; each trailer is supplemented at the end by an 'a' or 'b' index according to its design speed:

'a' trailers with a maximum design speed below or equal to 40 km/h

'b' trailers with a maximum design speed above 40 km/h.

For further information on tractor categories refer to [EU Regulation 167/2013](#)

Trailer Category	Definition
R1	Comprises trailers, the sum of the technically permissible masses per axle of which does not exceed 1,500 kg
R2	Comprises trailers, the sum of the technically permissible masses per axle of which exceeds 1,500 kg but does not exceed 3,500 kg
R3	Comprises trailers, the sum of the technically permissible masses per axle of which exceeds 3,500 kg but does not exceed 21,000 kg
R4	Comprises trailers, the sum of the technically permissible masses per axle of which exceeds 21,000 kg

Do agricultural trailers need to be roadworthiness tested? Yes if they are being used for commercial purposes.

Do agricultural trailers need to be licensed or registered? Yes if they are being used for commercial purposes e.g. for hire or reward they need to be licensed with your local [Motor Tax Office](#), and for registration you will need to contact [Revenue](#).

Where do I find the design gross vehicle weight (DGWV) of a trailer? The DGWV will be on the trailer's authorisation plate or you can contact the original manufacturer or authorised distributor. For further information on towing see our FAQ on Agricultural Tractors and Trailers – Towing Rules [here](#).

Do all new trailers need to be fitted with a weights and dimensions plate? Yes. Since 01 January 2016 all new agricultural trailers must be plated. You can contact your trailer's original manufacturer or authorised distributor. Alternatively you can contact an existing trailer manufacturer who may be willing to plate it for you. For further information see our booklet on Revised Standards for Agricultural Vehicles [here](#).

Do agricultural trailers require type approval? For information on type approval you will need to contact the [Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine](#).

How do I get a certificate of conformity (CoC) for my trailer? You will need to contact the original manufacturer.

Are agricultural trailers permissible on motorways? In order for vehicles to be allowed to use motorways they must be capable by design of maintaining a minimum speed of over 50 km/h as indicated on authorisation plate and speed disc of being drawn at a speed of 50 km/h or higher.

Is transporting film wrapped bales of wood shavings classed as agricultural baled produce? No. Wood shavings is not classed as agricultural produce and therefore must adhere to the height limit of 4.65 m as well as all other weight, length and width limits outlined in legislation. See our [Fact sheet](#) on Weights and Dimensions for Agricultural Vehicles.

What are the regulations* on agricultural vehicles?

- [S.I. No. 248 of 2014](#) – Road Traffic Construction Equipment and use of Vehicles Regulations 2014
- [S.I. No. 354 of 2015](#) – Road Traffic Construction and Use of Vehicles Regulations 2014
- [S.I. No. 249 of 2014](#) - Road Traffic Lighting of Vehicles Regulations 2014
- [EC Regulation No. 167/2013](#) – Approval of Agricultural and Forestry Vehicles

You can also view our FAQs on Agricultural Vehicles [here](#).

*Please note that these regulations are in original format and amendments can be viewed at www.irishstatutebook.ie