

Export of Equidae from Great Britain

Welfare Arrangements - Guidance Notes for Exporters

These notes are intended to give guidance to exporters on the requirements of the law. They should not be regarded as a complete statement of the law or a substitute for it.

Further information can be obtained from:

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Centre for International Trade
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street
Carlisle
CA3 8DX
Tel No: 03000 200 301
Fax No: 0208 0260 498

1. Legislation

(a) In Great Britain the export of horses and ponies is regulated by the provisions of the following legislation:

- The Animal Health Act 1981 (Sections 40-49)
- The Export of Horses (Veterinary Examination) Order 1966 (SI 1966 No. 507)
- The Export of Horses (Excepted Cases) Order 1969 (SI 1969 No. 1742)
- The Export of Horses (Protection) Order 1969 (SI 1969 No. 1784).

The main effect of the above legislation is to require the veterinary inspection or examination and resting of certain equidae prior to export unless an exemption has been granted by the Secretary of State.

(b) It is unlawful for the master of any vessel or the pilot of any aircraft to allow the shipment of any equidae unless the appropriate documents are delivered to them or their representative at the time of shipment. These documents must be produced on demand to any police officer, officer of the Secretary of State, officer of the Scottish Ministers, officer of the Welsh Ministers, Local Authority or HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

The requirement for an export welfare declaration does not apply to:

- equidae sent from Great Britain to Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man
- equidae over 147cm (14.2 hands) in height exported to the Republic of Ireland
- equidae exported directly to countries outside of Europe
- equidae exported to France under the Tripartite Agreement accompanied by a TRACES Commercial Document (DOCOM)
- thoroughbred horses certified in writing by the Keeper of the General Stud Book:
 - to have arrived in Great Britain not more than one month before the date of shipment for the purpose of being in a race
 - to be shipped for the purpose of being run in a race or training
 - to be shipped in order to be used for breeding purposes.

2. Equidae over 147cm (14.2 hands) including any accompanying foals exported for exhibition, jumping, polo, racing or thoroughbred horses intended for breeding.

You must complete an export welfare declaration (EXH06) which is available to download from GOV.UK:
<https://www.gov.uk/moving-live-animals-or-animal-products-as-part-of-eu-trade>.

The export welfare declaration will state that exemption from rest and inspection is granted.

3. Equidae of 147cm (14.2 hands) or less

You must complete an export welfare declaration (EXH07) which is available to download from GOV.UK:
<https://www.gov.uk/moving-live-animals-or-animal-products-as-part-of-eu-trade>

The export welfare declaration will state that exemption from rest is granted but inspection is required by a Veterinary Officer (VO), Veterinary Inspector (VI) or Official Veterinarian (OV), where the equidae is not

accompanied by an Export Health Certificate and/or Intra Trade Animal Health Certificate or Commercial Document (DOCOM).

Inspection will only be required for equidae of 147cm (14.2 hands) or less in height, travelling to Republic of Ireland. You must notify the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade in England or your local APHA office in Wales and Scotland of:

- the date and time of arrival of the pony at the port/airport and
- the place at which the pony may be inspected. Inspections will only be carried out at places with such facilities and assistance as may be required by the VO/VI/OV.

Details of APHA offices can be found at on GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>

On completion of the inspection and, providing the equidae are capable of being conveyed to the port to which they are to be shipped, and disembarked, without unnecessary suffering, the inspecting officer will issue a Certificate of Fitness to Travel (EXH08) which should be attached to the export welfare declaration.

4. Completion of export welfare declarations EXH06 and EXH07

When completing the export welfare declarations the following information must be entered.

Details of the Export

Name and address of exporter/transporter: enter the name and address details of the exporter/transporter of the equidae or the transporter who is responsible for the equidae during the journey.

Quantity of equidae in consignment (listed in the Schedule): enter the number of equidae in the consignment followed by the number in words e.g. 1 (One), 2 (Two), 3 (Three). A maximum of 16 equidae can be included on one declaration.

Port of departure: enter the name of the port/airport from which the equidae will depart Great Britain. Examples of commonly used ports/airports are:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dover• Folkstone• Harwich• Holyhead• Hull• Immingham• Killingholme | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manchester• Newhaven• North Shields• Plymouth• Poole• Portsmouth |
|--|---|

Country of destination: enter the name of the country of destination which the equidae are travelling to e.g. France, the Netherlands.

Countries of transit (en-route to destination country): enter any countries through which the equidae will transit en route to the destination country i.e. for a consignment travelling to Portugal the transit countries may be France and Spain.

Schedule of Equidae Details

Breed: enter the breed of the equidae as stated in the passport e.g. Thoroughbred, Dutch Warmblood, Shetland Pony.

Name: enter the name of the equidae as stated in the passport.

Passport number: enter the passport number.

Age: enter the age of the equidae in years/months.

Colour: enter the colour of the equidae as stated in the passport.

Sex: enter the sex of the equidae. Examples which can be used are:

- colt
- colt foal at foot
- filly
- filly foal at foot

- gelding
- mare
- stallion

Heights (cms): enter the height in centimetres. A conversion table of height in hands to centimetres can be found in the table below.

Height Conversion Table 1 Hand = 4" = 10.2cm			
Hands	Cm	Hands	Cm
8	81	13	132
8.1	84	13.1	135
8.2	86	13.2	137
8.3	89	13.3	140
9	91	14	142
9.1	94	14.1	145
9.2	97	14.2	147
9.3	99	14.3	150
10	102	15	152
10.1	104	15.1	155
10.2	107	15.2	157
10.3	109	15.3	160
11	112	16	163
11.1	114	16.1	165
11.2	117	16.2	168
11.3	119	16.3	170
12	122	17	173
12.1	124	17.1	175
12.2	127	17.2	178
12.3	130	17.3	180

Purpose of export: enter the purpose for which the equidae are being exported. Examples which can be used are:

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • breeding • circus act • competition • dressage • driving • eventing • exhibition • holiday • military • moving home • pet • polo | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • racing • return to breeder • return to owner • returning home • riding • sold for breeding • sold for competition • sold for riding • stallion grading • training • TV/film use • vet treatment |
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5. Fitness to travel

(a) No equidae will be certified as being fit to travel if, in the opinion of the OV, it is not capable of being conveyed to its destination and disembarked without unnecessary suffering. Furthermore, pregnant equidae must not be transported within Great Britain or exported if it is likely that they will foal during transport.

(b) Equidae shall not be certified as being fit to travel if they:

- have given birth in the previous week
- are new born animals in which the navel has not completely healed
- they are pregnant females for whom 90% or more of the expected gestation period has already passed.

6. Health Certificate

You must also comply with the animal health requirements of the importing country and any other country of transit. Information concerning health requirements of the importing country can be obtained from the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (Tel: 03000 200 301).

Advice on whether you require a journey log under the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 or parallel legislation is available from the APHA Welfare in Transport Team (Tel: 03000 200 301).

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.