

EXPORT OF ZOO FELIDS TO NEW ZEALAND FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

1. **Scope of the certificate**

This certificate is for the export of zoo felids from the United Kingdom to New Zealand.

2. **Advice to the Exporter**

The exporter should be aware that the health certificate consists of 2 parts. Part A is to be completed by the official veterinarian (OV) who customarily carries out the veterinary work at the premises of origin. Part B is to be completed by an official veterinarian at the airport of departure (normally Heathrow). In order to ensure that all the appropriate arrangements can be made in good time the exporter MUST contact the airport veterinarian well in advance (see also paragraphs 10 to 13 below). The airport veterinarian at Heathrow is Liz Shickle, tel 0208 759 7002, fax 0208 564 8939.

3. **Official Signatures**

Parts A and B of this certificate should both be signed by Official Veterinarians (OVs) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, The Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department or the National Assembly for Wales who are on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs should affix the official veterinarian stamp to the certificate in the normal manner. **The stamp and signature must be made in ink of any colour other than black.**

Part A is to be signed by the OV who is normally responsible for the provision of veterinary services at the premises of origin.

The certificate with Part B left blank must then be sent together with the animal from the premises of origin to the airport of departure.

Part B is to be signed by the OV who is responsible for statutory veterinary services at the airport of departure.

Each OV, after completing his/her part of the certificate, must return a certified copy to the local Divisional Veterinary Manager (DVM) for the Division in which the premises of origin is situated within 7 days of the certificate's issue.

4. **Import Permit**

Zoo Felids must be granted an import permit in order to enter New Zealand. Application for an import permit should be made to The Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO box 2526 Wellington, New Zealand.

Telephone: +64 4 498 9624

Facsimile: +64 4 474 4132

E-mail: imports@maf.govt.nz

The permit number must be recorded in paragraph I.

5. **Identification**

Paragraphs I and IV (g) refer. Each animal must be identified with a microchip transponder. The identification details must be shown in paragraph I. The New Zealand veterinary authorities recommend that microchip brands adopted by the International Standards Organisation (ISO) should be used, so that there should be no difficulty in obtaining compatible readers.

6. **Residency and Age**

Paragraphs IV (b), (c), (d), (e), and (g). In order to certify these paragraphs the OV may rely either on personal knowledge of the premises and the animal, or on appropriate documentary evidence supplied by the exporter. When the OV does not have personal knowledge, he/she must require the exporter to provide any necessary

supporting documentation. This may include signed statements given in writing by the exporter.

In paragraph IV (b) the licensing referred to may a licence administered by the Local Authority under the Zoo Licensing Act 1981, or under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976.

7. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV (f) and V (b) refer. The certification in these paragraphs may be signed by the OV on behalf of the Department provided he/she is in receipt of written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to the OV 10 days before shipment.

With regard to the anthrax statement in paragraph IV (k), the OV will need to contact the APHA prior to completing the certificate and present a list of the premises which have supplied meat and offal for feeding to the felids for export. APHA will then be in a position to provide a statement that the premises have, or have not, been free from anthrax.

8. **Pre-export Isolation**

Paragraphs IV (h) and (j) to (o) refer. The Official Veterinarian should liaise with the owner/exporter before the start of the 30 day isolation, in order to make sure that the owner/exporter understands what is required. Detailed isolation conditions are not laid down by New Zealand, but the generally accepted biosecurity principles must be followed. Access by people must be restricted to authorised attendants only. Appropriate disinfection facilities must be available for footwear, and dedicated clean overalls must be provided and used whenever the animals in isolation are attended. Before isolation commences the pre-export isolation facility must be inspected and approved by the OV. As a minimum, one more inspection visit must be made at the end of the isolation period, and this may be the visit at which the export health certificate is completed. The OV will also be able to check on isolation conditions during the visits for the various tests and treatments required during the isolation period.

9. **Laboratory Testing**

Paragraphs IV (m), (n), (o) and (r) refer. All laboratory tests must be conducted at laboratories of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency, Weybridge/Lasswade. Before submitting samples for testing, OVs should contact the laboratory to enable appropriate arrangements to be made, and to obtain any necessary advice about the handling of samples. Samples must be taken in sufficient time for the results to be reported prior to completion of the export health certificate.

10. **Authorisation of OV for Part A**

Paragraph Part B, V (c) refers. The airport OV will need to contact the APHA in order to obtain confirmation that the OV who has completed Part A is appropriately registered. The exporter must contact the airport OV well in advance to ensure that arrangements can be made.

11. **Completion of documents**

Paragraph Part B, V (d) refers. In order to assist the OV at the airport the exporter or his premises OV should ensure that the documents travelling with the animal include the New Zealand Import Health Standard Document. This document of approximately 12 pages document lays down all the biosecurity requirements for the pre-export period as well as the post-arrival period.

12. **IATA Transport Conditions**

Paragraph Part B, V. (e) refers. The owner/exporter is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of transport for his/her animal meet the standards laid down by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). He/she should ask the transporting airline to

confirm this, and if necessary provide a copy of the relevant conditions. Published copies of the IATA conditions, together with the 'live animal labels' and 'this way up' labels which IATA require on animal crates, can be bought from the following companies:

Freight Merchandising Services, c/o Vidap Freight Services Ltd.,
Shield Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 1AU.
Tel: 01784 240840 Fax: 01784 248615

Label Line, Hollyhouse, 14 Tenby Road, Frimley, Surrey, GU16 5UT.
Tel: 01252 836472 Fax: 01252 838094

13. **Sealing of containers**

Paragraph Part B, V (f) refers. The containers must be sealed in such a way that the seal will be irreparably torn or broken if any of the containers are opened. The exporter must ensure that the crate is designed in such a way that a seal can be easily applied at the airport without having to open the crate. The exporter should discuss the necessary design with the airport OV well in advance. The identification numbers on the seal must be recorded in Paragraph V (f) of the health certificate.

14. **No paragraph (i)**

Note that the paragraph notation in the certificate reads IV (h) to IV (j) with paragraph IV (i) omitted. This is intentional as Roman numeral 'i' is used to number indented paragraphs. Use of the symbol 'i' for both paragraphs and sub-paragraphs could lead to confusion.

15. **Disclaimer**

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

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

16. **C.I.T.E.S**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.). Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department at the address given below:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service
DEFRA, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol BS1 6EB

Tel: 0117 372 8168 Fax: 0117 372 8206

17. **Welfare of Animals**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade
- Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald
House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852