

EXPORT OF WILD FELINES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO PANAMA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8049EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8049EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. Scope of the certificate

This certificate covers the export of captive wild felines from the United Kingdom to Panama.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

The OV/AVI should keep a copy for his/her own records. This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian, appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government or Welsh Government who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an AVI in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes. .

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with an OV stamp in any colour OTHER THAN BLACK.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office (in GB, APHA, Customer Service, Carlisle) and in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Room 922 Dundonald House, Belfast, within seven days of signature.

3. Import Permit

The exporter or their agent should obtain an import permit from the Panama authorities prior to making any export arrangements.

4. Identification

Paragraph I refers. The OV should insert the information required and if he/she considers useful to also record the location of the microchip underneath the microchip number in the appropriate box in the EHC.

5. Rabies vaccination

Paragraph IV (b) refers. In case of primary vaccination a full course, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, should be given. Following primary vaccination the animal should be revaccinated at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer.

The vaccination certificates should accompany the animal entering Panama. Only licensed products may be used.

6. Tests for Feline Immunodeficiency and Feline Panleucopenia

Paragraphs IV(c) and IV(d) refer. The Official Veterinarian must be satisfied that the necessary tests have been carried out within 30 days prior to export. If the animals were previously vaccinated for Feline Immunodeficiency and Feline Panleucopenia, virological rather than serological tests should be carried out. The Official Veterinarian should attach the test reports to the Export Health Certificate.

7. Treatment for external and internal parasites

Paragraphs IV (f)(i) and (ii) refer. The treatments must be licensed in the UK and the date of treatments must be stated on the export health certificate.

8. No vaccinations within 14 days prior to export.

Paragraph IV (e) refers. This paragraph can be certified on the basis examination of relevant documentation including medicines records and vaccination certificates.

9. **Premises disease clearance**

Paragraph IV (g) refers. This paragraph can be certified on the basis of the OV's familiarity with the operation of the premises. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations.

If the OV does not have first-hand knowledge of the premises, then s/he should seek supporting evidence as above so that s/he can be satisfied that the information is accurate and up to date.

10. **Exporter's declarations**

Paragraphs IV (h) and (i) refer. The OV must obtain a written assurance from the owner/exporter in order to support certification of these paragraphs. The declarations should not be attached to the health certificate, but should be retained by the OV for record purposes.

11. **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 following address:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service
DEFRA, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol BS1 6EB
Tel: 0117 372 8168 Fax: 0117 372 8206
e-mail: wildlife.licencing@apha.gsi.gov.uk

12. **Welfare**

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

ENGLAND, APHA - Customer Service Centre, Eden Bridge
SCOTLAND House, Lowther St, Carlisle CA3 8DX
AND WALES Tel: 03000 200301/ Fax 01228 591900 /
e-mail: CentralOps.carlisle@apha.gsi.gov.uk

NORTHERN Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural
IRELAND Affairs Northern Ireland, Animal Welfare Section
Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast,
BT4 3SB
Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012

13. **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 APHA Customer Service Centre, in Carlisle, via the link below.

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

In Northern Ireland the exporter should contact DAERA at: DAERA, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast. BT4 3SB. Telephone: 0289 052 4580.