

EXPORT OF FROZEN CERVINE SEMEN TO NEW ZEALAND

APPROVAL OF AN ON-FARM COLLECTION UNIT

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF APHA VETERINARIANS, OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS, SEMEN COLLECTION TEAM VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

1. Signature of an Official Veterinarian

1439EHC requires the signature of an Official Veterinarian in section IV. This can be signed by an OV who holds an Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) for the export of semen, ova and embryos.

Collection centres must meet the requirements detailed in Annex D Chapter I of Council Directive 92/65/EC.

2. No paragraph V i)

Note that the paragraph notation in the certificate reads V h) to V j) with paragraph V i) omitted. This is intentional as roman numeral 'i.' is used to number indented paragraphs. Use of both i) and i. can lead to confusion where advice is related to specific paragraphs given in these Notes for Guidance.

3. Scope of the certificate

This certificate covers the export of frozen cervine semen collected prior to 1 June 2000 or after 1 January 2002 from Great Britain to New Zealand. The period of semen collection must be 60 days or less.

4. STRUCTURE

- i. An on-farm collection unit may be constructed or adapted for the purpose by a farmer on his own premises. The collection unit must be surrounded by stock proof fencing/walls, so that livestock within the centre has no contact with other livestock.
- ii. There should be adequate housing and yards for the maximum number of stock likely to be resident at one time.
- iii. Accommodation should be provided for each of the following purposes:
 - (a) housing of donors
 - (b) collection of semen

5. SPECIFICATION

- (a) accommodation should be as remote as possible from that used by other livestock (i.e. not being certified to the same standards);
- (b) the airspace should be separate from that in which any other livestock are present;
- (c) no drainage or effluent produced by other livestock should pass into or through the isolation accommodation;

- (d) interior surfaces must be capable of being cleansed and disinfected, and must be so cleansed and disinfected (using a Defra-approved disinfectant, diluted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions) immediately before the group of animals to be isolated are placed therein;
- (e) personnel servicing the animals or entering the approved isolation accommodation for any other reason, must first put on overalls and footwear reserved for use exclusively within that accommodation for the duration of the isolation;
- (f) a footbath containing a Defra-approved disinfectant, (diluted according to the manufacturers instructions) must be located at the entrance to the facility and all persons entering must first wash and then disinfect footwear;
- (g) Paddocks should be securely fenced and access gates must be locked when there is no one in attendance;
- (h) no other livestock should occupy the isolation paddocks or paddocks or fields immediately adjacent to the isolation paddock;
- (i) drinking water must be provided by enclosed pipework directly from the service Mains, no other water or drainage must flow through the isolation paddock;
- (j) access should be by a lockable control point provided with a footbath of a Defra-approved disinfectant (diluted according to the manufacturers instructions), any person entering the approved isolation paddock must first wash and disinfect his/her boots using the footbath;
- (k) attendants must wear overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation paddock for the duration of isolation;
- (l) animals intended for export (or donors of semen for export) must not be removed from the accommodation during the period of isolation without the permission of the Official Veterinarian who should be present.

MANAGEMENT

- 6. A register must be kept of all animals at the unit giving details of identification, breed, age, date of entry to the unit and full testing and health history of each animal during the stay within the unit.
- 7. The part of the premises which will be used to house the donor animals must have been depopulated and subsequently cleansed and disinfected to the satisfaction of the certifying veterinarian prior to the entry of these donors for the collection of semen for export.
- 8. From the time of disinfection of the approved premises and during the whole of the collection period there must be no livestock other than the donor animals within the collection unit.

SUPERVISION

- 9. The unit must be under the supervision of the certifying Official

Veterinarian.

10. Collections may only take place under the supervision of a Veterinary Surgeon approved and registered by Defra for the purpose of export of cervine genetic material.

CERTIFICATION

11. The health information is divided into 4 sections:
 - Part I of paragraph IV relates to certification of the donor animals to be signed by an Official Veterinarian.
 - Paragraph V relates to processing of semen to be signed by an approved semen collection team veterinarian.
 - Paragraph VI relates to country clearance and official approvals to be signed by an APHA Veterinarian.

Countersignature Requirements

This certificate must be countersigned by an APHA Veterinarian.

All requests for countersignature must be submitted to the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (CITC) at least two working days in advance of the requested date/time of countersignature using Request for APHA Veterinarian Countersignature of an Export Health Certificate (ET145) application.

The ET145 application can be submitted to CITC:

- as an attachment, at the same time you complete an online application for certification, on the Export Health Certificates (EHC) Online service, or
- by email to processingteam@apha.gov.uk

Upon receipt of your ET145 application CITC will liaise with an APHA Veterinarian at your preferred countersigning office/area to make arrangements for countersignature to take place and notify you of the arrangements made.

It should be noted that the New Zealand import requirements specify that all pages of the export health certificate including the schedule must be stamped, signed and dated by the APHA Veterinarian.

Identification of the donor animal

12. Only semen collected from certain species (including their crosses) of deer are eligible to be imported into New Zealand. Paragraph 17 of these Notes for Guidance give further details. The species to which the donor animals belong must be stated in all cases, including details of crossings if appropriate.

Owner's declarations at paragraphs IV(a) (i) and (ii) and (d) of 1439EHC.

13. The certifying veterinarian should receive a written declaration from the owner and verify the statements made, reference should be made to available movement records, pedigree records, import health certificates and estimated ages of the donors.

Tuberculosis testing at paragraphs IV(c) (ii) and (g)

14. The tuberculin test must be carried out by an LVI (deer). LVIs are reminded that when carrying out tuberculin tests for export purposes, they must obtain the DVM's consent for the use of Weybridge PPD tuberculin. The DVM should be informed of any animals which are regarded as positive or inconclusive to the tuberculin test.

Submission of samples

15. Paragraph IV (h), (j) and (k) refer. Blood samples should always be submitted to the relevant laboratory in good time to allow reports to be received in advance of the export date. If in doubt as to the length of time a test is likely to take, the certifying Official Veterinarian should seek advice of the relevant laboratory. The blood samples for louping-ill must be sent to the Moredun Research Institute, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ. Tel.no. 0131-445-5111, Fax.no. 0131-445-6111.

Copies of the laboratory test results must be attached to the health certificate 1439EHC.

Collection of semen

16. The certifying veterinarian is required to examine all the animals within the perimeter of the collection unit at the same time as he/she supervises the collection.

GENERAL INFORMATION

17. The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 of New Zealand prohibits the importation of new deer (i.e. species which do not have an established feral range). Semen from only the following species of deer or their crosses may be imported into New Zealand:

Red deer (*Cervus elaphus scoticus*)
Wapiti (*Cervus elaphus nelsoni*)
Sika deer (*Cervus nippon*)
Sambar (*Cervus u. unicolour*)
Rusa deer (*Cervus timorensis*)
Fallow deer (*Cervus dama dama*)
White tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus borealis*).

Obtaining Import permit

18. Exporters are required to obtain an import permit from the New Zealand authorities. The permit may be cancelled at any time depending on the current disease status of Great Britain.
19. A copy of the completed and signed health certification must be sent to the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle on the day of signing.