

EXPORT OF CANINE SEMEN FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO NEW ZEALAND

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN/EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 989EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 989EHC. 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

Export health certificate 989EHC may be used for the export of canine semen from the United Kingdom to New Zealand.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified Copy Requirements – England, Wales and Scotland

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates must
989NFG (09/03/2017) (Revised 24/11/2023)

return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the department, where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. **Declarations**

Paragraph VII and Pages 2-4 refer. These paragraphs may be signed on receipt of written declarations from the owner/exporter. OVs should keep copies for record purposes.

Regarding Pages 2-4 it is important that an examination of the donor dog takes place in conjunction with receipt of the declaration.

4. **Semen Collection**

General Requirements, paragraph (8) (Page 2) refers. The semen collection period must not be greater than 30 days.

5. **Testing**

Specified Requirements for Identified Risk organisms, paragraphs (20) & (21) refer.

i) (20), The results of blood tests for **Canine Brucellosis (Brucella canis)** must be either a negative result, or had a positive or inconclusive RSAT, TAT or IFAT result and has been subjected to cytoplasmic agar gel immunodiffusion test (CPAg-AGID) with a negative result (or) had an inconclusive TAT result and the test was repeated at least 30 to 42 days after the first test with a negative result.

ii) (21) (a) semen diluents containing antibiotics effective against *Leptospira* species were used in the preparation of the semen

(b) The donor was treated with doxycycline at a therapeutic dose rate for 14 consecutive days within the 30 days prior to each collection.

(c) (i) The donor was subjected to either a microscopic agglutination test (MAT) with a negative result for *Leptospira interrogans* serovar canicola (LISC);- or

(ii) The donor had a positive MAT of 1:400 or less for LISC and has been subject to a second MAT test at least 14 days after the first test and showed no increase above the titre of the first test.

6. **Approval of semen storage space**

General requirements, paragraphs 3-19 refer. The semen storage place has to be approved by an OV. The storage place can either be a room, a locker or a container provided it is lockable and no other semen apart from the one for export to New Zealand is kept in it. The OVs should keep the key of the storage place. A record log book should be kept with details of semen put in or taken out and any other relevant information.

7. **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 Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk