

No:

Forms:	3566EHC	France	3762EHC	Greece
	3757EHC	Austria	3763EHC	Italy
	3758EHC	Bel/Lux	3764EHC	Portugal
	3759EHC	Denmark	3765EHC	Spain
	4205EHC	Eire	3766EHC	Sweden
	3760EHC	Finland	3781EHC	Netherlands
	3761EHC	Germany		

EXPORT OF EQUINE SEMEN TO MEMBER STATES OF THE EC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

1. Before completing the health certificate, the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN should read and complete the Check List 3566CKL accompanying these Notes for Guidance.
2. **Approval of semen collection centres and centre veterinarians**
Semen collection centres should be approved by DEFRA according to the conditions laid down in Council Directive 92/65/EEC. The centre veterinarian is the veterinarian nominated by the operator of the semen collection centre and approved by the DVM to carry out supervision of the premises, testing and semen collection procedures. For further information on the approval of centres and appointment of centre veterinarians, exporters and OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS should contact their local Animal Health Divisional Office.
3. **Identification**
Identification of donors and other animals on the centre - all animals on the centre must be identified individually by silhouette, microchip or passport and this identification checked whenever samples are collected for testing or semen is collected.
4. **Restriction on use for natural service**
Paragraph 13.3.2 refers. A written declaration should be obtained from the owner or agent. The validity of this declaration should be checked against available breeding records.
5. **Disease clearance of holdings and non-contact with disease**
Paragraphs 13.1.2, 13.3.3 to 13.3.5 refer.
Paragraph 13.1.2 refers.
The OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN may certify paragraph 13.1.2 on behalf of the Department provided written authority has been obtained on form EC618.
Paragraphs 13.3.3 to 13.3.5 refer.
The OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN should obtain a written declaration from the owner or agent stating the holdings on which the donor was resident during the 60 days prior to semen collection and statements as necessary from the veterinary surgeons responsible for these premises stating that the donor animal and other equidae on the collection centre comply with the requirements of these paragraphs.

6. Laboratory testing

Paragraphs 13.3.6 and 13.3.7 refer.

- (i) All swabs for the CEM test carried out in para 13.3.6.3 must be submitted to Penrith Regional AHVLA laboratory.

All swabs from an individual animal must be submitted to the same laboratory, and must arrive at the laboratory within 48 hours of sampling. If more than 10 swabs are to be submitted, prior notice should be given to the laboratory. A separate laboratory report form must accompany each sample.

- (ii) Samples for testing for equine infectious anaemia and equine viral arteritis (13.3.6.1 and 13.3.6.2) should be sent to the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA), Weybridge.

- (iii) Before submitting semen samples for the virus isolation test for equine viral arteritis (13.3.6.2 second alternative), OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS are advised to contact the virology department VLA, for advice on the procedures for collection and dispatch of semen samples for virological testing.

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