**No:** .............

**EXPORT CERTIFICATE FOR THE RETURN TO BRAZIL OF EQUINES TEMPORARILY EXPORTED THAT ATTENDED HORSE ASSEMBLAGE EVENTS**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

**IMPORTANT**

**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7491EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 298EHC. 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**

The export health certificate (7491EHC) is based – word for word – on the model certificate that Brazil has in place for the return of equines from competitions/equestrian events. As a **result,** the wording and the format is not in keeping with standard Defra practice.  **Nevertheless, provided the following guidance is followed, the certificate can be signed.**

**2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by a Local Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government – Rural Directorate, Welsh Government - Department for Rural Affairs, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to

AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

The OV/AVI should keep a copy for his/her own records.

**3. Identification**

 The horse must be identified either by completing the silhouette at page 4 of health certificate or in the case of a registered horse by reference to the passport/identification document silhouette, the number(s) of which must be inserted at pages 1 and 4. If the horse is registered, the passport/identification document must be checked to confirm its identity. The identity must be checked by reference to the silhouette whenever the horse is examined or when samples are taken for laboratory tests.

**4. Paragraph IV - Resolution GMC Nº 24/10 and disease clearance (618NDC)**

This resolution sorequires the country of export to be officially recognised as free from African horse sickness, Venezuelan/Western/Eastern equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis according to the criteria of the World Organisation for the Animal Health (OIE), Terrestrial Animal Health Code, and also that no case of Japanese encephalitis and West Nile virus infection (including subtype Kunjin) has occurred there during the past two years.

These aspects can be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority has been received on form 618NDC.

The resolution also requires the equines to be on premises where no case of notifiable equine infectious or parasitical disease has been officially recorded during the 90 days prior to shipment. It is assumed that movement restrictions will be invoked if notifiable disease is confirmed, so 90 days must have elapsed between then and the shipment date if the equine has been on such a premises. This aspect can be certified based on support certification (which could include that required by EU legislation for imports and intra-EU trade).

5. **Paragraph V – Diagnostic (laboratory) tests**

 The individual import permit will need to be consulted to determine whether a test for EIA is required. It is possible that a negative result on a sample collected for another purpose (eg import into the EU) within a given period prior to the (return) shipment is acceptable. If unclear or in doubt, it is advised that samples are taken within 30 days prior to shipment. Samples should be submitted to the AHVLA, Weybridge, allowing sufficient time for the tests to be completed and for results to be received before the proposed export date.

6. **Paragraph VI - Treatments**

 It is advised that treatments be carried out within 30 days prior to export, using licensed products.

7. **Paragraph VII – Shipment and clinical examination prior to shipment**

 The shipment site is the airport of embarkation. Sub-paragraph A requires the vehicle to be sealed during this journey. Although there is no virus circulation of any significant equine vector-borne notifiable disease in the UK, there is a requirement to treat the means of transport with an insecticide (sub-paragraphs A and B refer).

The above aspects may be certified provided a written declaration has been obtained from the exporter/owner/agent that arrangements have been made to ensure these requirements will be complied with.

 The clinical examination mentioned in sub-paragraph C should be carried out on the day of loading for shipment

8. **Welfare**

Most horses and ponies exported from Great Britain need certification to satisfy British export welfare legislation **IN ADDITION TO** the export health certification. Information about the necessary requirements and application forms may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Department at the following offices:

**ENGLAND** Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

 9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR

 Tel: 0845 603 8395

**SCOTLAND** Scottish Government – Rural and Environment Directorate, Spur P, Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD

Tel: 0300 244 9243 / Fax: 0300 244 9797

**WALES** WelshGovernment – Department for Rural Affairs, Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NQ

 Tel: 02920 823593 / Fax: 02920 823352

**NORTHERN** Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

**IRELAND** Northern Ireland,

Animal Welfare Section, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB

Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012

9. **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 AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contact-us/tradeexports.html>