EXPORT OF OVINE AND CAPRINE SEMEN TO TURKEY

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6912EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6912EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

The certificate will be pre-printed with all the information included at the time of application for export. There must be no hand written entries or amendments in the certificates, other than signatures and the dates of signatures.

1. Scope of the Certificate

Export health certificate 6912EHC may be used for the export of ovine and caprine semen from the United Kingdom to Turkey.

The certificate must be signed, dated and stamped within two days prior to shipment, and is valid for ten days in the case of air shipment.

The Turkish authorities have advised that there should be no handwritten information on the certificate; all information must be entered in typescript.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an authorised Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

In Northern Ireland, this certificate may be signed by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

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

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Animal Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

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

The centre veterinarian may use an identical copy of the original EHC to compile all the supporting information for the certifying OV.

3. Obtaining an import permit

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit. The import permit number should be given in the health certificate at paragraph I.27.

4. Identification of the commodities

Section I.28 refers: All batches should be entered into the certificate. If there is insufficient space, the Turkish authorities should be consulted to determine if the use of a schedule is permitted to identify the animals certified.

If permitted, the schedule must contain the same typed information as that required in section I.28 and section I.28 must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health

certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV).

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule or in section I.28 must be deleted with diagonal lines. If a schedule is not permitted then multiple certificates must be used.

5. Clinical Examination

Paragraph II.4.1 refers: in order to sign this paragraph, a clinical inspection of the donor ram(s) is required on the day of collection.

6. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

Paragraphs II.1.1, II.1.2, II.3.1.1, II.4.5.1, II.4.5.2, II.4.7, II.4.8 and II.4.9 refer: OVs may certify paragraphs II.1.1, II.1.2, II.3.1.1, II.4.5.1, II.4.5.2, II.4.7, II.4.8 and II.4.9 on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Specialist Service Centre – Exports - at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

7. Additional Support Assurances required to enable certain paragraphs to be signed by the Official Veterinarian.

Paragraphs II.3.1.2, II.3.1.3, II.3.2, II.3.3, II.4.1, II.4.2, II.4.3, II.4.4, II.4.7, II.5.1, II.5.2, II.5.3 and II.5.4 refer. OVs may certify these paragraphs based on personal knowledge of the semen collection centre, or supporting certification from the centre veterinarian. If further guidance is required, CIT / DAERA should be contacted.

II.3.1.4 – This can be certified based on the point the AI centre veterinarian will need to report any incidence of non-notifiable diseases to APHA or the OV as appropriate. This has been confirmed as an acceptable procedure by the Turkish ministry.

II.5.4 – This can be certified based on supporting certification from the centre veterinarian. The AI centre veterinarian will need to report any incidence of leptospirosis to APHA or the OV as appropriate. This has been confirmed as an acceptable procedure by the Turkish ministry.

II.5.2. Was processed, stored and transported under conditions which satisfy the terms laid down in Chapter III of Annex D to Directive 92/65/EEC

Specifically:

Conditions for the collection, processing, preservation, storage and transport of semen.

1. Where, antibiotics or a mixture of antibiotics are added with a bactericidal activity at least equivalent to that of the following mixtures in each ml of semen: gentamicin (250 µg), tylosin (50 µg), lincomycin-spectinomycin (150/300 µg); penicillin (500 IU), streptomycin (500 µg), lincomycin-spectinomycin (150/300 µg); or amikacin (75 µg), divekacin (25 µg).

2. All instruments used for the collection, processing, preservation or freezing of semen shall be either disinfected or sterilised as appropriate before use, except for single-use instruments.

3. Frozen semen shall:
(a) be placed and stored in storage containers:
(i) which have been cleansed and disinfected or sterilised before use, or are single-use containers;
(ii) with a cryogenic agent; which shall not be previously used for other products of animal origin;
(b) prior to dispatch or use, be stored in approved conditions for a minimum period of 30 days from the date of collection.

4. Semen to be subject for trade shall:

(a) be transported to the country of destination in transport containers which have been cleansed and disinfected or sterilised before use, or are single-use containers, and which have been sealed and numbered prior to dispatch from the approved semen collection or storage centres;
(b) be marked in such a way that the number on the straws or other packages coincides with the number on the health certificate and with the container in which they are stored and transported

II.5.3. meet the requirements of Chapter A(I) of Annex VIII to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

II.5.3 may be certified on the basis of the UK (England and the other DAs) TSE Regulations (as amended) which implements Regulation 999/2001.

To comply with 999/2001 the donors have to originate from holdings which have a classical scrapie negligible risk status (ie have undergone active monitoring for at least 7 years) as listed in the Scottish Rural College (SRUC) Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) – http://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120113/premium_sheep_and_goat_health_schemes/511/diseases_covered/5 .

8. Residency of the donor rams in the UK

Paragraph II.4.6 refers: If necessary, details in the Animal Reporting and Movement Service(ARAMS) https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sheep-and-goat-keepers-how-to-report-animal-movements may be checked to establish whether paragraph II.4.6 can be signed.

8. Laboratory tests

The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by DEFRA or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuick, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

9. Sealing of the transport container

Paragraph I.23 refers: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal must be entered at paragraph I.23 on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, topping up should be done in the presence of an Official Veterinarian (OV) who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The OV must endorse paragraph I.23 on the health certificate with the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating and stamping the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black.**

10. 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 Specialist Service Centre – Exports - at Carlisle, via the link below:
Office access and opening times - Animal and Plant Health Agency - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.