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EXPORT OF BREEDING SHEEP AND GOATS TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5312EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5312EHC.

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.

1. Scope of the Certificate

Export health certificate 5312EHC may be used for the export of breeding sheep and goats to Trinidad and Tobago.

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.

OV's 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

Authorised Private Veterinary 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.

Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification On-Line (DECOL) produced EHCs must 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

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 IV.(c).

4. **Arrival notification**

Veterinary officials in Trinidad and Tobago must be notified at least 24 hours in advance of the animals' anticipated time of arrival.

5. **Isolation on arrival**

On their arrival in Trinidad, the animals will undergo isolation at an approved premises for a period of not less than 21 days. Expenses in relation to the isolation will be for the account of the importer.

6. **Identification for export**

Regardless of their age, sheep and goats for export (both Intra-Community and Third Country Trade) must be identified by two eartags both bearing the same unique identification number consisting of "UK" followed by the **flock/herd number** of the natal holding and the **individual animal ID number**, for example *UK 123456 0001*, where 123456 is the flock/herd number of the holding on which the animal was born.

If animals originate from another Member State of the EU, please see: http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/identification/ovine/ovine_tags_en.htm for information on how the animals should have been identified.

The use of X tags is no longer permitted. Sheep and goats identified by means of a red 'R' replacement tag must not be certified by

Official Veterinarians as they are not eligible for intra-Community trade or for export to third countries via EU member states.

7. **Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)**

Paragraph V.1. can be signed on behalf of the Department by an Official Veterinarian provided written authority to do so on form 618NDC has been obtained from the issuing office, within 10 days of shipment.

8. **TSEs and Blue Tongue (BT)**

Paragraphs V. 3., 4. and 5. (TSE related) and 12. (BT related) refer: The certifying Official Veterinarian should contact the local Animal Health Divisional Office if unsure about whether the statements at paragraphs V. 3., 4. and 12. can be certified. Paragraph V. 5. can be certified on the basis of the TSE Regulations as implemented in the UK.

9. **Pre-export isolation**

Paragraph V. 6 refers: if no specific conditions are set out in the import permit, it is the responsibility of the certifying Official Veterinarian to specify conditions that will enable this clause to be certified. As a general guide, the following conditions should be met:

(i) Isolation accommodation should be as remote as practicable from any other livestock.

(ii) Any building used for isolation accommodation must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using an officially-approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.

(iii) No drainage or effluent produced by, or derived from, other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.

(iv) Any person who requires to enter the isolation accommodation should take appropriate action to prevent cross-contamination, e.g. clean overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation and a means of cleaning and disinfecting footwear.

10. **Tuberculin test**

Paragraph V. 7. refers: The animals should be subjected to the comparative intradermal test using avian and bovine PPD tuberculins, with negative results. Negative means a reaction to bovine PPD tuberculin which is less than the reaction to avian PPD tuberculin when the test is read at 72 hours. The test is performed by injecting bovine and avian PPD tuberculins into the skin at the posterior aspect of the base of the right and left ear (for sheep and goats) or the medial aspect of the right and left thigh (for sheep).

11. **Testing for maedi-visna/contagious caprine arthritis-encephalitis**

Paragraph V. 10 (b) refers: only the animals to be exported are required to be tested.

12. **Bluetongue**

Paragraph V. 12 refers: provided there have been no cases of Bluetongue, and no serological or epidemiological evidence to indicate the presence of Bluetongue infection, in the herd/flock during the past two years, this clause can be certified even if there are serologically-positive animals in the herd/flock due to vaccination against Bluetongue.

13. **Enzootic Bovine Leukosis (EBL)**

Paragraph V. 13 refers: this clause should be interpreted as referring to the **premises** from which the animals to be exported have originated. Therefore, provided the premises are free of EBL, this clause can be certified.

14. **Treatment for internal and external parasites**

Paragraph V. 14 refers: if there is no licensed product available to carry out the specified treatment, a suitable product licensed for use in another species should be used under the conditions of the cascade system.

15. **Laboratory tests**

Samples must be sent for testing to the laboratories of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA). The majority of pre-export tests are carried out at the Veterinary Laboratory Agency (VLA New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, Tel:01932 357335). Some tests are carried out at the regional VLA laboratories. For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, OV's should check with the VLA to establish to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be received in advance of the export date. 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, OV's should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

16. **Welfare**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales. If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team
Centre for International Trade
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street, Carlisle
CA3 8DX
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

17. 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
