

**EXPORT OF ELEPHANTS, HIPPOPOTAMI, RHINOCEROSES AND TAPIRS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND THE EXPORTER**

**1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

This certificate is for the export of elephants, hippopotami, rhinoceroses and tapirs from the United Kingdom to the United States of America.

**2. OFFICIAL SIGNATURE**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government, or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) for export purposes. The official veterinarian stamp should be applied to the certificate in the normal manner. **The stamp and signature must be made in ink of any colour other than black.**

A copy of this certificate, certified by the Official Veterinarian, must be returned to the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle within 7 days of its issue.

**3. IMPORT PERMIT**

Exporters should be aware that the consignment must be accompanied by an import permit from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services, National Center for Import-Export, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, Maryland 20737 1231, USA.

**4. IDENTIFICATION**

Paragraph I refers. If the space is insufficient for all the animals in the consignment, the OV should mark the section 'see attached schedule' and attach a schedule giving the same information as the table. The OV must draw a line under the last entry on the schedule, and sign, date and stamp each page of the schedule in a colour other than black, with the signature and stamp on the last page being made directly under the last entry, in order to prevent the unauthorised addition of more entries. The pages of the schedule must be firmly stapled to the export health certificate and each referenced with the unique reference number at the top right-hand corner of the export health certificate. The corners of each sheet should be turned over, 'fanned', and stamped with the OV stamp.

The animals must be identified by an appropriate method giving each animal a unique identification code (numbers and/or letters). Electronic microchips are the method of choice. Where the identification is by microchip the official veterinarian must verify the number by the use of a reader. It is the responsibility of the owner/exporter to ensure that an appropriate microchip reader is available. For this reason it is recommended that the microchip brand should be a type on the International Standards Office (ISO list) so that compatible readers can easily be obtained. The exporter must

also ensure that the appropriate reader will also be available to the authorities at all inspection points up till the animal's destination.

5. **CLINICAL EXAMINATION**

Paragraph IV (a) refers. The clinical examination must be made within 72 hours of the intended time of loading for despatch.

6. **ECTOPARASITE TREATMENT**

Paragraph IV (b) refers. APHIS should be consulted about their preferred list of pesticides and recommended concentrations. The address to contact is that given in paragraph 3 above.

7. **APPROVED DISINFECTANTS**

Paragraph IV (d) refers. With reference to Defra approved disinfectants, these are approved under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) Order 1978 (as amended). The list contains over 200 brands of disinfectant approved on the basis of their efficacy against certain notifiable disease viruses. The 'general list' instructions should be followed. DEFRA approved disinfectants carry a statement on the container, and other references to their approval may be found in their data sheets or label instructions.

8. **COUNTERSIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS**

This certificate must be countersigned by an APHA Veterinarian.

All requests for countersignature must be submitted to the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (CITC) at least two working days in advance of the requested date/time of countersignature using Request for APHA Veterinarian Countersignature of an Export Health Certificate (ET145) application.

The ET145 application can be submitted to CITC:

- as an attachment, at the same time you complete an online application for certification, on the Export Health Certificates (EHC) Online service, or
- by email to [processingteam@apha.gov.uk](mailto:processingteam@apha.gov.uk)

Upon receipt of your ET145 application CITC will liaise with an APHA Veterinarian at your preferred countersigning office/area to make arrangements for countersignature to take place and notify you of the arrangements made.

9. **DISCLAIMER**

The Department disclaimer (Form 372DMR) will be issued to the exporter with this certificate for his/her information. The 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 International Animal Health Division at the address given below.

10. **CITES REQUIREMENTS**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.). Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department at the address given below:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service  
DEFRA, Temple Quay House,  
2 The Square, Bristol BS1 6EB

11. **WELFARE DURING TRAVEL**

Exporters must comply with the British welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards. Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below.

**ENGLAND** Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
1A Page Street, London, SW1P 4PQ.  
Tel: 0207 904 6576

**SCOTLAND** Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department  
Pentland House, 47 Robb's Loan, Edinburgh. EH14 1TW  
Tel: 0131 244 6482

**WALES** National Assembly for Wales, Office of the Chief  
Veterinary Officer, Cathays Park,  
Cardiff CF10 3NQ.  
Tel: 02920 823593

**NORTHERN IRELAND** Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Northern Ireland, Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast, BT4 3SB  
Tel: 028 9052 4999