

EXPORT OF STALLIONS VACCINATED AGAINST EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS TO JAPAN

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 3151EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3151EHC. 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.

Scope of the Certificate

Export health certificate 3151EHC should be used to accompany stallions vaccinated against equine viral arteritis exported from the United Kingdom to Japan on a permanent basis. Exporters wishing to export other categories of equidae should contact the Centre for International Trade, APHA (Tel: 01228 403 600).

1. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government, Welsh Government, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland (DAERA), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes, or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation. OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office (in GB - APHA, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) and in the case of Northern Ireland to the local DAERA office within seven days of signature.

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

2. Identification of horses

The silhouette on page 4 of the certificate must be fully completed or in the case of a registered horse, the passport number inserted. The Official Veterinarian must verify the identity of all registered horses by reference to the passport, even if the silhouette on page 4 of the certificate is also completed. The Official Veterinarian must be satisfied that the horse is adequately identified at the time of inspection and each time that samples are taken for pre-export testing.

Paragraph I must also be completed and the passport number entered if applicable.

3. Clinical examination

Paragraph IV (a) refers. The examination mentioned must take place within 24 hours prior to shipment.

4. Pre-export isolation

The isolation premises mentioned at paragraph IV (b) must be approved by a Veterinary Officer of DEFRA in accordance with the following conditions:

4.1 Construction and location

- a) The isolation premises must be a clearly demarcated area surrounded by a stock proof wall or fence and containing suitable facilities for the accommodation and exercise of the animals during the isolation period.
- b) The use of exercise facilities outside the premises may be permitted under the direction of the Official Veterinarian, after consultation with the DVM. The Official Veterinarian must ensure that the isolation status of the consignment is maintained at all times. If the exercise facilities are used by non-export horses, the isolated horses must use the facilities first each day and must be cleared from the area before non-export status horses are allowed access to the facilities.

- c) The premises should have facilities for veterinary examination and collection of samples and facilities for the segregation of sick or suspect horses.
- d) The access to the premises should be controlled and secure.
- e) The location should be as remote as possible from other premises containing equidae. In making a decision as to the suitability of the location of the isolation premises, the VO/ Official Veterinarian should take into consideration the epidemiology of the diseases for which certification is being provided, in particular with respect to the distance and presence of physical barriers between the isolation premises and other premises.
- f) All drainage must be away from the isolation premises.
- g) Isolation buildings should be capable of being effectively cleaned and disinfected.
- h) An adequate supply of water must be available at all times for the isolated horses and for cleaning purposes.
- i) Adequate supplies of food and bedding material for the whole of the isolation period must be stored either within the isolation premises or in a nearby secure and separate store.
- j) Equipment and utensils used for feeding, grooming and cleaning must be used only in the isolation premises during the isolation period.
- k) Protective clothing and footwear to be used exclusively in the isolation premises must be available at the entrance to the isolation premises.
- l) There should be adequate facilities for the cleansing and disinfection of vehicles, either on or near to the isolation premises.

4.2 Procedures

- a) Immediately before the commencement of the isolation period, the isolation buildings, all fixed and moveable equipment and utensils used for feeding, grooming and cleaning must be disinfected, unless new, using a disinfectant approved by DEFRA, to the satisfaction of the supervising Official Veterinarian. Exercise areas/paddocks should be cleaned to the satisfaction of the Official Veterinarian.
- b) No person may enter the isolation premises unless specifically authorised by the supervising Official Veterinarian.
- c) No staff supervising the horses may come into contact with any other horses during the period of supervision.
- d) Any authorised visitor to the isolation premises must wear the protective clothing provided throughout the visit.
- e) When no staff are on duty, the premises must be securely locked to prevent the entry of unauthorised persons.
- f) The isolation period for all isolated horses shall be deemed to start from the time of entry of the last horse. Horses must not leave the premises during the isolation period except with the permission of the Official Veterinarian and DVM.
- g) Isolated horses must have no contact with any horses of lower health status during the isolation period.
- h) The supervising Official Veterinarian should visit the premises when the horses enter at the start of the isolation period and at the end of the isolation period. At least one unannounced visit should be carried out during the isolation period.
- i) A health record should be kept of each isolated horse during the isolation period. This record should be available for inspection by the Official Veterinarian or VO.

- j) The operator should report any illnesses or other problems to the supervising Official Veterinarian. Where there is any cause for concern about the export certification of the consignment, the DVM should be consulted.
- k) If the VO/ Official Veterinarian is not satisfied that the conditions of approval are being met, the DVM should be notified.

5. **Residency**

Paragraph IV (c) refers. A written declaration must be received from the owner*/ agent of the owner* listing all the premises where the horse has been kept during the 60 days prior to export and giving an assurance that there has been no clinical, microbiological or serological (except due to vaccination) evidence of the diseases listed in paragraph IV (c) within 3 months of export. Where necessary the Official Veterinarian should obtain written confirmations of the validity of the declaration from the veterinary surgeons responsible for those premises. In the case of horses which have

visited Ireland and /or France within 60 days of commencement of pre-export isolation supplementary certificate, 3151SUP should be completed. The Official Veterinarian should also seek owner's declarations in the format of paragraph IV (c), countersigned by a veterinarian in the country of origin.

6. Laboratory tests

The laboratory tests at paragraph IV (d) and (l) must be carried out within 30 days of shipment. Samples must be sent to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) laboratory, Weybridge. A whole blood non-clotted sample (EDTA) is required for the test at IV (d) (iii) and (l) (iii). A whole blood clotted sample is required for each of the tests at paragraphs IV (d)(i), (ii) and (iv) and (l) (i), (ii) and (iv).

Please note: In the case of the IFAT or cELISA for equine piroplasmiasis, Defra recognises any laboratory in any other country that the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries also accepts results from e.g. Bose in Germany <http://www.labor-boese.de/index/getlang/en>

7. CEM tests

All swabs for the CEM tests carried out in paragraphs IV (e) and (m) must be sent to the Animal Health Veterinary Laboratories Agency laboratory at Penrith

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.

8. EVA tests

The blood sample for the test at paragraph IV (h) should be taken prior to the horse entering pre-export isolation and 14 days prior to the commencement of sampling for the EVA tests at paragraph IV (j)(i). All blood samples taken for tests at paragraphs IV (h) and (j)(i) must be tested on the same day at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency laboratory, Weybridge. There must be no significant rise in titre between these samples. A fourfold increase in dilution or greater is a fail.

9. Vaccination against Equine influenza

Paragraph IV (n) refers. The vaccination against equine influenza must be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A primary course of two injections 4-6 weeks apart or a booster dose must be given within 12 months prior to export.

10. Disease clearance

The certification contained in paragraphs IV (q) may be signed on behalf of the Department provided written authority has been received on form EC 618.

11. Feed/litter used during the isolation period and transport

Paragraph IV (p) refers. The Official Veterinarian should receive a written declaration from the owner*/ agent of the owner* stating the premises for which were obtained feed and litter for use during the isolation period and during transport. The Official Veterinarian should consult the DVM as necessary concerning the disease status of this premises.

12. Post import quarantine

Animals are subject to post import quarantine on arrival in Japan. Should an infectious disease be detected in an animal during quarantine the said animal may be re-exported or destroyed.

13. Completion of the health certificate and return of certified copy

After completing all the examinations, checks and tests, the Official Veterinarian should ensure that paragraphs I to IV are completed and should sign, stamp and date the certificate at section V in ink of any colour other than black.

The Official Veterinarian must make two photocopies of the export health certificate (EHC). The original EHC must be given to the exporter. One copy must be retained by the Official Veterinarian and one copy must be returned to Specialist Service Centre Exports as soon as possible after completion of certification and no later than 7 days after the date of export.

11. **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, Centre for International Trade, Animal and Plant Health
Agency, Eden Bridge House, Lowther Street, Carlisle,

Scotland CA3 8DX,
and Wales Tel: 01228 403600 / Fax 01228 591900 /
E-mail: CentralOps.carlisle@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Northern Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural
Ireland Affairs, Northern Ireland,
Animal Welfare Section, Dundonald House, Upper
Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB
Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012

12. **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, in Carlisle, via the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#specialist-service-centres-ssc>