

EXPORT OF HORSES TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN, VETERINARY OFFICER 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 1872EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1872EHC. 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 1872EHC may be used for the export of equines for permanent residence from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Korea.

It is not permitted to export horses and other equines from Great Britain for slaughter. This applies to journeys from, and transit journeys through, Great Britain to destinations outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (OV) 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 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 health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour OTHER THAN BLACK - each page should also be signed, dated and stamped, together with all associated documentation (e.g. Laboratory reports, if applicable).

Under the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, it is an offence to export horses and other equines for slaughter, beginning in or transiting through Great Britain to a third country.

If the OV has suspicions that the consignment is being exported for slaughter in contravention of section 1 of the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, this should be reported as soon as possible to APHA by calling 03000 200 301. In your report, please detail the following:

- EHC and journey log reference number
- Location and address of inspection, including CPH number
- Name and address of transporter and journey organiser
- Transporter authorisation number
- Details of the animals in the consignment (number, species, age)
- The reason for your concern
- Any relevant additional information

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to APHA Centre for International Trade, within seven days of issue.

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

3. **IDENTIFICATION OF HORSES**

Paragraph I refers. Paragraph I must be fully completed the passport number inserted. The OV must verify the identity of all registered horses by reference to the passport. The OV should be satisfied that the horse is adequately identified at the time of inspection and each time that samples are taken for pre-export testing.

4. **CLINICAL EXAMINATION**

Paragraph III (a) refers. Although not stated in the certificate, it is best practice to carry out the clinical examination within 48 hours of export

5. **DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Paragraph III(b), (c) and (d)(1) refer. In respect of residencies in the UK, OVs may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority from the CIT has been received on form 618NDC. For residencies in countries outside the UK, support certification from veterinarians in the countries of residence is required.

6. **PREMISES CLEARANCE**

Paragraph III (e) refers. Where the OV has no direct knowledge of the status of any premises where the horse has been resident during the previous 6 months, the OV should seek a declaration from the owner/representative of the owner including details of all premises

on which the animal resided during this period. The OV may then seek a written declaration from the owner/manager of the premises, and from the veterinary surgeon responsible for those premises, that the diseases listed at paragraph III (e) did not occur on these premises during the specified period.

6. VACCINATIONS

Paragraphs III (d) (2)&(3), (i), (j) and (k) refer. Vaccination against the diseases mentioned (if administered) must be entered on the accompanying horse passport. The details required are vaccination date, type of vaccine and batch number. The Korean authorities also recommend that the horse is injected with tetanus antiserum within 7 days of shipment, and an entry made in the appropriate horse passport.

In the case of stallions - Paragraphs III(g) and (j) also refer. The Korean authorities permit stallions to be vaccinated against Equine Viral Arteritis, but the strict protocol as set out in the certificate must be followed. Also, any vaccinated Stallion travelling to the Korean Republic must be accompanied by two mares found to be EVA negative to conduct natural mating tests during the quarantine import inspection period in the Republic of Korea.

7. PRE-EXPORT QUARANTINE

Paragraphs II (c) and (h) refer. The pre-export quarantine premises must be approved by an OV, following the guidance in Annex A. The horse must have been resident in the quarantine facility for at least 7 days prior to export and must not come into contact with any horses not being exported to the Korean Republic. The quarantine period would have to be extended as required eg if the horse is a stallion which has been vaccinated against EVA. The start and finish dates of the quarantine period must be stated at paragraph II (c).

8. LABORATORY TESTS

Blood samples must be sent to the APHA laboratory, Weybridge allowing sufficient time for the receipt of results before the proposed date of export.

For EVA vaccinated stallions, the testing requirements (paragraphs II (g) and (j) refers) are complicated and must be understood and correctly followed. Vaccination can be carried out at any time prior to export, but a pre-vaccination SNT must have been carried out and it must be negative at 1:4. At the time of export, three samples must be taken, one before entering the pre-export quarantine premises, and the other two after entering the pre-quarantine premises. The three samples must be taken at least 14 days apart, the last one within 10 days prior to export. The three samples must be tested together on the same day, and any increase or decrease in titres between the samples must be less than 4 fold. Appendix II of the MAFRA notice is reproduced at Annex B of this NFG.

9. OTHER TRANSPORTATION AND QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS

The hay, litter and fodder used during quarantine or transportation must be to of a high sanitary standard and free of contamination from pathogens of infectious animal diseases. There must not be extra hay/litter/fodder purchased in addition en route to the destination.

The horse being exported cannot travel on the same ship/aircraft as horses not carrying the same health status.

Crates, vehicles and the loading areas of vessels and aircrafts that are used for the transport of horses must be cleaned and disinfected before use, using disinfectants recognised by the UK government.

10. **DECLARATIONS**

Paragraphs IV(1) refers. The OV should retain the declarations received from the exporting agent for record purposes. If the OV has reason to doubt the validity of any declaration, the CIT should be consulted.

11. **WELFARE**

Most horses and ponies exported from United Kingdom 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, SCOTLAND
, & WALES**

Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA), Welfare in Transit, Centre for International Trade (CIT), Eden Bridge House, Lowther Street, Carlisle, CA3 8DX

E-mail:
CentralOps.carlisle@apha.gsi.gov.uk

NORTHERN IRELAND

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, 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:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>

1 **Construction and location**

- a) The pre-export quarantine 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 quarantine period.
- b) The use of exercise facilities outside the premises may be permitted under the direction of the Official Veterinarian, after consultation with CIT, Carlisle. 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 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 quarantine premises.
- g) 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 quarantine period must be stored either within the quarantine 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 quarantine period.
- k) Protective clothing and footwear to be used exclusively in the quarantine premises must be available at the entrance to the quarantine premises.
- l) There should be adequate facilities for the cleansing and disinfection of vehicles, either on or near to the quarantine premises.

2 **Procedures**

- a) Immediately before the commencement of the quarantine period, the 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 quarantine 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 quarantine 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 quarantine period except with the permission of the Official Veterinarian.
- g) Isolated horses must have no contact with any horses of lower health status during the quarantine period.
- h) The supervising Official Veterinarian should visit the premises when the horses enter at the start of the quarantine period and at the end of the quarantine period. At least one unannounced visit should be carried out during the quarantine period.
- i) A health record should be kept of each isolated horse during the quarantine period. This record should be available for inspection by the Official Veterinarian.
- 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, CIT, Carlisle should be consulted.
- k) If the Official Veterinarian is not satisfied that the conditions of approval are being met, CIT, Carlisle should be notified.

[Appendix 2 of MAFRA notice]

Testing requirements for stallions vaccinated against equine viral arteritis (EVA) in the exporting country

Stallions for export that are vaccinated against EVA must comply with the following requirements.

<Pre-vaccination test>

1. The government of the exporting country must take blood sample immediately before vaccination and confirm that they are tested negative by serum neutralization test at a serum dilution of 1:4.

<Post-vaccination test>

2. Three samples must be obtained from vaccinated stallions, of which the first blood sample is acquired at the premises and the second and the third from the export quarantine facility. The serum neutralization test for EVA must be conducted on these three serums simultaneously. As a result of the tests, there must be no significant rise (fourfold rise between any two samples), nor decline in titers. The blood samples must be taken at an interval of at least 14 days, and the third sample must be taken within 10 days prior to shipment.

3. Stallions vaccinated against EVA must have undergone a mating test or semen virus isolation test.

4. Two mares used for the mating test must comply with these import health requirements and must be isolated together with the vaccinated stallion in the export quarantine facility for at least 30 days. During the quarantine isolation, they must be tested negative by below tests.

a. (Pre-mating test) Blood samples must be taken from the two mares before they enter the export quarantine facility and they must be tested negative by serum neutralization test at a serum dilution of 1:4.

b. (Post-mating test) During the 30-day export quarantine period, the two test mares must be mated twice a day with a vaccinated stallion for 2 consecutive days. On the 14th and the 28th day after the last mating, blood samples from the two test mares must be taken and they must be tested negative by serum neutralization test at a serum dilution of 1:4.

c. During the 30-day export quarantine period, the two test mares must show no clinical signs or symptoms of EVA.

5. As to the virus isolation from semen, vaccinated stallions must be isolated for 30 days prior to shipment at the export quarantine facility, and the semen virus isolation test must be conducted as below during isolation.

- a. Before collecting the semen, disinfectants must not be used for cleaning the tools used for collecting semen or the exterior of the reproductive organ of stallions.
- b. Semen must be obtained using artificial vaginas or condoms. Samples used for virus isolation tests must be collected from the sperm-rich fraction of the collected semen.
- c. The collected semen must be tested negative by the virus isolation test performed pursuant to the process specified in the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).