

EXPORT OF HORSES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN 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 2784EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 2784EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 2784EHC may be used to accompany horses exported to the St Vincent and the Grenadines, subject to the issuing of an import permit by the Department of Agriculture in St Vincent. (See paragraph 2 below).

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 a Local Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), National Assembly For Wales Agricultural Department (NAWAD) or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

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 the local Divisional Veterinary Manager (DVM) or Divisional Veterinary Officer in NI (DVO-NI) within seven days of issue. OVs should keep a copy for his/her own records.

3. **Import Permit**

Permission to import equidae into St Vincent must be obtained from the veterinary authorities before the shipment leaves the United Kingdom. An import permit is available from the following address:

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Fisheries
Animal Health and Production
Kingstown, St Vincent
West Indies
Telephone: 784 457 2452, Fax: 784 457 1688

Exporters are advised to compare the health conditions attached to the import permit with the health certificate 2784EHC and to advise the Divisional Veterinary Manager (DVM) at the local Animal Health Divisional Office if there are any discrepancies.

4. **Identification**

Paragraph I refers. Paragraph I must be fully completed. In addition either the silhouette on page 4 of the certificate must be fully completed or the passport number entered on page 4. The OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN must verify the identity of the horse by reference to its 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 each time that samples are taken for pre-export testing and at the time of the pre-export examination.

5. **Health Examination**

The examination at paragraph IV (d) must be carried out on the day of loading or the last working day before embarkation, but not more than 48 hours prior to loading.

6. **Owner's/representative's declaration**
 Paragraph IV (a) refers. The OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN should inspect available records including the record of movements contained in the passport (if the horse is registered) in order to check the validity of the declaration. If the horse has been imported into Great Britain during the 6 months prior to export to St Vincent, the DVM should be consulted.
7. **Disease clearance**
 Paragraphs IV (c) may be signed on behalf of the Department provided written authority has been received on form EC618.
- Paragraph IV (b) refers. The OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN must obtain assurances that during the stabled period the horse has not been on any premises where any case of the listed diseases occurred. Where necessary the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN should obtain written assurances from the veterinary surgeons responsible for those premises.
8. **Vaccinations and Treatment**
Paragraphs IV (e) and (f) refer. Licensed products may be used
9. **Disclaimer**
 The DEFRA 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 Service Delivery Unit (IAHSDU) via the appropriate address in the link given below.
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/general/contacts.htm>
10. **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:
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| <u>ENGLAND</u> | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR
Tel: 020 7238 5865 /Fax: 020 7238 6009 |
| <u>SCOTLAND</u> | Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs
Department, Pentland House, 47 Robb's Loan, Edinburgh
EH14 1TW. Tel: 0131 556 8400 ext 6181/Fax: 0131 244
6616; |
| <u>WALES</u> | National Assembly for Wales, Crown Buildings, Cathays
Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NQ. Tel: 02920 823593/Fax: 02920
823352 |
| <u>NORTHERN IRELAND</u> | Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Northern Ireland, Animal Welfare Section
Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast
BT4 3SB
Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012 |

