

EXPORT OF DAY OLD DUCKLINGS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO CANADA

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

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to the Official Veterinarian (OV) and the exporter. The NFG should have been issued to you together with its related export health certificate. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the health certificate. 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

This certificate covers the export of day old ducklings from the United Kingdom to Canada. 'Day old ducklings' means that the ducklings are less than 72 hours of age upon arrival in Canada.

2. Official Signature

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), The Scottish Government, The 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. OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to APHA - Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

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

3. Import permit

Paragraph **III** (b) refers. Importers must obtain an import permit from their local office of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), and the import permit number must be given at paragraph **III** (b). The original of the import permit together with the health certificate must accompany the animals when they arrive at the entry point to Canada. The animals will be subject to post-import quarantine and health tests.

4. Sealing and Identification

Paragraphs **I**, **IV** (k), **IV** (l) (i) and **IV** (l) (ii) refer. Boxes and crates used for transport must be new and clean. The boxes must be sealed with a sticky paper label applied over the junction of the lid and base of the box in such a way that the label must be torn when the box is opened. The label may be a plain paper label, but should be rendered official prior to sticking it on the box by the application of the OV stamp and signature and date. An identification number must also be placed on the label. This may be the unique number of the health certificate, to which a suffix serial number for each box may be added if required for additional traceability. Alternatively, the identification number may consist of a producer's reference number.

The unique identifier of the consignment should be entered in the Identification section of **I**.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV (a), (b) and (e) refer. These statements may be signed on behalf of the Department provided the OV is in receipt of written authority from APHA (for GB) or DAERA (for NI) which will be sent to the OV before shipment.

Authority for (a) and (b) would be given for premises outside of any zones ineligible to export to the European Union due to disease control restrictions, while (e) requires no outbreak of HPAI or LPAI at the farm of the flock of origin at the time of collection of the eggs and during the 21 days prior.

6. **Avian influenza vaccination**

Paragraphs IV (c) and (d) refer. These paragraphs can be certified on the basis that vaccination against avian influenza is not permitted in the UK, except under emergency measures when it is specifically authorised by exceptional legislation.

7. **Flock of origin residency**

Paragraph IV (e) refers. The flock from which exported DOCs derived must have remained on the farm of origin for at least 21 days prior to, and at the time of collection of the hatching eggs. The statement must be provided by the veterinarian responsible for the flock of origin on the basis of his/her personal knowledge, supported, as necessary by an inspection of the flock records which have to be kept under the Diseases of Poultry Order 2003.

8. **Duckling movement statement**

Paragraph IV (f) refers. The statement must be provided by the veterinarian responsible for the hatchery on the basis of his/her personal knowledge, supported, as necessary by a written statement by the hatchery owner/manager. This statement must not be attached to the certificate but should be retained by the OV for record purposes.

9. **Laboratory Testing for AI**

The parent flock(s) must be tested for Notifiable Avian Influenza (NAI) with negative results, either under requirement of IV (g) i. **or** IV (g) ii.

Paragraph IV (g) i. refers. This paragraph can be certified only if the parent flocks(s) have been tested at the establishment as a part of official NAI surveillance plan **within the 21 days prior to shipment**, with a negative result.

Paragraph IV (g) ii. refers. A representative sample of the parent flock(s) - 60 birds or the entire parent flock if the total number of birds in the parent flock is less than 60 - must be tested on cloacal swabs (PCR or Virus Isolation), within negative results **within the 21 days prior to shipment**. Cloacal samples can be pooled to a maximum of 5 swabs per vial). Enter the date of the parent(s) flock testing.

The cloacal swabs must be submitted to the NRL - APHA in Weybridge or the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute in Northern Ireland. It is recommended that the veterinarian carrying out the sampling should contact the avian virology laboratory well in advance to get any necessary advice about the handling of samples, and to make arrangements with the laboratory.

10. **Clinical examinations**

Paragraphs IV (h) and (j) refer. Note the time frames within which examinations must have been conducted.

11. **Owner/Exporters's declarations**

Paragraphs **IV** (1) refers. The declarations in paragraph **IV** (1) should not be attached to the health certificate, but should be retained by the OV for record purposes.

In paragraph **IV** (1)(iii) relating to IATA conditions, the owner/exporter is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of transport meet the standards laid down by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). He/she should ask the transporting airline to confirm this, and if necessary provide a copy of the relevant conditions.

12. **Support certification**

Paragraphs **IV** (e), (g), and (h) refer. When the flock of origin is inspected by a different veterinarian from the certifying OV, the flock veterinarian should complete form 6665SUP (Support Health Certificate), certifying that the requirements in these paragraphs are complied with. The support health certificate will normally be provided by the issuing office at the same time as the export health certificate.

13. **No paragraph (i)**

Note that the paragraph notation in the certificate reads **IV** (h) to **IV** (j) with paragraph **IV** (i) omitted. This is intentional as roman numeral 'i' is used to number indented paragraphs. Use of the symbol 'i' for both paragraphs and sub-paragraphs could lead to confusion.

14. **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 Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

15. **Welfare of Animals**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales and N.Ireland.

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, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852