

EXPORT OF CHICKEN HATCHING EGGS AND DAY OLD CHICKS TO EL SALVADOR

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 7555EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the health certificate.

It is strongly advised that exporters check with their customers that certificates are acceptable to the authorities in the country of destination in advance of each consignment. This Department will not accept liability should it turn out that certification supplied by us does not meet an importing country's requirement.

1. Scope

This certificate is for the export of chicken hatching eggs and day old chicks to El Salvador.

2. Official Signature

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian, appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Scottish Government - Rural Directorate, Welsh Government Department for Rural Affairs, or equivalent in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs should apply the OV stamp to the certificate in the normal manner.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with an OV stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office: in GB to APHA, International Trade, Carlisle; and in Northern Ireland to DARD, Room 922 Dundonald House, Belfast, within seven days of signature.

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

3. Identification

The containers must each be marked with an identification code. The same code must be inserted in the 'identification' column in paragraph I (a) of the certificate, so that the containers and the certificate can be positively related to each other.

4. Poultry Health Scheme Membership

Paragraphs IV.(b) refers. Current membership of the Poultry Health Scheme in GB, or the Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS), may be certified on the basis of a written statement (form 618NDC) which will be sent to the OV by the issuing office (in GB, APHA Carlisle) before shipment. Both health schemes fully implement the EU Directive 2009/158/EC.

In paragraph (d) freedom from *M.gallisepticum* and *S.pullorum* and *S.gallinarum* may be certified on the basis of negative results to the testing programme which is compulsory for members of the PHS or NIPHAS. Note that the OV is personally responsible for checking that testing has been carried out, and that all the laboratory results have been negative.

Freedom from *S. enteritidis* may be certified on the basis of negative results to the compulsory testing of chicken breeding flocks under the Salmonella National Control Plan (NCP). Note that the OV is personally responsible for checking that testing has been carried out, and that all the laboratory results have been negative.

The flock(s) of origin must have undergone a specific test for *M. synoviae* at least once during the last 3 months prior to egg collection. Sampling must follow the same statistical basis as for *M. gallisepticum* under the relevant poultry health scheme, namely 95% probability of detecting infection at 5% prevalence (i.e. 60 birds per air space for typical flock sizes). The test must be carried out by a laboratory accredited by Defra for *Mycoplasma* testing and the test results have not given grounds for suspicion of infection.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV. (c) and (k) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the issuing office [in GB, APHA Carlisle; or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland] before shipment.

The expression 'immediately surrounding farms' should be interpreted to mean that the exporting farms and any farms adjacent to it (them) do not fall, and have not fallen within the past 6 months, within a Protection or Surveillance Zone imposed by the veterinary authority for the control of Newcastle disease or avian influenza.

"Immediately surrounding" should be interpreted as adjacent, i.e. located within a 500-meter radius of the parent flock farm (this may be confirmed on 7555SUP if a support certificate is required). If there is a poultry farm within a 500-meter radius, a signed statement must be obtained from the veterinarian who is normally responsible for that farm to confirm that they have not been under disease control restrictions (PZ/SZ) for AI or ND. The veterinarian who is responsible for the parent flock farm must personally make enquiries and obtain this statement, and he/she should enlist the help of the parent flock management to obtain the document. The document should be retained on record by the parent flock veterinarian.

6. **Flock Health statements**

Paragraphs IV. (b), (d), (e), (f), (k) refer. Evidence of disease freedom should be based on clinical signs, information derived from flock production and mortality records, laboratory test records and pathological reports.

Note that these paragraphs refer only to overt evidence of disease, e.g. conditions such as infectious laryngotracheitis which are successfully controlled by vaccination should not be reported as present unless they have caused clinical outbreaks of disease.

7. **Clinical inspection of day old birds**

The inspection at paragraph IV. (f) must be carried out on the day of loading. In the case of export of hatching eggs, both paragraphs IV (f) and (g) should be deleted.

8. **Disinfection of Vehicles**

Paragraph IV (j) refers. Under EU Council Regulation EC/1/2005, implemented in the UK by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and its equivalent in the devolved regions, vehicles carrying live poultry must be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading. The OV will need to have evidence of the disinfection of the vehicle before signing the certificate.

The OV must obtain a declaration by the exporter/haulier confirming that the vehicle has been cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the UK Orders above.

A DEFRA approved disinfectant must be used. Disinfectants are approved under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) (England) Order 2010 (as amended). The list contains over 200 brands of disinfectant, and there is a sub-group specifically approved for use with poultry, on the basis of their efficacy against Newcastle disease and avian influenza viruses.

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.

9. **Support certification**

Paragraphs IV. (a), (b), (c) (d), (e), refer. When the flock of origin is inspected by a different Veterinarian, he/she should complete form 7555SUP (Support Health Certificate), certifying that the requirements in these paragraphs are complied with.

10. **No paragraph (i)**

The omission of paragraph IV (i) is deliberate to avoid confusion, as the symbol 'i' may be used to number indented paragraphs.

11. **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>

12. **Welfare of Animals during transport**

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 Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK 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.

Further 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>

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