

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER****Scope of certificate**

1. This certificate may be used for the export of captive ferrets from Great Britain to Canada.

**Obtaining Import permit**

2. Exporters must obtain an import permit from Agriculture Canada, 2nd Floor West, 59 Camelot Drive, Nepean, Ontario K1A 0Y9, Canada. The certificate and the original import permit must accompany the animals to Canada. Both documents must be made available to an inspecting veterinarian at the first Canadian port of entry.

**Official Signature**

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

**Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland**

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: [certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk](mailto:certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk).

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

**Identification of the animals**

3. The animals to be exported must be fully described in Paragraph I. Numbers of microchips, ear tags, tattoos etc., if any, must be recorded.

If there is insufficient room at paragraph I to list the consignment then a schedule should be firmly attached and each sheet must be serially numbered, have the export health certificate number and import permit number added and be signed and stamped by the issuing OV.

**Owner's Declarations**

4. Paragraphs IV (a) and (d) refer. The OV should obtain these declarations in writing from the owner/exporter, and retain them for record purposes. It is not required to send the declarations attached to the health certificate.

#### **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

5. The certification contained in paragraph IV (b) may be signed by the OV on behalf of the Department provided he/she is in receipt of written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent by APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle 10 days before shipment.

#### **Transport requirements**

6. Paragraph IV (d) refers.  
IATA standards. The owner/exporter is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of transport for his/her animals 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. Published copies of the IATA conditions, together with the 'live animal labels' and 'this way up' labels which IATA require on animal crates, can be bought from the following companies:

Freight Merchandising Services, c/o Vidap Freight Services Ltd., Shield Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 1AU.

Tel: 01784 240840

Fax: 01784 248615

Label Line, Hollyhouse, 14 Tenby Road, Frimley, Surrey GU16 5UT. Tel:

01252 836472

Fax: 01252 838094

Direct Route. The consignment must be shipped on a direct flight from Great Britain. Transshipment through another country requires written Authorisation from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

#### **Disclaimer**

7. 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, Carlisle via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

#### **Welfare of Animals**

8. Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team

Centre for International Trade

Eden Bridge House

Lowther Street, Carlisle

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E-mail: [WIT@apha.gov.uk](mailto:WIT@apha.gov.uk)