

EXPORT OF A DOG/CAT FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THAILAND

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF 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 2917EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 2917EHC. 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

Export health certificate 2917EHC may be used for the export of cats and dogs from the United Kingdom to Thailand.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

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

OVs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any 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.

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.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: provision of certified copies

Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification On-Line (DECOL) produced EHCs must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the Department where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

Paragraphs IV (b) and (c) (i) (b) refer. OV's may certify these paragraphs (or equivalent in NI) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the local Animal Health Divisional Office on form EC618. In this case rabies vaccination is not compulsory, but may be done at the request of the owner or exporter.

4. OWNER/EXPORTER'S DECLARATION

Paragraphs IV (c) (i) (a) and (f) refer. The owner/exporter must supply a declaration including exactly the same wording as the matters to be certified. The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence. Official veterinarians should keep a copy of the declaration for record purposes.

5. VACCINATION FOR RABIES

Paragraph IV(c) (ii) refers. Rabies vaccination is mandatory if the animal has not been resident in the United Kingdom for the past six months or since birth. The vaccination must be given in accordance with manufacturers instructions at least 21 days prior to departure. Only licensed products may be used.

6. VACCINATION/BLOOD TEST FOR LEPTOSPIROSIS

Paragraph IV (d) refers. Dogs must be vaccinated against leptospirosis using a licensed product in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Export may not take place until at least 21 days after the completion of a primary vaccination course or administration of a booster dose. In either case vaccination must be carried out within 12 months prior to export.

Alternatively, the dog may be tested for Leptospirosis with a negative result within 30 days prior to export. Blood samples must be sent to the Veterinary Laboratories Agency, Weybridge for the serum agglutination test for *Leptospira canicola* and *L.icterohaemorrhagiae*.

7. OTHER VACCINATIONS

Paragraph IV (e) refers. For dogs: canine distemper, infectious canine hepatitis and canine parvovirus using licensed products in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations at least 21 days prior to export.

8. TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Dogs and cats should be transported in nose and paw proof containers designed to avoid risk of injury or unnecessary suffering. In the case of transport by air, containers should meet International Animal Transport Association (IATA) standards. For further details exporters and OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS should contact one of the Welfare Departments at paragraph 12 below.

9. TRAVELLING THROUGH OTHER COUNTRIES

The animals are not allowed to expose to other animals if they have to be landed in transit at any approved intermediate port. They shall not be allowed to leave precinct of the port except to an officially approved transit quarantine area.

Exporters must seek the approval of the Thai authorities if the animal is not travelling direct to Thailand. Additionally, if the animal will travel through other countries then the exporter/agent must apply to the relevant authorities of the countries through which the animal(s) will travel for permission to transport the animals through these countries. Additional health certificate(s) may be necessary for these transit countries.

10. POST ARRIVAL QUARANTINE IN THAILAND

The animals are subjected to quarantine at approved premises for a period of at least 30 (thirty) days upon arrival during which they shall be submitted to tests and/or treatments deemed necessary. The owner shall be fully charged for the incurred expenses.

Failure to follow the import procedures may result in returning the animals to the country of origin or destroying without compensation.

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 APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

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

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk

12. WELFARE OF ANIMALS

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

CA3 8DX
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.