EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS TO THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA - 6182EHC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE EXPORTER AND THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

Associated Documents: 6182EHC

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6182EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6182EHC. 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

Certificate 6182EHC is required for the export of dairy products and any other products containing dairy ingredients to Saudi Arabia.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)/ VETERINARY OFFICER (VO)

Establishments exporting dairy products and any other products containing dairy ingredients to Saudi Arabia must first be approved by the authorities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
For approved establishments see
https://www.sfda.gov.sa/sites/default/files/2021-08/United-Kingdom-milk.pdf

To request approval contact your local competent authority – Animal & Plant Health Agency in England, Scotland and Wales and DAERA in NI.

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. HEALTH INFORMATION

a. Paragraph IV. 1 refers: The dairy ingredients used must bear the EU health mark, which demonstrates compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004.
The establishment at which the products (being certified) are manufactured must have in place a HACCP system, and implement the 7 principles of HACCP. Details of this can be found at:
https://www.gov.uk/food-safety-hazard-analysis

b. Paragraph IV. 2 refers to the epizootic diseases listed in OIE, which were previously in OIE List A, and specifically FMD and rinderpest which can be transmitted in milk. The paragraph may be signed on the basis that the UK/EU disease control legislation prevents milk from being collected for trade from a holding on which these epizootic diseases have been confirmed. Bluetongue is not transmissible through milk, and is not relevant for the purposes of this paragraph.

c. Paragraphs IV. 3 & 4 may be certified on the basis of the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) Regulations, which prohibit the sale or supply for human or animal consumption of milk from animals affected with, or suspected of suffering from BSE.

d. Paragraph IV. 5 may be certified if the milk has been treated to at least a recognised standard (e.g. pasteurisation, UHT, sterilisation) and on the basis of health marks, which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004.

e. Paragraph IV. 7 may be signed on the basis of the Terrestrial Radiation Monitoring Programme for radioactivity in food and the environment carried out by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) in the UK, in accordance with Article 1 of the Euratom Treaty. Surveillance includes routine sampling and analysis of all food types. The results of this programme show that radiation levels in products of animal origin return average figures of less than 1 Bq/Kg, which is below the accepted and agreed maximum exposure tolerances.

f. Paragraph IV. 8 can be certified on the basis of statutory monitoring for antibacterial residues in milk and the requirements of the Food Safety Act and the Dairy Products (Hygiene) Regulations, which prohibit the collection of raw milk for treatment or processing with any residues of substances having a pharmacological or hormonal action, or pesticides or other substances which are harmful to health in so far as these residues exceed permitted tolerance limits.

NOTE - Dioxins:
Routine testing for dioxin is not carried out under the statutory scheme. Therefore, if there is evidence of a contamination incident that is likely to have implications for the consignment intended for export (e.g. use of contaminated feed by one of the supplying farms), then it is advisable to test samples from batches intended for export. Samples can be sent to **Fera** at their address in the link: https://www.fera.co.uk/

4. 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