

EXPORT OF FRESH POULTRY MEAT TO ST VINCENT - 1813EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 1813EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1813EHC. 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.

Following the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in July 2015 in Lancashire, the St. Vincent and the Grenadines CVO confirmed that shipment of poultry from the UK will only be allowed entry provided they are accompanied by FORM 618NDC - CLEARANCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

618NDC SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE EXPORTER ONCE THE EHC HAS BEEN CERTIFIED AND THEN SHOULD ACCOMPANY THE FINAL EHC. THE 618NDC DOCUMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THE CONSIGNMENT TO THE PORT OF DESTINATION WHERE IT WILL BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE OVERALL DOCUMENT CHECK - FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE 618NDC RISKS THE CONSIGNMENT BEING REFUSED ENTRY.

The OV must retain a photocopy of the 618NDC for their records.

This information is correct at time of issue; St. Vincent and the Grenadines maintain the right to alter this position at any time.

1. **Scope of the certificate.**

This certificate is for the export of fresh poultry meat to St. Vincent.

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.**

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.

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3. **Identification**

Paragraph I (e) (i) and (ii) - The OV must insert both container and seal numbers.

4. **Origin**

Paragraph IV (a) refers. The OV should certify this paragraph on the basis of the slaughterhouse records. If the certifying OV is not personally involved with the slaughterhouse (e.g. certifying out of a remote cold store) the OV must obtain written support documents from the veterinarian who is responsible at the slaughterhouse. The support documents must not be included with the health certificate, but should be retained by the OV personally for record purposes.

5. **Fitness for human consumption**

Paragraphs IV (b), (c), (f), and (g) may be certified on the basis that the meat has received the EU oval health mark and plant identification number.

6. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV (d) and (e) refer. Official Veterinarians may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle on form 618NDC.

618NDC SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE EXPORTER ONCE THE EHC HAS BEEN CERTIFIED AND THEN SHOULD ACCOMPANY THE FINAL EHC. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN THE CONSIGNMENT BEING REFUSED ENTRY AT PORT OF DESTINATION.

The OV must retain a photocopy of the 618NDC for their records.

To certify paragraph IV (e), the department can provide this assurance without restriction at any time when the whole of the UK is free from area restrictions for avian influenza or Newcastle disease. In cases when certain area restrictions do apply, or may have applied during the time when the meat was transported, the OV must obtain a

route plan from the exporter, and check with the department that it does not cross any restricted areas.

7. **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