

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT WELSH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS - NORTHERN IRELAND

VETERINARY DECLARATION FOR PLANTS PRODUCING POULTRY/FEATHER/FISH MEALS (INCLUDING HYDROLYSED FISH PROTEIN) INTENDED FOR EXPORT TO ISRAEL

- I, the undersigned Official Veterinarian hereby certify that:
- 1. the following processing plant:

Name:

Full address:

Approval number:

- (a) is approved by the Veterinary Services of the United Kingdom as a processing plant dedicated to the manufacturing of processed animal protein of the following species:
- (b) is supervised by an official or accredited veterinarian;
- (c) manufactures processed animal protein:
 - (i) in accordance with the laws and regulations of the United Kingdom;
 - (ii) which may be freely sold for animal feeding in the United Kingdom;
 - (iii) which complies with approved good manufacturing practice;
- (d) uses only raw materials of United Kingdom origin (with the exception of fish) in the production of the processed animal protein to be exported to Israel;
- (e) has in place, implements and maintains food safety programs which are based on HACCP principles and are approved and validated by the competent authority;
- (f) the finished product does not contain and is not contaminated with any tissue of mammalian origin;
- (g) tests random samples, taken during or after storage, from each processed batch for enterobacteriacae and Salmonella spp. in accordance with the following standards prior to export⁽¹⁾

Salmonella: absence in 25 g: n = 5, c = 0, m = 0, M = 0 Enterobacteriaceae: n = 5, c = 2, m = 10, M = 300 in 1 g.

- (h) has precautions in place to prevent the contamination of finished product with pathogenic agents;
- (1) Where:
 - n = number of samples to be tested;
 - m = threshold value for the number of bacteria: the result is considered
 - satisfactory if the number of bacteria in all samples does not exceed ${\tt m};$
 - M = maximum value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered unsatisfactory if the number of bacteria in one or more samples is M or more; and
 - c = number of samples the bacterial count of which may be between m and M, the sample still being considered acceptable if the bacterial count of the other samples is m or less.

SEE GENERAL GUIDANCE NOTES OVERLEAF

Date:	Signed:RC	CVS
Stamp:	Name and title in block letters: Official Veterinarian	

Address:....

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR COMPLETION OF VETERINARY DECLARATION 2001DEC FOR PLANTS PRODUCING POULTRY/FEATHER/FISH MEALS (INCLUDING HYDROLYSED FISH PROTEIN) INTENDED FOR EXPORT TO ISRAEL

These notes should be read prior to completing the form overleaf.

1. SCOPE OF THE DECLARATION

This Veterinary Declaration relates to the export to Israel of **processed animal proteins** derived from **poultry** (including poultrymeal, poultry blood meal and feathermeal) and from **fish** (fishmeal) which is not intended for human consumption.

The Israeli authorities have confirmed that the EHC includes liquid hydrolysed fish protein.

Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended) states that processed animal protein (PAP) means:

"animal protein derived entirely from Category 3 material, which have been treated in accordance with Section 1 of Chapter II of Annex X (including blood meal and fishmeal) so as to render them suitable for direct use as feed material or for any other use in feedingstuffs, including petfood, or for use in organic fertilisers or soil improvers; however, it does not include blood products, milk, milkbased products, milk-derived products, colostrum, colostrum products, centrifuge or separator sludge, gelatine, hydrolysed proteins and dicalcium phosphate, eggs and egg-products, including eggshells, tricalcium phosphate and collagen".

Category 3 material is defined under Article 10 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended).

At the request of the Veterinary Services of Israel's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, an establishment producing PAP which is intended for export to Israel must be **specifically approved** for this purpose before the material leaves the UK.

This specific approval is **in addition** to the establishment's statutory approval under EU and UK legislation.

Once completed, this Veterinary Declaration provides Defra with the information it requires to be able to submit a request to the Israeli authorities for the approval of the named UK rendering establishment.

When the Israeli authorities have agreed the request for approval, the UK rendering establishment will be provided with an approval document issued by Defra that will confirm their approved status in line with the requirements of the Israeli authorities.

By default, the approval document is an annual document that expires on 31st January the following year. The manufacturing establishment is responsible for applying for this specific approval (or reapproval) before exporting to Israel.

2. <u>Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)</u>

This Veterinary Declaration may be signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government, Welsh Government, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for

export purposes, or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

 ${\rm OVs}/{\rm AVIs}$ should sign and stamp the Veterinary Declaration with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour <code>OTHER THAN BLACK</code>.

The signed and stamped Veterinary Declaration must be sent to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle, or to DAERA, within seven days of issue.

The appropriately completed Veterinary Declaration will be used to support Defra's request for Israeli approval of the UK rendering establishment.

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

3. CERTIFICATION

Taking into consideration the additional guidance below, this Veterinary Declaration may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of Regulations (EC) 1069/2009 and 142/2011 (as amended) and familiarity with the sourcing, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment and/or examination of relevant records and documentation including laboratory test results where relevant.

Paragraph 1 - Details of the processing plant

This paragraph should be completed with the name, address and the UK rendering establishment's approval number allocated in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended). In England, this is enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Certifying Official Veterinarians are advised that, in accordance with Articles 54 and 55 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), references to Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) shall be construed as references to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) and that establishments, plants and users approved or registered in accordance with regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) before 4 March 2011 shall be deemed to be approved or registered, as required, in accordance with regulation (EC) 1069/2009.

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the local APHA or DAERA office responsible for the rendering establishment.

Paragraph 1(a) - Approval of the processing plant

This paragraph must be completed to confirm that the PAP was produced either from poultry or from fish, but not both.

Approval by the "Veterinary Services of the UK" may be certified on the basis of the processing plant's approval as a poultry renderer or as a fish renderer in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) in line with the advice given for **paragraph 1** above.

Paragraph 1(b) - Supervision of the processing plant

Supervision by an "Official or accredited veterinarian" may be certified on the basis of the processing plant's approval as a poultry renderer or as a fish renderer in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) in line with the advice given for **Paragraph 1** above.

Paragraph 1(c) - General compliance of the processing plant

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the processing plant's approval as a poultry renderer or as a fish renderer in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) in line with the advice given for Paragraph 1 above.

Paragraph 1(d) - UK origin raw materials

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge and familiarity with the sourcing arrangements in place at the processing plant, supported by the examination of relevant records and commercial documentation.

Paragraph 1(e) - Food safety program

Article 29 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) requires that operators who process animal by-products "put in place, implement and maintain a permanent written procedure or procedures based on the hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) principles".

The HACCP principles, as applied to animal by-products establishments, are an extension of those historically established to ensure food safety and reflected in EU food hygiene legislation. Therefore the use of the term 'food safety' in this paragraph can be considered to be an anecdotal reference rather than an indication of suitability for human consumption.

Paragraph 1(f) - Exclusion of mammalian tissue

Exporters should be made aware that importing authorities are likely to test consignments of PAP for the presence of ruminant or mammalian material. Therefore, **exporters must be confident that their consignment would be capable of passing these very sensitive tests and that based on HACCP the materials used do not contain** ruminant or mammalian material nor are they likely to be contaminated with such material.

Paragraph 1(g) - Microbiological standards

This requirement reflects compliance with the statutory testing of PAP for the presence of salmonella and enterobacteriaceae under Annex X, Chapter I, of Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 (as amended) and may be certified on the basis of satisfactory and relevant laboratory test results.

4. <u>SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS</u>

If declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

The RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct 2012 states that [Veterinary Surgeons] "must not recklessly confirm what other people have

stated". Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

5. 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 (CIT) - Exports in Carlisle, via the link below:

http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-healthagency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle

In Northern Ireland, contact the DAERA trade administration team: e-mail- tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk Phone - 0289 0520989