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**EXPORT OF SCOURED ANIMAL FIBRE (INCLUDING WOOL) TO NEW ZEALAND - 5788EHC**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

Associated Documents: 5788EHC and 618NDC

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5788EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5788EHC. 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**

This certificate may be used for the export to New Zealand of wool or other ruminant animal fibre which has either been scoured or scoured and carded in accordance with the relevant Import Health Standard issued by New Zealand's Ministry of Primary Industries (IHS).

The number of the import permit issued by, for example, the Ministry of Primary Industries, should be entered into the appropriate space on the front page of this certificate.

The import permit may also include requirements which are outside the scope of this certificate. The exporter should therefore ensure that the necessary steps have been taken to satisfy any additional applicable requirements of the import permit.

**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 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.

#### **DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies**

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates 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. Paragraph II(b) - Premises of origin**

This paragraph should be completed with the details of the UK premises of manufacture or, if the product was manufactured outside the UK, the UK premises of despatch should be recorded.

#### **4. Paragraph III(a) - Premises of destination**

This paragraph should be completed with the details of the premises of destination in New Zealand. In some cases, the import permit or IHS may require that the product goes directly to a transitional facility to undergo additional processing before it can enter into free circulation in New Zealand.

#### **5. Paragraph IV - DECLARATIONS**

The declarations required depend on the what treatments the animal fibre has been subjected to and where.

Manager's declaration IV A1 should be completed for uncarded animal fibre which has been scoured at the premise of despatch.

Manager's declaration IV A2 should be completed for animal fibre which has been scoured and carded at the premises of despatch.

Fibre Certifier's declaration IV B should be completed for animal fibre which was scoured or scoured and carded in a premises other than that of despatch.

#### **6. Paragraph V - Health information**

Paragraph V may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with any necessary evidence resulting from the OV's familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the facility. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid

declarations.

(a) **Paragraphs V 1(a), (b) and (c) - Anthrax freedom**

These paragraphs may be certified for animal fibre collected from UK animals on the basis that the Anthrax Order 1991 (as amended) prohibits the movement of any animal, or carcase, or thing derived from any animal or carcase, or anything used or intended to be used in connection with animals into or from a premises where anthrax is suspected or confirmed. Therefore on this basis, the movement of wool from such premises would be prohibited. In the event of an outbreak of anthrax in sheep in the UK (which would be publicised) the OV should seek advice from APHA or DAERA.

In the case of imported animal fibre, confirmation that the country of origin is free of anthrax may be certified by reference to the website of the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE):

<http://www.oie.int/wahid/>

or by reference to supporting veterinary documentation from the competent authority of the country of origin. However, supporting evidence confirming farm or area freedom from anthrax may be relied upon as an alternative to country freedom.

(b) **Paragraphs V 1(f) - Anthrax washing process**

The five-step washing process referred to in this paragraph is described under Article 8.1.11 of the OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code is reproduced below:

1. immersion in 0.25-0.3% soda liquor for 10 minutes at 40.5°C;
2. immersion in soap liquor for 10 minutes at 40.5°C;
3. immersion in 2% formaldehyde solution for 10 minutes at 40.5°C;
4. a second immersion in 2% formaldehyde solution for 10 minutes at 40.5°C;
5. rinsing on cold water followed by drying in hot air.

(c) **Paragraph V 2(a) - Recognition of foot and mouth disease freedom without vaccination**

The Ministry for Primary Industries publishes a list of those countries and zones which it recognises as being free from foot and mouth disease on their website at:

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/pests/foot-n-mouth/fmd-free-countries-and-zones.pdf>

It should be noted that Version 1.1 of the abovementioned list, dated 21/05/2013, states that:

"New Zealand as member of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) recognises countries as free from FMD in accordance with chapter 8.5 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code."

The country of origin, whether the UK or another country, must appear in the abovementioned list.

If the country of origin is not recognised by the Ministry for Primary Industries as being free from foot and mouth disease

without vaccination, this paragraph cannot be certified and paragraph **V (2) (b)** must be certified instead.

(d) **Paragraph V 2(b) (i) – Foot and mouth disease country/zone freedom**

In the case of animal fibre collected from UK animals, this paragraph may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle or DAERA on form 618NDC.

In the case of imported animal fibre, confirmation that the zone of origin is free of foot and mouth disease may be certified by reference to the website of the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE):

<http://www.oie.int/wahid/>

or by reference to supporting veterinary documentation from the competent authority of the country of origin.

(e) **Paragraph V 2(b) (ii) – Transit and storage time**

The transit time may be certified on the basis of a suitable declaration from the transporter of the consignment in relation to typical shipping timescales.

The storage period may be certified on the basis production records and/or a suitable declaration from the producer or exporter of the consignment.

The 4 week period may be made up of a combination of both storage and transit.

(f) **Paragraph V 3 – Lumpy skin disease and sheep and goat pox clearance**

This paragraph may be certified for animal fibre collected from UK animals on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA

Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle or DAERA on form 618NDC.

In the case of imported animal fibre, confirmation that the country of origin is free of the named diseases may be certified by reference to the website of the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE):

<http://www.oie.int/wahid/>

or by reference to supporting veterinary documentation from the competent authority of the country of origin.

4. Declarations used to support the completion of this certificate 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, 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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)