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**EXPORT OF RAW WOOL, RAW MOHAIR, WOOL TOPS AND SCOURED WOOL TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA - 3348EHC**

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

**Associated Documents:** 3348EHC 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 3348EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3348EHC. 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 **3348EHC** may be used for the export of raw animal wool, mohair and scoured animal wool from the United Kingdom to South Africa in accordance with a valid import permit.

The relevant import permit number should be entered into the appropriate space on the first page of the certificate.

**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 IV - Certification**

The health information 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, testing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, laboratory test results and veterinary statements.

**(a) Paragraph IV 1 - Anthrax movement restrictions**

This paragraph may be certified for wool 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 wool**, 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. Supporting evidence confirming farm freedom from anthrax may be relied upon as an alternative to country freedom.

**(b) Paragraph IV 2 - Notifiable disease clearance**

Freedom from the named notifiable diseases at the time of certification may be signed 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.

**(c) Paragraph IV 3 - East Coast fever (theileriosis)**

The tick-borne disease theileriosis is included in the UK's

general surveillance for animal diseases, the results of which are included in the UK's annual and bi-annual reports to the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE).

This paragraph may therefore be signed provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade in Carlisle or from DAERA on form 618NDC. The 618NDC may be issued on the basis that no case of the disease has been reported to the OIE during the past 12 months.

**(d) Paragraph IV 4 - Scouring**

This paragraph does not apply to raw wool or to raw mohair however there is no provision to delete the text. In such cases this paragraph may therefore be certified as written on the basis that raw wool and raw mohair does not need to comply with the specified treatment.

4. 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, 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)