No: .....

EXPORT TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS INTENDED FOR ANIMAL CONSUMPTION

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

Associated Document: 7815EHC 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 7815EHC. **The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate** 7815EHC. **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 the Republic of South Africa of milk and milk products derived from **cattle** and intended for animal consumption in accordance with a valid import permit. ***Feed containing ovine/caprine milk/ingredients is expressly not permitted because of scrapie concerns.***

The number of the relevant import permit for milk replacer or other milk and milk products intended for animal consumption must 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.

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. **Paragraph II(a) – Approval number**

Establishments producing milk and milk products intended for use as feed material or animal feed may be approved or registered as follows:

Either

(a) approval or registration in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (Animal by-products Regulation) (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 OVs are advised that, in accordance with Articles 54 and 55 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009, references to Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 shall be construed as references to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 and that establishments, plants and users approved or registered in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 before 4 March 2011 shall be deemed to be approved or registered, as required, in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009.

Or

(b) approval or registration in accordance with Regulation (EC) 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene. In England, this is enforced by the Feed (Hygiene and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2005 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland;

Or

(c) approval in accordance with EU Hygiene package, including Regulations (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs, 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin and 854/2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption. In England, the EU Hygiene package is implemented and enforced by the Food Hygiene

(England) Regulations 2006 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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

4. Paragraph IV – Health information

Taking into consideration the additional guidance below, the health attestation may be certified on the basis of the OV's familiarity with the sourcing, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment and/or examination of relevant records and documentation including applicable laboratory test results.

(a) **Paragraph IV 1 – Origin of the product**

Paragraph IV 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3 should be certified as appropriate to reflect the origin of the milk used in the consignment. The two options which do not apply should be struck through and the deletions signed and stamped in the usual manner.

Paragraph IV 1.1

may be certified on the basis of **either** UK freedom from foot and mouth disease and rinderpest **or**, if this is not possible, on the basis that the herds from which the milk was derived were not under restrictions due to foot and mouth disease or rinderpest.

In either case, 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 DARD on form 618NDC.

Paragraph IV 1.2

may be certified on the basis that the product being consigned or the milk-based ingredients used in its manufacture originated from establishments located in an EU member state or Norway approved under Regulation (EC) 1069/2009, or Regulation (EC) 183/2005 or the food hygiene package as referred to in paragraph 3 above.

This may be confirmed by reference to relevant approval documents or the commercial documentation accompanying the material into the UK.

Paragraph IV 1.3

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the product being consigned or the milk-based ingredients used in its manufacture were legally imported into the UK from the specified country or countries (either direct or transiting via another EU member state).

This may be confirmed by reference to the certified copy of the veterinary certificate which accompanied the material into the UK.

If the product being consigned or the milk-based ingredients used in its manufacture were imported into another EU member state for processing or manipulation before arrival in the UK, the paragraph IV 1.2 should be certified instead.

If the valid import permit allows for the product or the milk-based ingredients used in its manufacture to be legally imported into the UK from a country which not currently mentioned in this paragraph, then the APHA Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle should be consulted with a view to updating the EHC.

(b) **Paragraph IV 2 – Treatment options**

The UK manufacturing plant must be approved as described in paragraph 3 above. The certifying OV may need to refer to commercial documentation or copies of official veterinary certification to verify treatments carried out in establishments outside the UK.

Paragraph IV 2.1 or 2.2 and their sub-paragraphs should be certified as appropriate to reflect the treatments used. The options which do not apply should be struck through and the deletions signed and stamped in the usual manner.

Paragraph IV 2.1

may be certified with respect to UK foot and mouth disease freedom and vaccination status on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade – Exports in Carlisle or from DARD on form 618NDC.

Paragraph IV 2.2

if the foot and mouth disease freedom and vaccination status required under paragraph IV 2.1 cannot be satisfied, then this paragraph should be certified instead.

(c) **Paragraph IV 3 – Presence of other animal products**

The certifying OV should make due enquiry to verify that the only ingredients of animal origin in the consignment are milk or milk products collected from **bovine** animals.

(d) **Paragraph IV 4 – Product safety**

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the product being consigned was produced in accordance with the rest of this certificate.

5. 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.

6. 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