**No:** .............

**EXPORT OF FISH FEED CONTAINING ANIMAL INGREDIENTS TO TURKEY**

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

**Associated Documents: 7518EHC**

**IMPORTANT**

**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7518EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7518EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 7518EHC may be used for the export to Turkey of fish feed which was made using ingredients of animal origin.

2. **Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government – Rural Directorate, Welsh Government - Department for Rural Affairs, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes.

OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to

AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

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

3. Paragraph II(a) requires the inclusion of the approval number of the fish feed manufacturer. The approval number used will depend on the approval status of the establishment, as follows:

(a) for establishments handling unprocessed animal by-products, approval will be 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 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.

(b) for establishments handling processed ingredients of animal origin, approval or registration will be 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.

In either case, confirmation of compliance can be ascertained on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the Specialist Service Centre – Exports, in Carlisle.

4. Paragraph IV 1 may be certified on the basis of approval or registration of the fish feed manufacturer in accordance with either Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) or Regulation (EC) 183/2005 (as amended), as described in paragraph 3 above.

Approval to export may be certified on the basis that an establishment which is registered or approved as described above is eligible to export their produce from the UK.

5. Paragraphs IV 2, 3, 4 and 5 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 processing establishment supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation and veterinary statements and laboratory test results.

(a) Paragraph IV 2 refers: The required exclusion of mammalian tissues does not include dairy products which can be included.

(b) Paragraph IV 3 refers. The product can be considered to have been made using approved manufacturing practices which are sufficient to render it free from pathogenic microorganisms on the basis of the manufacturer’s approval or registration as described in paragraph 3 above. This may be further supported by satisfactory routine laboratory analysis.

(c) Paragraph IV 4 refers. This may be certified on the basis of satisfactory routine laboratory analysis of samples of the product. This should include satisfactory tests for the presence of contaminants, residues and other undesirable substances as well as pathogenic organisms including salmonella.

(d) Paragraph IV 5 refers. Certification of this paragraph may be supported by declarations signed by someone who has the relevant knowledge and responsibility to be able to make such declarations. 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 2000 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 AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contact-us/tradeexports.html>