

EXPORT OF ANIMAL FEED CONTAINING INGREDIENTS OF FISH ORIGIN ONLY TO VIETNAM

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

Associated Documents: 7677EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export health certificate 7677EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7677EHC. 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 7677EHC may be used for the export from the UK to Vietnam of animal feeds, feed materials and feed ingredients whose only components of animal origin are fishery products or their derivatives.

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, Welsh Government, 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 - International Trade in Carlisle or DARD, within seven days of issue.

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

3. Paragraph IV 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) Paragraph IV(a) refers.

(i) The material of animal origin used in the product must be category 3 fish material or derived from category 3 fish material, as defined under Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009 (as amended).

OVs are also reminded of the prohibitions outlined under Article 43 of Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009 (as amended). Article 43 prohibits the export of Category 1 material, Category 2 material and products derived therefrom from any EU member state to any country outside the EU for the purposes of feeding to animals if no specific rules for such exports have been laid down under Regulation (EC) No. 142/2011 (as amended).

No such export rules currently exist. However, if the product being exported is considered to have reached one of the end points described under Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 142/2011 (as amended) then it could be considered to be outside the scope of Regulations (EC) No. 1069/2009 and (EC) No. 142/2011 (as amended) and therefore outside the scope of Article 43.

In England, Regulations (EC) No. 1069/2009 and (EC) No. 142/2011 (as amended) are enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

- (ii) The production and use of fishmeal intended for animal consumption is controlled by Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001 (as amended). In summary, fishmeal and compound feed containing fishmeal must not be fed to ruminant animals. However, milk replacers containing fishmeal may be fed to unweaned ruminants if produced in accordance with the specific requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001 (as amended).

In England, Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001 (as amended) is enforced by the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2010 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

- (b) Paragraph IV(b) refers. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term 'BSE infected material' should be interpreted as Specified Risk Material (SRM). SRM is classified with respect to the species and age of the animal, as described below:

Cattle of all ages: the tonsils, the intestines from the duodenum to the rectum, and the mesentery;

Cattle over 12 months: the skull excluding the mandible but including the brains and eyes, and spinal cord;

Cattle over 30 months: the vertebral column, excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the spinous and transverse processes of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, the median sacral crest and the wings of the sacrum, but including the dorsal root ganglia;

Sheep and goats of all ages: the spleen and ileum;

Sheep and goats over 12 months: the skull including the brains and eyes, tonsils and spinal cord;

All ruminants of all ages: mechanically separated meat derived from bones.

If any of the health attestations are to be certified on the basis of a declaration, the declaration should be from an authorised signatory of the manufacturing or processing company and 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.

OVs are reminded that the RCVS guidance on their Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinary Surgeons 2012 states that veterinary surgeons must not "recklessly attest to what others have declared or asserted".

4. 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 - International Trade, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/imports-exports/international-trade/>