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

**EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS TO TRINIDAD & TOBAGO - 5371EHC**

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

**Associated Document: 5371EHC**

**IMPORTANT**

**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5371EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5371EHC. 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 signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, The Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department, the National Assembly for Wales, or the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs should affix the OV stamp to the certificate in the normal manner.

**2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by a Local Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), The Scottish Government – Rural Directorate, Welsh Assembly 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 the 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 IV. 1 may be signed on the basis of oval marks which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004 and Transitional Arrangements under which stocks produced in accordance with Council Directive 92/46/EEC, as implemented in GB by the Dairy Products (Hygiene) Regulations 1995 can be traded until 31/12/2009.

**4.** Paragraph IV. 2 may be certified on the basis that UK legislation (TSE Regulations and the various disease orders under the Animal Health Act) prohibits the sale or supply for human or animal consumption of milk from animals affected with or suspected of suffering from BSE, or affected by an Office International des Epizooties list A disease.

The same restrictions apply across the EU, thus this paragraph should be signable for any milk of EU origin.

**5.** Paragraph IV. 3 may be certified on the basis that the authorising Official Veterinarian is fully satisfied that the product has undergone one of the treatments listed in said paragraph.

**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 Specialist Service Centre – Exports, in Carlisle, via the link below:

      <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalhealth/about-us/contact-us/centrops.htm>