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

**VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT OF PORCINE GELATINE AND PRODUCTS CONTAINING PORCINE GELATINE FOR ANIMAL CONSUMPTION TO AUSTRALIA**

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

**Associated Documents:** 7488EHC

**IMPORTANT**

**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7488EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7488EHC. 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 7488EHC may be used for the export to Australia of porcine origin gelatine intended for animal consumption or products, such as animal feeds or feed supplements, containing porcine gelatine.

The number of the import permit issued by, for example, the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, should be entered into the appropriate space on the front page of the certificate. The import permit may also include requirements which are outside the scope of this certificate, such as the need for specific manufacturer’s declarations. The exporter should therefore ensure that the necessary steps have been taken to satisfy any additional applicable requirements of the import permit.

**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, 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 OV’s familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment. This may be supported, as necessary, by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including veterinary import certification.

 Paragraph IV 3; any further assurances required by the import permit may be inserted in this section after the OV first verifying their accuracy. If there are no additional assurances the OV **must** cross through paragraph IV 3.

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 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.

**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/>