

## EXPORT OF PORCINE SEMEN TO BRAZIL - 1941EHC & 1941CON

### NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF CENTRE VETERINARIANS, OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

#### IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 1941EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1941EHC. 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

Limited to exports of porcine semen from the UK, covering export of frozen semen only.

#### 2. IMPORT PERMIT

Exporters are advised to contact the Brazilian authorities for advice regarding the import permit that is required for the export of porcine semen from the UK into Brazil. The import permit number must be entered at Section III (d) of the 1941EHC.

#### 3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government and holding the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an Official Veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland (DAERA).

The Centre Veterinarian may sign the certificate as an OV provided they have been appointed to the appropriate export modules, including the OCQ(V)- GX module (germinal products). In order to be eligible for appointment to the export panel, the Centre Veterinarian must not be directly employed by, or derive their sole or principal income from, the company for which they are carrying out export health certification, nor have any major financial interest in connection with the company.

The certifying OV must be provided with appropriate support documentation (pre-export certificate signed by the Centre Veterinarian) to enable signature of the final export certificate.

For the purposes of these notes for guidance, reference to the OV shall also apply to the Centre Veterinarian completing the appropriate pre-export certificate.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

In GB, a certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the APHA CSC at Carlisle within seven days of signing. The OV should also keep a copy of the signed certificate for his/her own records.

#### 4. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCE

A semen exporting country that has been declared before the OIE to be free, throughout its territory or in a zone thereof, from any of the diseases for which tests or vaccinations are required or complies

with the requirements of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (OIE Terrestrial Code) to be declared free from any of the diseases for which tests or vaccinations are required, and obtains the recognition of the importing Party State, may be exempted from carrying out those tests or vaccinations

In both cases, this status must be recognised by the importing Party State, and certification of the country or zone as free from the disease must be included in the international veterinary certificate.

Paragraph IV (a-d) and IV (e)(2) refer.

The certifying OV may certify country freedom for the diseases listed at these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA CSC at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA on form 618NDC.

The UK is historically free from ASF and accredited by the OIE as officially free from CSF.

The authorities of Brazil (MAPA) have recognised the UK's health status for these diseases and also the UK's freedom from Aujeszky's disease, Porcine brucellosis (*B. suis*) and Swine Vesicular disease. The UK is accredited by the OIE as being free from FMD without vaccination and this option must be certified in paragraph IV (d).

## 5. SEMEN COLLECTION & PROCESSING CENTRE

Paragraph IV (e) refers.

### **Approval of the Centre and supervision of semen collection/processing**

The Semen Collection Centre must be approved by APHA/DEFRA or DAERA and this will be in accordance with Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended), which lays down the animal health requirements applicable which satisfy the Terrestrial Code of the OIE applicable to Semen Collection Premises.

It is a condition for approval that the Centre Veterinarian must be responsible for the supervision of the collection of the semen and its processing.

### **Disease Freedom of the Centre (Porcine Brucellosis and Aujeszky's disease)**

As for section 4 of this document on Official Disease Clearances. In addition to the UK being free from *B. suis* and Aujeszky's disease, these diseases are also part of the pre-entry requirements and routine monitoring in Semen Collection Centres.

### **Pre-entry quarantine**

In order to enter the SCPC every male must have remained for a minimum of 30 days in quarantine, and have been clinically healthy, and have been negative to the tests laid down as required in the certificate.

### **PRRS vaccination and testing**

Brazil requires that animals at the SCC are not vaccinated against PRRS and that EITHER all resident animals are tested at least every six months for this disease OR a representative sample of animals which provides 99% confidence of detecting at least one infected animal at an expected prevalence of 10% [this would be 37 animals for a population of up to 100 animals (or all of the animals to be tested if less than 37 are resident at the centre) and 44 for a population of 100-1000 animals in the SCC).

The certifying OV must carry out appropriate checks to ensure that

the boars have not been vaccinated against PRRS prior to or whilst at the SCPC and that the appropriate testing has been carried out. Confirmation must be obtained from the veterinarian supervising the premises.

**Freedom of semen collection centre from other diseases**

OVs should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the semen collection centre where the donor boars were resident for the time periods as specified in the certificate.

Certifying Veterinarians should also carry out appropriate checks of centre health records to verify freedom from the named diseases.

6. **SEMEN DONORS**

Paragraphs IV (f), (g) and (h) refer.

**Residency and origin of the animals**

The donor boars must have been born and continually resident within the UK OR be imported from a country with the same or higher health status than referred to within the document.

The certifying OV should check the appropriate movement records and may wish to obtain a written declaration by the owner of the animals and the supervising vet, confirming that the conditions of this paragraph have been met.

**Natural service and clinical freedom**

Donor boars must not be used for natural service while at the centre and they must be free of clinical signs of infectious diseases at the time of collection of the semen for export to Brazil and within 30 days after the collection.

7. **COLLECTION OF SAMPLES AND TESTING AT GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES**

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory in Weybridge (Tel: 01932 375 335) but consultants there would advise if some tests are carried out at other APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the AFBI laboratory of the DAERA Veterinary Sciences Division, Stormont, Belfast (Tel: 028 9052 0011).

For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically. If in doubt, APHA or DAERA should be contacted to establish to which laboratory samples should be sent for testing and to obtain advice on procedures for collection and dispatch of samples for testing. Samples should be submitted in good time to allow reports to be received in advance of the export date.

The collection of specimen samples for testing for export of semen to Brazil must be done under the supervision of the Centre Veterinarian or an Official Veterinarian.

8. **PRE-ENTRY QUARANTINE TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

Paragraph IV (k) refers. This paragraph applies to all animals at the centre. The testing requirements during pre-entry quarantine under the approval conditions include testing for Aujeszky's disease and Brucella suis. The Brazilian conditions specify particular tests and timings and operators must ensure that evidence is provided to the OV that the appropriate tests have been done on samples taken at the relevant time.

PRRS testing - two sets of samples are needed at least 21 days apart for testing using a multivalent ELISA.

9. **TESTING OF THE DONOR BOARS WHILE RESIDENT AT THE CENTRE AND OF THE SEMEN FOR EXPORT**

PART B (V) (l) refers.

No testing is required for SVD or Brucellosis. Brazil recognises the UK as free from this diseases as stated in the agreed certificate.

**Aujeszky's disease (AD) testing**

Although Brazil recognises the UK as free from this disease, confirmation that all donor boars have been tested for AD at least every 12 months is needed. Such testing is a requirement for the continuity of approval of the Semen Collection Centre. OVs must confirm that donor boars of the semen for export have been tested and that an appropriate serological test has been used and this information inserted in the table provided for in the certificate.

**PRRS testing of the donor boars of the semen for export**

PCR testing on serum samples taken from the donor boars at the start of collection of the semen for export to Brazil and again 30 days after collection of the last batch for export are required. If batches for export have been collected more than 30 days apart, then monthly testing is also needed from the start of collection for export, in addition to the tests at the start of collection and 30 days after the collection of the last batch for export.

In addition the donor boars of the semen for export must be subjected to testing by a multivalent ELISA between 21 and 60 days following the collection of the semen being exported.

NB: this testing is in addition to the required PRRS testing described in Sections 5 (routine testing at the Centre) and 8 (pre-entry quarantine testing) of this guidance notes document.

**PRRS testing of the batches of semen**

A sample of each batch of the semen being exported must be tested for PRRS with a negative result prior to export.

10. **COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND STORAGE OF SEMEN**

PART B Paragraphs V (m-r) refer.

These requirements may be certified on the basis of the conditions for approval of the Semen Collection Centre and current standards for semen collection and processing.

The OV should obtain the relevant assurances from the Centre Veterinarian that these conditions have been met, including that each straw shows the identification of the donor, the date of collection and the identification of the Semen Collection and Processing Centre.

OVs should note the requirement for secure storage of the frozen semen under the control of the Centre Veterinarian for 30 days before export.

11. **SEALING OF CONTAINERS FOR EXPORT**

Paragraphs V (s) and (t) refer.

The OV must confirm and enter in the certificate the number of containers being used for the export of the semen and ensure that they have been replenished with new liquid nitrogen. The container(s) must be sealed within 72 hours of export and their seal number(s) entered at paragraph V (t) of the certificate.

12. **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 CSC for International Trade at Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

or, in the case of export from Northern Ireland, from the DAERA Trade Administration Team for meat and dairy exports by e-mail at:

[vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk) or by telephone 028 77442 060.