

EXPORT OF ZOO RODENTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO AUSTRALIA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

**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 7508EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7508EHC. 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 7508EHC may be used for the export of zoo rodents from the United Kingdom to Australia.

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

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds 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).

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

In GB, a certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Centre for International Trade, Carlisle within seven days of signing.

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

3. **Identification**

Paragraph I refers. The animals to be exported must be individually identified, preferably by means of a microchip or tattoo. The method used for identification must be entered at the table for each animal or a common entry used if all the animals are identified in the same manner.

**Health Information**

4. **Examination**

The examination at Paragraph IV.(e) should be carried out within 24 hours prior to the animals leaving the pre-export quarantine facilities. The certifying OV may need to seek clarification with the flight airline as regards welfare requirements under IATA guidelines. Further information on IATA and CITES welfare requirements can be found at the following links:

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/transport/index.shtml>

[http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live\\_animals/index.htm](http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live_animals/index.htm)

5. **Residence Requirements**

Paragraph IV.(a) refers. This paragraph can be certified on the basis of a written declaration from the exporter and further enquiries that the certifying veterinarian consider appropriate.

6. **Premises disease clearance**

Paragraphs IV(b) and (c) refer. The OV should certify this paragraph on the basis of personal knowledge of the premises of origin, supported by laboratory reports, pathological examinations and other records as appropriate. If the OV does not have personal knowledge of the premises he/she must obtain a written support statement from another veterinarian who does have such knowledge.

7. **Pre-Export Quarantine**

Paragraph V(a) refers. The import conditions do not lay down detailed terms for the quarantine premises, except the facilities should be free from access to mammalian wildlife. Consequently the OV must use his/her discretion to apply the normally accepted principles of biosecurity. The animals should be isolated from other animals that do not have the same health status as the animals intended for export.

8. **Parasite Treatment**

Paragraphs V(c) and (d) refer. The animal(s) should be treated during the first week of pre-export quarantine for endoparasites and twice at an interval of 14 days for ectoparasites. Ideally the OV must use products with a product authorisation for use in the United Kingdom. If there are no products authorised for the particular species, then the OV should follow the cascade principle in using other products. The owner should be advised that the use of any product not listed on the data sheet can entail a risk of adverse reactions.

9. **C.I.T.E.S**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.). Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department at the address given below:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service (WLRS)  
Zone 1/17, Temple Quay House,  
2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EB  
Tel: 0117 372 8774 Fax: 0117 372 8206

10. **Welfare**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the British welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards. Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

**ENGLAND** Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,  
9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR  
Tel: 020 7238 5865 / Fax: 020 7238 6009.

**SCOTLAND** Scottish Government - Rural Directorate,  
Pentland House, 47 Robb's Loan, Edinburgh, EH14 1TW  
Tel: 0131 556 8400 ext 6181/Fax: 0131 244 6616.

**WALES**

Welsh Government - Department for Rural Affairs,  
Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NQ  
Tel: 02920 823593/Fax: 02920 823352.

**NORTHERN  
IRELAND**

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Northern Ireland, Animal Welfare Section,  
Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB  
Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012.

**11. 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 - at Carlisle, via the link below:

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