

EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS TO BAHRAIN - 3656EHC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 3656EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3656EHC. 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 3656EHC may be used for the export of dairy or products containing dairy ingredients from the United Kingdom to Bahrain.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)/ VETERINARY OFFICER (VO)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

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

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address:
certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the department, where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. HEALTH INFORMATION

- a. Paragraph IV 1 refers: The dairy ingredients used must bear the EU oval mark which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004.
- b. Paragraph IV 2 may be signed on behalf of the Department by an Official Veterinarian provided written authority to do so on form 618NDC has been obtained from the issuing office.
- c. Paragraphs IV 3 & 4 may be certified on the basis of the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) Regulations, which prohibit the sale or supply for human or animal consumption of milk from animals affected with or suspected of suffering from BSE.
- d. Paragraph IV 5 may be certified if the milk has been treated to at least a recognised standard (e.g. pasteurisation, UHT, sterilisation) and on the basis of health marks, which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004.
- e. Paragraph IV 7 may be signed on the basis of the following:

The Food Standards Agency, in association with the UK environmental agencies, monitors food and the environment in the UK. They publish an annual report - Radioactivity in food and the Environment - which summarises the results of monitoring. The results of these monitoring supports the conclusion set out in the paragraph.

- f. Paragraph IV 8 can be certified on the basis of the following:

Directive 96/23 (as amended) requires national testing plan for meat & other foods: covers red meat, poultry meat, farmed & wild game, aquaculture products, milk, eggs & honey. The Animals & Animal Products (Examination for Residues & Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 2015 implements this Directive in the UK and covers all these categories, and the statement may therefore be certified on this basis.

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 APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk