

EXPORT OF CAPTIVE BIRDS TO JAMAICA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8109EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8109EHC. 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 8109EHC may be used for the export of captive/pet birds from the United Kingdom to Jamaica.

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, Scottish Government, Welsh Government, or equivalent in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs should apply the OV stamp to the certificate in the normal manner.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with an OV stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

The original of the 8109EHC export health certificate for the importation of captive birds into Jamaica, along with a valid veterinary import permit issued by the Veterinary Services Division, Jamaica, must accompany the captive bird during transport from the export isolation facility from export and until arrival in Jamaica.

The import permit number must be entered at Section II (d) of the certificate.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office: in GB to APHA Customer Service Centre for International Trade, Carlisle; and in Northern Ireland to the relevant issuing office of DAERA, within seven days of signature.

The OVs signing sections A or B of this certificate should keep a copy for his/her own records as appropriate.

3. Microchip Identification

Paragraph I refers. It is a requirement that all that all captive birds entering Jamaica **MUST** be permanently identified by means of microchips or closed leg rings. It is recommended that microchips are those which meet ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to standard 11785.

OV must confirm the identification of the birds prior to start of isolation and at the time of clinical examinations, treatments and sampling for pre-export testing.

When the space in paragraph I is insufficient to accommodate details of all birds in the consignment, a separate schedule may be used.

This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I, and the OV/AVI should write "see attached schedule" across paragraph I. The OV must draw a line under the last entry and sign, date and affix the OV stamp in a colour other than black on each page of the schedule and also under the last entry, in order to prevent the unauthorised addition of more entries. The pages of the schedule must be firmly stapled to the export health certificate and each referenced with the unique reference number at the top right-hand corner of the export health certificate. The corners of each sheet should be turned over, 'fanned', and stamped with the OV stamp.

4. Pre-Export Isolation & Clinical Examination prior to transport to the airport

Paragraph III (b) refers. In order to certify that the birds have spent at least 21 days in the isolation quarters, the OV must visit and inspect the premises at the beginning of that period, and check and record the identity of each of the birds in isolation.

The OV must approve the isolation quarters on behalf of the Department. Jamaica does not lay down the criteria for approval of the isolation facility, and the OV must therefore use his/her discretion to apply the generally accepted standards of biosecurity. Specifically, access to the birds must be limited to named attendants only, and these attendants must not have contact with any birds outside the isolation facility during the isolation period. Access by all other birds and animals must be impossible. Separate equipment and utensils must be kept exclusively for use with the birds in isolation. Separate overalls should be kept for the attendants to put on at the entrance to the isolation facility, and foot dips should be used at the entrance/exit of the facility.

The OV must visit the isolation premises as often as he/she considers necessary. Specifically, the OV must visit the isolation premises at the approval/start of isolation and at the time of examinations, treatment and sampling for pre-export testing as required in the certificate.

Paragraph iii (g) refers - The OV must make a final visit to the isolation premises at the time of the clinical examination prior to transport of the birds to the airport for export. This examination must be carried out within 48 hours of the birds leaving the isolation premises for export.

5. Residency; Health status of the premises of origin of the birds and transport to the airport

Paragraphs III (a), (c), (d), (h) and (m) refer. The OV may certify these paragraphs based on his/her knowledge of the premises of origin, records and declarations by the owner/exporter.

For the purpose of this EHC, 'premises of origin' refers to the premises where the bird has resided continuously for the 12 months prior to export.

6. Notifiable Disease Clearance

Paragraph III (f) may be certified on behalf of the Department provided the OV has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to the OV within 10 days before shipment.

7. Treatments

Paragraph III (i), (j), (k) refer. All treatments must be carried out as stipulated on 8109EHC, and must be licensed for use in the UK or

else prescribed in accordance with the veterinary medicines treatment cascade.

8. Influenza A and Paramyxovirus Tests

Paragraph III (e) refers. All birds in isolation must be tested for Influenza A viruses and Paramyxoviruses within 30 days of export and during isolation with negative results in each case.

For influenza A viruses, it is recommended that the most simple and effective test is the PCR carried out on individual faeces samples. Alternatively, blood samples may be taken for serological testing. The AGID or Elisa tests are recommended as the HI test is specific for each H type of influenza.

All samples must be submitted to the APHA avian virology laboratory APHA in Weybridge or the AFBI Stormont laboratory in Northern Ireland.

It is recommended that culture for salmonellas is by a method in which may be able to disclose infection of both salmonellas of avian significance (pullorum/gallinarum) and zoonotic salmonellas.

9. Notice of Arrival

At least three (3) weeks' notice of arrival of the bird with a further forty-eight (48) hours confirmation must be given to the Director, Veterinary Services Division, Jamaica., Tel (876) 977-2489/92; Fax (876) 977-0855; email: vsd@micaf.gov.jm

10. Embarkation Statement at Airport of Dispatch

Part B refers. At the airport of dispatch, an official port veterinarian must complete, stamp and sign 8109EHC Part B, confirming that the bird(s) meet the requirements listed in Part B of Section III of the export health certificate.

11. CITES Permit

The National Environmental and Planning Agency (NEPA) of Jamaica must give authorisation for the importation of birds protected under the Convention on International trade in Endangered Species (CITES). This is part of international efforts to protect exotic wild birds subject to trade. Birds listed as endangered by CITES require a CITES permit in addition to the VSD import permit. Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from, in GB, the Department at the following address:

Wildlife Licencing and Registration Service
APHA Centre For International Trade,
Horizon House Floor 3, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AH
Tel: 0117 372 3700
e-mail: wildlife.licencing@apha.gsi.gov.uk

12. Welfare of animals during transport

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 must 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, Scotland and Wales

APHA Hadrian House, Wavell Drive, Rosehill,
Carlisle, CA1 2TB
Tel: 01228 403600 / Fax 01228 591900 /
E-mail:
CentralOps.carlisle@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk

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

13. Examination upon Arrival

On arrival at the designated port in Jamaica, an official veterinarian will examine the bird, which must be transported (by the importers) to the 'Designated Quarantine Facility' and there remain isolated for a period as instructed by the official veterinarian. The bird must be found to be healthy when inspected at the port of entry in Jamaica. The bird may otherwise be euthanized without compensation.

14. 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 - International Trade, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/imports-exports/international-trade/>