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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8170EHC titled:
HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF PROCESSED PETFOOD OTHER THAN CANNED PETFOOD INTO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Associated Documents: 8170EHC.

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8170EHC. **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

Export health certificate **8170EHC** may be used for the export of processed petfood (other than canned petfood) to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This certificate **must not** be used for the export of consignments of any of the feed materials described under Chapter II of Annex X to Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011 (as amended), namely:

- processed animal protein
- blood products
- rendered fats, fish oil and fat derivatives from Category 3 material
- milk, colostrum and certain other products derived from milk or colostrum
- gelatine and hydrolysed protein
- dicalcium phosphate
- tricalcium phosphate
- collagen
- egg products

However, the above feed materials may be used as ingredients in the manufacture of the finished petfood being certified for export.

This is in keeping with the definition of petfood as laid down under point 19 of Annex I to Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011, as amended by Regulation (EU) No. 294/2013 of 14th March 2013.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian authorised on behalf of 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, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation, or who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or to DAERA, within seven days of issue.

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

Foreign text: The Official Veterinarian should note that the foreign text in this certificate is an official translation of the English text and the Official Veterinarian is accordingly authorized to complete the export health certificate, even if they are unable to read and understand the meaning of the foreign text.

Any spaces in the foreign text must be left blank and English wording must not be entered. However, if the Official Veterinarian is able to read and write the foreign text and if facilities are available to enter the foreign text in type, the Official Veterinarian can enter the information where appropriate.

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

3. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

The format, paragraph numbering and content of this certificate is based on the bilingual model certificate provided by the Bosnian and Herzegovinian authorities and as such, some of the English may be unclear.

Note also that this certificate is based on the specific model certificate published as Chapter 3(B) of Annex XV to Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended) for the importation of this commodity from a third country into EU member states.

The format of this certificate is, in turn, based on the model 'Veterinary Certificate to EU' for products of animal origin as published in **Commission Decision 2007/240/EC** (as amended).

As a result of this, some of the text may not directly apply to exports from the UK and some paragraphs may appear out of sequence whilst others may be intentionally left blank or struck through.

Annex I of this Decision includes **Explanatory Notes** which offer general guidance on how veterinary certificates based on these models may be completed, particularly with respect to Part I of the certificate.

These and other pieces of EU legislation are published in the Official Journal of the European Union and can be accessed via the online search feature available at:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html

More specific guidance on completing this certificate has been provided in these notes.

4. COMPLETION OF PART I – DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.2a - intentionally struck through.

I.3 – Central Competent Authority
This should be completed with "**Defra**".

I.4 – Local Competent Authority
For exporting establishments located in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) the certifying OV should enter the name of the local APHA office responsible for the exporting establishment or for issuing the certificate. For exporting establishments located in Northern Ireland, "**DAERA**" should be entered.

I.6 – intentionally struck through.

I.7 and I.9 – Country ISO Codes
ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The 2-letter ISO Code for the whole of the **United Kingdom** is "**GB**" and this should be entered at **Box I.7.**

The 2-letter ISO Code for **Bosnia and Herzegovina** is "**BA**" and should be entered at **Box I.9.**

I.8 and I.10 – Regions of Origin and Destination
In line with the Explanatory Notes referred to in paragraph 3 above, this paragraph may usually be struck through.

However, if the UK and the product fall within the scope of emergency disease control legislation laid down by the importing authorities then this paragraph should be completed with the appropriate region names and ISO codes if these are specified under such emergency legislation. In these cases, the APHA Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or DAERA in Northern Ireland should be consulted for further specific guidance.

I.11 – Approval Number
Establishments handling unprocessed animal by-products or manufacturing products derived from unprocessed animal by-products must be approved in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended). In England, this is enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Certifying Official Veterinarians are advised that, in accordance with Articles 54 and 55 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), references to Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) shall be construed as references to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) and that establishments, plants and users approved or registered in accordance with regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) before 4 March 2011 shall be deemed to be approved or registered, as required, in accordance with regulation (EC) 1069/2009.

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the manufacturing establishment.

I.12 – intentionally struck through.

I.13 – Place of loading
The place of loading or the port of embarkation must be entered.

I.14 - Date of departure
The date of departure must be entered.

I.15 – Means of transport
The means of transport i.e. aeroplane, ship, railway wagon, road vehicle must be indicated. The option 'Other' is not applicable to the movement of products and should not be selected. The flight number, name of the vessel, the train number and rail car or the number plate of the road vehicle should be entered as the means of identification as appropriate.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry.

Optionally, the number of the airway bill, bill of loading, or the commercial number of the train or road vehicle may be entered as the documentary reference.

I.16 – Entry BIP in Bosnia and Herzegovina
The exporter must advise the OV of the point of entry into the destination country and this must be entered in the space provided.

I.17 – intentionally struck through

I.18 - Description of commodity
A generic veterinary description of the goods or a description based on the applicable HS Code (see below) must be entered. The use of brand names should be avoided.

I.19 – HS Code
The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics.

The notes at the end of the certificate include a list of HS Codes which may be used to complete **Box I.19**. For ease of reference, the description of each of the listed codes is provided below:

04.08 Birds' eggs, not in shell, and egg yolks, fresh, dried, cooked by steaming or by boiling in water, moulded, frozen or otherwise preserved, whether or not containing added sugar or other sweetening matter

05.04 Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked

05.05 Skins and other parts of birds, with their feathers or down, feathers and parts of feathers (whether or not with trimmed edges) and down, not further worked than cleaned, disinfected or treated for preservation; powder and waste of feathers or parts of feathers

05.11 Animal products not elsewhere specified or included; dead animals of Chapter 1 or 3, unfit for human consumption

15.01 Pig fat (including lard) and poultry fat, other than that of heading 0209 or 1503

15.02 Fats of bovine animals, sheep or goats, other than those of heading 1503

15.03 Lard stearin, lard oil, oleostearin, oleo-oil and tallow oil, not emulsified or mixed or otherwise prepared

15.04 Fats and oils and their fractions, of fish or marine mammals, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified

23.01 Flours, meals and pellets, of meat or meat offal, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, unfit for human consumption; greaves

23.09 Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding
[includes 'Dog or cat food, put up for retail sale']

35.02 Albumins (including concentrates of two or more whey proteins, containing by weight more than 80% whey proteins, calculated on the dry matter), albuminates and other albumin derivatives

Further information on HS Codes can be found online at:

https://www.trade-tariff.service.gov.uk/sections
and
http://madb.europa.eu/madb/euTariffs.htm

Taking into account the guidance at paragraph 1 above regarding feed materials, the appropriate HS Code should be entered in **Box I.19.**

The OV should confirm with the exporter that the HS Code used correctly describes the products being consigned.

I.20 – Quantity of Product
Insert the total gross and net weights in Kg.

I.21 – Temperature of product
Indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled or frozen.

I.22 - Number of packages
Insert the number of packages in the consignment.

I.23 - Seal/container no.
The seal or container number of consignment may be entered here.

I.24 – Type of packaging
Enter the type of packaging in the space provided.

I.25 – Commodities certified for
Indicate the intended use of the product, taking into account any guidance which may be offered in the footnote of the certificate.

I.26 – intentionally struck through.

I.27 – For import or admission
The box should be ticked to confirm that this is an import or admission as opposed to transhipment.

I.28 - Official Identification
The name and/or the relevant approval number of the manufacturing plant (above guidance for paragraph **I.11** refers) should be entered in addition to the other required information.

If the consignment consists of several different types of products then it may be necessary to use a separate schedule to identify the full consignment. The schedule must, as a minimum, contain the same information as that required in **Box I.28** of the certificate and this box must be annotated "See Attached Schedule".

Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian.

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the Official Veterinarian should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also.

Any blank spaces in the schedule or in **Box I.28** should be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. PART II – HEALTH INFORMATION

The health information may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification and the OV's knowledge of Regulations (EC) 1069/2009 and 142/2011 (as amended). OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

Legislative references

Although the health attestation refers to legislation published in the "**Official Gazette of BiH**", the certifying OV can sign these clauses in respect of the quoted equivalent EU legislation.

II.1 – Approval and supervision of establishment

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of approval of the manufacturing establishment in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) in line with the guidance given for paragraph **I.11** above.

II.2 – Animal by-product ingredients

For the purposes of this certificate, references to "**in accordance with BiH legislation**" may be read as "**in accordance with Union legislation**" and certified on the basis of compliance with current EU and UK legislation referred to in these guidance notes.

The options should be certified or, where permitted, deleted as necessary to reflect the animal by-products used in the manufacture of the processed animal protein present in the consignment. Deletions should be signed and stamped in the usual manner.

The certifying OV should read the options carefully to ensure that only permitted deletions are made. Deleting text that is ineligible for deletion could result in the consignment being detained or rejected.

14th indentDirective 96/22/EC

This paragraph refers to material from animals which have been treated with certain substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and ß-agonists.

Material from such animals may only be used in the manufacture of the pet food if either the material itself or the finished pet food being exported was originally imported into the EU from a third country. This is in keeping with paragraph 2(b) of Chapter II of Annex XIII of Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended).

II.3 – Processing of the pet food or its ingredients

This paragraph requires that either the finished pet food was subjected to certain treatments during its manufacture or that the specified ingredients of animal origin were appropriately sourced and processed.

Note that this paragraph contains **only four deletable options**:

1st indent - treatment of the pet food itself;
2nd indent - specific processing of the ingredients of animal origin;
3rd indent - alternative authorised treatment
4th indent - alternative authorised treatment of aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates.

The sub-paragraphs (a) through to (n) are all part of the option at the 2nd indent.

The options which do not apply should be struck through in their entirety and the deletions signed and stamped in the usual manner.

The certifying OV should read the options carefully to ensure that only permitted deletions are made. Deleting text that is ineligible for deletion could result in the consignment being detained or rejected.

II.4 – Microbiological testing

Random samples taken from each batch of petfood being certified for export must have been tested for the presence of salmonella and enterobacteriaceae with satisfactory results. This is in line with the statutory microbiological testing required under paragraph 5 of Chapter II of Annex XIII of Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended).

Accordingly, the results of the routine microbiological testing undertaken by the pet food manufacturer as part of their approval (above guidance for paragraph **I.11** refers)and standard operating procedures may be used to support compliance with this requirement and specific sampling of the products forming the consignment is not mandatory.

II.7 – Specified risk material and ruminant origin material

The indent which does not apply should be struck through and the deletion signed and stamped in the usual manner.

First indent refers:

For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "specified risk material" means the following tissues:

- the skull excluding the mandible and including the brain and eyes, and the spinal cord of **bovine animals aged over 12 months** and originating in a third country having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk or originating from any EU Member State;

- the vertebral column excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the spinous and transverse processes of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar vertebrae and the median sacral crest and wings of the sacrum, but including the dorsal root ganglia, of **bovine animals aged over 30 months** and originating in a third country or EU Member State having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk;

- the tonsils, the last four meters of the small intestine, the caecum and the mesentery of **bovine animals of all ages** and originating in a third country or EU Member State having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk;

- the skull including the brain and eyes, the tonsils and the spinal cord of **ovine and caprine animals aged over 12 months or which have a permanent incisor erupted through the gum** and originating in a third country having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk or originating from any EU Member State;

- the spleen and ileum of **ovine and caprine animals of all ages** and originating in a third country having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk or originating from any EU Member State.

Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 (as amended) prohibits the use of the stunning and slaughtering methods described in this paragraph in EU member states with a controlled BSE risk and also imposes these restrictions in relation to imports into the EU.

This Regulation also controls the use of specified risk material by requiring the removal and safe destruction of specified risk material from ruminant animals slaughtered in slaughterhouses approved in accordance with the EU Hygiene package which includes Regulations (EC) 852/2004, 853/2004 and 854/2004.

In England, this is enforced by the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2010 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Second indent refers:
For practical purposes, the BSE risk status allocated to a country or region by the EU Commission in accordance with Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 (as amended) is the same as the BSE risk status allocated to that country or region by the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE). Confirmation of the BSE risk status of the country or region of origin may therefore be obtained by reference to information published by the OIE on their website at:

http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/official-disease-status/bse/list-of-bse-risk-status/

II.8 – Additional TSE assurances
This paragraph refers to additional TSE assurances with respect to the feeding milk and milk products of ovine or caprine origin to ruminant animals of.

This paragraph may be deleted in its entirety on the basis that this certificate is for the export of pet food and is not, therefore, intended for feeding to ruminant animals or any other farmed animals. The deletion should be initialled and stamped in the usual manner.

6. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS
Where 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 and/or declared intended use. 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.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

7. DISCLAIMER

This certificate and these notes are 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 (CIT) – Carlisle, via the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#customer-service-centres-csc

In Northern Ireland, please contact the DAERA trade administration team:

- e-mail - tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk
- Phone - 02877442146