

Model veterinary certificate for export into the EU of animals of the order Artiodactyla (including Bovidae, Camelidae, Cervidae, Giraffidae, Moschidae and Tragulidae) that are originating from and intended for an approved body, institute or centre

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- No:** 8225NFG

RUM A - Model veterinary certificate for export into the EU of animals of the order Artiodactyla (including Bovidae, Camelidae, Cervidae, Giraffidae, Moschidae and Tragulidae) that are originating from and intended for an approved body, institute or centre.

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE (NFG) FOR THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

1. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:

Commission Regulation (EU) 206/2010 as amended

Any EU legislation referenced in the EHC must be complied with and EU legislation can be accessed on the following link. You should ensure that you are using the latest version. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html>

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Certifying Officers and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with the relevant export certificate applicable for export of animals of the order Artiodactyla (including Bovidae, Camelidae, Cervidae, Giraffidae, Moschidae and Tragulidae) that are originating from and intended for an approved body, institute or centre, in accordance with the relevant requirements of Regulation (EU) No 206/2010. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the veterinary certificate.

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.

[Please note, policies are being reviewed. NFG will be further amended to provide specific guidance. Traders should look at NFGs regularly for any updates]

2. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

RUM A - Model veterinary certificate maybe used for exports of animals of the order Artiodactyla (including Bovidae, Camelidae, Cervidae, Giraffidae, Moschidae and Tragulidae) that are originating from and intended for an approved body, institute or centre, in accordance with the relevant requirements of Regulation (EU) No 206/2010.

The certificate must be completed in accordance with the explanatory notes set out in Annex V of Regulation (EU) No 206/2010.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

In **England, Scotland and Wales**, this certificate must be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government as such and holding the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ (V)) authorisation.

*In **Northern Ireland** (NI), this certificate must be signed by a Veterinary Officer (VO) of the Department or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). For the purposes of these notes VOs and AVIs shall be referred to as OVs unless a specific reference is required.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of a different to that of printing.

The OV/AVI/VO should also keep a copy of the signed certificate and any supporting documents for at least three years after signature or receipt/dispatch of the consignment, whichever is later.

** This paragraph only applies to NI*

EHCs in foreign language/s of the EU Member States (MSs).

EHCs in the foreign language/s of the EU MS where the Border Inspection Post – BIP (or Border Control Post - BCP) of entry is situated and the EU MS of destination is/are required and this/these must accompany the consignment.

The EHCs in the foreign language (as received from the APHA CSC at Carlisle or DAERA and bearing the same unique reference number as the EHC in English) should be considered official and accurate translations of the accompanying EHC in English.

Every word in the foreign language EHCs is an accurate translation of the English version. The (sub-) paragraphs / options and how they are numbered and formatted is identical too. Therefore, when the same phrases/sentences in the foreign language versions/s as in the English version is/are struck through, the former can and must be signed (as opposed to being initialled) by the OV as a genuine and proper authorised translation of the EHC in English.

This also applies to any instructions in the guidance notes to strike out certain paragraphs or to certify statements that the country is free of certain notifiable diseases etc.

The foreign language version/s of the EHCs must be attached to the English version so as to create one indivisible single document, by stapling and fan-stamping all the different language versions.

The EHC accompanying the consignment will then comprise the original English EHC and any required additional EHCs in the foreign language/s. These should be arranged in order with the English version on the top, followed by the foreign language/s version/s, and finally the page(s) of the schedule (if any) at the bottom, all stapled together, then collectively 'fan stamped' so that each leaf carries a part of a single stamp/watermark so that removing a page or replacing it would be detectable.

PART I: DETAILS OF THE CONSIGNMENT

Please complete all the boxes in Part I of the certificate.

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

It is the exporter's responsibility to ensure that the HS code is entered correctly and accurately reflects the product(s) being consigned.

Further information on HS Codes can be found online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff/sections> and

<http://madb.europa.eu/madb/euTariffs.htm>

PART II: CERTIFICATION

II.1 Animal Health Attestation

The Official Veterinarian signing the export Veterinary certificate must ensure that the animal health attestations set out in Part II of the Veterinary certificate have been complied with.

Animals described in the certificate must also meet the animal health requirements listed in the certificate and in accordance with the relevant sections of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 206/2010.

The official Veterinarian must ensure that they are aware of the provisions of Regulation (EU) No 206/2010, laying down the animal health requirements applicable to the exportation of animals of the order Artiodactyla (including Bovidae, Camelidae, Cervidae, Giraffidae, Moschidae and Tragulidae) that are originating from and intended for an approved body, institute or centre from the UK into the EU.

II.1.1 – This can be certified based on the diseases being notifiable in the UK, and in the absence of disease notifications for rinderpest from APHA or DAERA.

II.1.2.

a) b) These statements can be certified based on the OV's knowledge of the approved premises.

c-f) These attestations can be certified based on the OV's knowledge of the holdings and in the absence of a specific disease notification from APHA Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland. Apart from tuberculosis the UK is currently free from all of the diseases listed.

g) This can be certified based on a written declaration from the exporter.

II.1.3 a) This can be certified based on the OV's knowledge of the approved premises and a written declaration from the exporter.

II.1.4 a) The first attestation can be certified based on the absence of FMD notification from APHA or DAERA as the UK has been free from FMD for over 12 months.

b) This can be signed based on the prohibition of FMD vaccination in the UK, or (if the animal has not been resident in the UK for its entire life) a written declaration from the exporter.

II.1.5 - The first attestation can be certified based on the absence of specific disease notification from APHA or DAERA as the UK has been free from Bluetongue and Epizootic haemorrhagic disease for over 24 months.

II.1.6 – The first attestation can be certified based on the absence of specific disease notification from APHA or DAERA as rift valley fever has never been present in the UK, and a written declaration from the exporter stating the lack of vaccination. Otherwise the OV must be satisfied that the other requirements have been met.

II.1.7 - The first attestation can be certified based on the absence of specific disease notification from APHA or DAERA as the UK has been free from Brucellosis for over 12 months, and vaccination against Brucellosis is prohibited in the UK. If the animal has not been resident in the UK for its entire life a written declaration will be needed from the exporter to state no vaccination has been carried out. Otherwise the OV must be satisfied the requirements for the other attestations have been met.

II.1.8 – These attestations can be certified based on a written declaration from the owner/exporter. If anthrax or rabies vaccinations have not been performed the relevant sections can be deleted, otherwise details of the vaccinations and/or blood tests must be completed in the certificate as required.

II.1.9 – This can be certified based on a written declaration from the owner/exporter.

II.1.10. Animal Transport Attestation

The Official Veterinarian signing the export veterinary certificate must ensure that the animals described in the certificate have been treated before loading in accordance with the relevant provisions of Regulation (EU) No 1/2005. See section 6 below.

Every animal should be fit for the journey that is planned.

4. DISEASE NOTIFICATION

Some export certificates for animals and animal products will include statements that will require that the OV certify that specified areas or the entire country of origin are free from certain diseases.

OVs should initially check the Gov.uk Website for UK's Notifiable Disease Status.

In addition, the following should be borne in mind:

For Great Britain:

- **In the event of a disease outbreak:** APHA Carlisle will formally notify OV's to make it clear which of those disease freedom statements should **not be certified**.
- **In the absence of a specific disease notification from APHA Carlisle:** OV's may certify that the UK has disease free status or region free status for those diseases mentioned in the health certificate.

In **Northern Ireland**, AVIs may certify that the UK/NI has disease free status for those diseases mentioned in the health certificate if in possession of a valid DAERA Veterinary Support Certificate. DAERA OV's avail of the Notifiable Disease Clearance (NDC) system to obtain the required disease status necessary for certification. The NDC system is based on obtaining daily updates on disease status from NI, GB and the ROI.

5. COLLECTION OF EVIDENCE

Certification Support Officers may not be utilised for gathering evidence relating to this model certificate.

6. CONSIGNMENTS OR PARTS OF THE CONSIGNMENT ORIGINATING FROM EU MEMBER STATES

Some consignments may contain animal products that are of EU origin and were exported to the UK on a Commercial Document or Intra-Trade Animal Health Certificate (ITAHC). The Commercial Document may not contain enough information to allow the certifying officer to sign an EHC.

The Certifying Officer will need further information from the EU member state regarding particular attestations on the EHC that cannot be signed by the Certifying Officer without further information. Thus, the UK exporter must request from the EU exporter a written declaration that the relevant attestations on the certificate can be signed by the UK Certifying Officer on the basis of retained legislation between EU and UK and that the attestations were adhered to in the EU member state. The exporter may wish to obtain a written declaration directly from the EU OV who has inspected the animal products before export from the EU.

When the certificate requires specific information to be included, such as the date of slaughter or the date of introduction into the EU member state, the exporter must also request this information from the EU member state exporter. The EU exporter may forward the request to the relevant EU OV to provide the necessary information requested by the UK exporter.

This written declaration must be kept by the UK Certifying Officer. The Certifying Officer is not required to attach it as a supporting document to the EHC, unless requested by the EU Border Inspection Post or told otherwise.

It is the UK exporter's responsibility to ensure timely request of information from the EU member state exporter, to allow the EHC to be signed and stamped in good time before export to the EU.

7. ANIMAL TRANSPORT ATTESTATION

The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales implement Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Every animal should be fit for the journey that is planned. Animals should be in good health, free of illness, free of significant wounds and able to walk without pain on all legs. Animals that are in sufficiently good health, should be able to withstand the stress of a journey without experiencing any unnecessary pain or distress, and should arrive at their destination in good health. Animals that are injured or that present physiological weaknesses or pathological processes shall not be considered fit for transport and in particular if:

- they are unable to move independently without pain or to walk unassisted;
- they present a severe open wound, or prolapse;
- they are pregnant females for whom 90% or more of the expected gestation period has already passed, or females who have given birth in the previous week;
- they are new-born mammals in which the navel has not completely healed.

If the place of loading and holding of origin is different, then the OV must obtain a written declaration from the owner/transporter/exporter that the animals were transported from the holding in vehicles previously cleansed and disinfected with a Defra approved disinfectant and “in such a way as to provide effective protection of the animals’ health status”. This means transport without coming into contact with cloven hoofed animals other than those of a similarly certified level of health status. In this case, where a consignment is grouped in an assembly centre and comprises animals that were loaded on different dates, the date at which the journey commenced for the whole consignment is considered to be the earliest date when any part of the consignment left the holding of origin. OVs should also receive a declaration from the exporter/transporter that the animals will be transported to the place of destination in vehicles which have first been cleaned and disinfected with a Defra approved disinfectant and without coming into contact with cloven hoofed animals other than those of a similarly certified level of health status.

7. CLINICAL EXAMINATION

The inspection must be carried out prior to 24 hours of loading. The pre-export inspection should consist of a visual appraisal and, if deemed appropriate, physical examination of the animals for export. Each animal subject to an inspection must be assessed as an individual.

OVs must use their professional judgement to determine the level of inspection required in order to ensure that no animal is exported which shows signs of infectious disease and that animals are fit to travel to their intended destination.

8. LEGAL STATEMENT

[The paragraph below will be reviewed at later stage when the position on alignment with OCR becomes clearer after new ministers take their posts.]

The existing EU legislation that the UK already complies with will be incorporated into our domestic law as “retained EU law” under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. References in our guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this “retained EU law”. Under the Withdrawal Act we will ensure that current EU standards remain in force, without amendment, in the immediate months after our EU exit as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

9. DISCLAIMER

This certificate and NFG 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 Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) in Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency>

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