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**EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS OF DOMESTIC FOWL, TURKEYS OR DUCKS TO MALAWI**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER**

1. **Scope of the certificate.**

This certificate is for the export hatching eggs of the domestic fowl species (*Gallus gallus*), turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*), or ducks (*Anas platyrhyncha*) to Malawi.

2. **Official Signature**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian, appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Scottish Government - Rural Directorate, Welsh Government Department for Rural Affairs, or equivalent in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development 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.**

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office: in GB to AHVLA, Specialist Service Centre, International Trade, Carlisle; and in Northern Ireland to DARD, Room 922 Dundonald House, Belfast, within seven days of signature.

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

3. **SUPPORT CERTIFICATION**

In situations where the flock of origin is attended by a different veterinarian from the certifying OV, the latter may complete the export health certificate on the basis of appropriate support statements covering the flock(s) of origin.

The appropriate support statement is form 7674SUP which must be completed by the flock veterinarian in respect of paragraphs IV (b) (c), (d), (h), (i) and [(j)- (flocks of origin only)].

4. **Means of Transportation**

Paragraph III (c) refers. The OV should write 'air', 'sea' or 'road' as appropriate, and provide the flight number, ship name, or truck registration.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV. (a) refers. This paragraph may be certified by the OV on the basis of written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the

issuing office (in GB, Animal Health, Specialist Service Centre (SSC)- Exports, Carlisle) within 10 days before shipment.

6. **Disease Surveillance under Directive 2009/158/EC**

Paragraphs IV (b) and (d) refer. Directive 2009/158/EC is the European poultry trade Directive. Poultry traded between member states of the EU must comply with the Directive. All of the conditions in the Directive are fully implemented in GB by the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), and in Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS). Therefore membership of either of these schemes means that the premises are officially approved and tested for these diseases and inspected in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC. The OV is personally responsible for obtaining confirmation that all the tests have been carried out and that all results have been negative and that veterinary inspections have taken place. The OV must check the laboratory reports, or receive written confirmation from the veterinarian who is normally responsible for the flocks of origin.

7. **National Surveillance Programme for Salmonellas of Human Concern**

Paragraph IV (c) refers. This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the flock(s) of origin have been routinely monitored bacteriologically as required under EU Regulation 2160/2003. The EU Regulation requires a compulsory monitoring programme for chicken and turkey breeding flocks. In the case of ducks, the breeding flocks must have been monitored according to a similar protocol on a voluntary basis. The OV is personally responsible for obtaining confirmation that all the tests have been carried out and that all results have been negative. The OV must check the laboratory reports, or receive written confirmation from the veterinarian who is normally responsible for the flocks of origin.

8. **Routine Inspection of Flocks of Origin**

Paragraph IV (d) refers. Directive 2009/158/EC requires that flocks of origin must either be examined by an OV at the time of export to another member state, or they must be subject to routine monthly examinations. Most poultry breeding flocks opt for the monthly inspections.

9. **Packing and Transport Conditions**

Paragraphs IV (e) and (f) refer. In order to certify these paragraphs, the OV has to either personally observe the packing materials and the internal compartment of the vehicles used for transport or receive a written declaration from the exporter that these requirements are complied with.

Under EU Council Regulation EC/1/2005, implemented in England by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England)

Order 2006 and its equivalent in the devolved regions, vehicles carrying live poultry must be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading. Other instructions about disinfection of the vehicle is given in Directive 2009/158/E Article 18. 7 It simply says that disinfection must be "in accordance with the instructions of the competent authority". The OV may certify the paragraph if, in his/her personal judgement, the methods used are adequate and effective.

A DEFRA/DARDNI approved disinfectant must be used for disinfecting the internal cargo compartment of the vehicle. Disinfectants are approved under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) (England) Order 2007 (as amended) or equivalent legislation in the devolved regions. The list contains over 200 brands of disinfectant, and there is a sub-group specifically approved for use with poultry, on the basis of their efficacy against Newcastle disease and avian influenza viruses. DEFRA/DARDNI approved disinfectants carry a statement on the container, and other references to their approval may be found in their data sheets or label instructions.

- 10 **Hatchery Monitoring for Aspergillosis**  
Paragraph IV (g) refers. Note that, in the case of hatching eggs, this paragraph applies to the hatchery at which the parent stock were hatched. This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's (or support certifying veterinarians') personal knowledge and observations of the hatchery, supported by an inspection of any documents or other evidence that he/she may feel necessary. Routine bacteriological swabbing or other detection methods that are used must be adequate to detect aspergillosis.
11. **Marek's vaccination**  
Paragraph IV (h) refers. This paragraph applies only to parent chickens, and should be deleted in the case of hatching eggs from turkeys or ducks.
- 12 **Flock Statements: IBD and Vaccines**  
Paragraphs IV (h) and (i) refer., Paragraph IV (h) applies only to chickens, and should be deleted in the case of turkey poults or ducklings. Where necessary the OV will receive support statements from the veterinarian(s) regularly responsible for those flocks. The statement concerning IBD in the hatchery must be made on the basis of the OV's personal knowledge and observations.

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**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 - International Trade, in Carlisle, via the link below:

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