

VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FOR EXPORT TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

Associated Documents: 8556EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with 8556EHC.

The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the relevant 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.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

8556EHC **MUST** be used for the export of all dairy products for human consumption and dairy products derived from the milk of cows, ewes, goats and buffaloes for human consumption from the United Kingdom and intended for consignment to Bosnia and Herzegovina, which fall within the Commodity Codes:

04.01;	04.02;	04.03;
04.04;	04.05;	04.06;
15.17;	17.02;	19.01;
21.05;	22.02;	28.35;
35.01;	35.02;	or 35.04.

as listed at NOTE I.19 of 8556EHC.

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. 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.5 - Consignee

Details of the recipient should be entered here

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 - 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.10 - intentionally struck through

I.11 - Place of Origin

The details of the approved FBO where the dairy product was manufactured should be entered here.

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 lading, 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**.

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 human consumption

Indicate whether the product is certified for human consumption.

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 transshipment.

I.28 - Identification of the Commodities

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.

4. Completion of Part II.1 Animal Health Attestation

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) 853/2004 and Directive 2002/99/EC (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 (a. i and iii) - Approval and Supervision of the establishment

These paragraphs may be certified on the basis of approval of the manufacturing establishment in line with the guidance given for paragraph **I.11** above, and on the basis of oval marks which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004. In the UK, the EU Regulation is implemented by the Food Hygiene Regulation 2006.

II.1 (a. ii) - disease restrictions

This paragraph can be certified by obtaining a 618NDC from APHA, Carlisle.

II. 1 (b) - source species

The certifying officer should delete all species other than those from which the milk was sourced.

II. 1 (b) - treatment

The certifying officer should delete all treatments other than those applied to the product. This paragraph can be certified based on records supplied by the establishment, and the certifying officer's knowledge of the establishment.

5. Completion of part II. 2 - Public Health Attestation

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of the referenced EU legislation, and approval of the manufacturing establishment in line with the guidance given for paragraph **I.11** above, and on the basis of oval marks which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004.

II. 2 (a. i) - as above

II. 2 (a. ii) - production, processing, storage and transport

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of the relevant EU legislation, their knowledge of the establishment, and supporting records provided by the establishment.

II. 2 (a. iii)- somatic and plate counts

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of the relevant EU legislation, their knowledge of the establishment, and supporting records provided by the establishment. Compliance with Regulation (EC) 853/2004 is a legal requirement that must be observed by the FBO. The Oval identification mark can only be applied if production has taken place in an approved establishment and legislation is observed. The OV may want to consult with the authorities supervising the production establishment.

II. 2 (a. iv - vi) and (e) - residue levels

These clauses may be signed so long as the products are procured from an approved establishment under the supervision of the competent authorities. They will be subject to these regulations as part of compliance with the national surveillance control plan. The OV may seek information from the food safety authorities.

II. 2 (b) - HACCP principles

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of the establishment, and sight of supporting documents such as a HACCP plan.

II. 2 (c) - storage, packaging and transport

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of the relevant EU legislation, approval of the establishment and supervision by the competent authority, and supporting records provided by the establishment.

II. 2 (d) - Microbiological Criteria

In the UK, EU Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005 is implemented by the Food Hygiene Regulations 2006. The regulation requires milk to meet these microbiological criteria, namely absence of *Salmonella spp* and other pathogenic organisms associated with milk in 25 grams of milk/product. If the manufacturing plant does not have such a monitoring programme in place, then the batch(es) being certified for export must be tested for *Salmonella*

spp in accordance with this standard. If necessary, the certifying OV may ask to examine laboratory reports.

6. 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