

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8563EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8563EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Health certificate 8563EHC may be used for the export of value added fresh meat preparations (chilled or frozen) and meat products derived from pigs from the UK to Malaysia.

Export eligible value added products are as indicated in the Import Permit under the heading 'Import Items'. Each product is separately described i.e. Pork Sausage, Pork Bacon followed by its Tariff Code.

Exporters and OVs should check the Tariff Codes as listed to ensure that they correspond with the product to be exported. The codes can be checked via the UK Government Trade Tariff website using this link:

<https://www.trade-tariff.service.gov.uk/sections?currency=EUR&day=12&month=5&year=2020>

The first four digits of the Tariff Code should be entered in the search box. Examples are as follows:

Tariff Code 1601 - Sausages and similar products, of meat, meat offal or blood; food preparations based on these products

Tariff Code 0210 - Meat and edible meat offal, salted, in brine, dried or smoked; edible flours and meals of meat or meat offal

2. OBTAINING AN IMPORT PERMIT

The exporter/agent must be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit.

In the case of export to Malaysia, the importer must apply for an import permit from the Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department (MAQIS) through the E-permit Dagang Net system. Each consignment must be accompanied by a valid health certificate reflecting the health conditions specified in the import permit.

If the health conditions specified in the health certificate are found to differ from those in the import permit, in the case of export from Great Britain the exporter should contact the Animal Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade at Carlisle using the link below before making further arrangements:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

or, in the case of export from Northern Ireland the exporter should contact the DAERA Trade Administration Team for meat and dairy exports by e-mail at: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk or by telephone 028 77442 060.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an authorised Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Government of Scotland or the Government of Wales, and holding the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

In Northern Ireland, this certificate may be signed by 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).

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of any colour other than black.

In GB, a certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle within seven days of signing.

OVs should also keep a copy for their own records.

4. SCHEDULES

Sections I and II(a) (if required) refer. Separate schedules may be used to identify the commodities certified and farms of origin. Schedules must contain the same information in the same order as in this section and the section must be annotated 'See attached schedule'. Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the OV.

The schedule must be stapled to the health certificate and the OV 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 certificate must be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. NOTIFIABLE/REPORTABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

In the case of animals originating from the UK, OVs may certify paragraphs IV(a) and IV(c) of 8563EHC on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

6. ACCREDITED FARM

Paragraph IV(b) refers. For the purposes of this certificate, the term '*accredited farm under the continuous supervision of the veterinary authority of the United Kingdom*' means a farm that has been registered with the appropriate veterinary authorities (APHA or DAERA) as an animal holding and has been allocated a county parish

holding (CPH) number in Great Britain or Identification Number in Northern Ireland.

Registered farms are allocated a herd mark to identify pigs from that holding. Pigs moved from the holding to a slaughterhouse are marked with the herd number using a slap mark, which assists identification and traceability of carcasses after processing.

7. **CERTIFYING 28 DAY FREEDOM FROM REPORTABLE DISEASE ON ACCREDITED FARMS OF ORIGIN NOT LOCATED IN THE UK**

An example would be in the case of exported meat derived from pigs originating from accredited farms in the Republic of Ireland and slaughtered and processed in Northern Ireland.

Paragraph IV(b) refers. Certifying OVs must carry out checks to verify that the farm of origin of the slaughtered pigs is duly accredited by, and under the supervision of, the veterinary authority of the EU Member State of origin.

Paragraph IV(c) refers. OVs are required to certify the statement that *'no case of reportable infectious or contagious pig diseases have been diagnosed or confirmed at the farm(s) for the twenty eight (28) days prior to the shipment of the pigs for slaughter'*.

For the purposes of this certificate, the term *'reportable'* pig disease means a disease of pigs the occurrence of which must be notified to the veterinary authorities of the UK.

NOTE: certifying OVs should be aware that provision of the above information from farms not covered by UK national disease clearance procedures may not be straightforward. As a minimum, verification will require back tracing of product to farm(s) of origin and checks on Food Chain Information from farm to slaughterhouse. In addition, confirmation of 28 day freedom from reportable disease applies to all pigs resident on farm(s) of origin prior to the date of shipment to the slaughterhouse and not just those included in the FCI. OVs should therefore exercise caution before signing the certificate and must be able to defend the decision to do so if challenged.

8. **APPROVAL OF MEAT ESTABLISHMENTS FOR EXPORT TO MALAYSIA**

Paragraph IV(d) refers. All establishments manufacturing pork meat products to Malaysia must first obtain approval to export from the Malaysian Department of Veterinary Services.

The certifying OV must carry out the necessary checks on documentation to ensure that the exporting establishment is so approved before signing the export certificate.

OVs should note that the requirement for approval to export to Malaysia does not include cold stores.

9. **COMPLIANCE WITH HYGIENE REGULATIONS AND FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

Paragraphs IV(e), IV(f), IV(g) and IV(h) of 8563EHC may be certified on the basis of evidence that all establishments in the supply chain for the meat and/or meat product intended for export - slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store - are/were operating in accordance with UK/European Union food hygiene legislation.

The meat/product intended for export must bear the oval mark confirming compliance with the General Food Law Regulation (EC) 178/2002 together with Regulations (EC) Nos. 852/2004, 853/2004, 2017/625 and 2073/2005 (The EU Hygiene Regulations), as transposed into UK law.

The primary food legislation providing the framework for all food legislation in England, Wales and Scotland is The Food Safety Act 1990 (as amended) and, in Northern Ireland, The Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.

Enforcement of the General Food Law Regulation (EC) 178/2002 and implementation and enforcement of the EU Hygiene Regulations is provided through secondary legislation in England by The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) and parallel legislation in Wales and Scotland. In Northern Ireland it is provided by The Food Hygiene Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006. Food hygiene legislation is implemented and enforced by the Food Standards Agency (FSA)/Food Standards Scotland (FSS). Their Manuals for Official Controls detail the requirements.

10. **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 CSC at Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

or, in the case of export from Northern Ireland, from the DAERA Trade Administration Team for meat and dairy exports by e-mail at: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk or by telephone 028 77442 060.