

EXPORT OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM AQUACULTURE TO BRAZIL  
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING OFFICER - **8181EHC**

Associated Document: 8181EHC

1. **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Certifying Officers and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8181EHC. 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.

2. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE** - AQUACULTURE sourced

Export health certificate 8181EHC may be used for the export to Brazil of Fishery Products (includes unprocessed and whole or gutted fish) sourced from aquaculture establishments.

3. **CERTIFICATION BY A CERTIFYING OFFICER**

This certificate may be signed by a Food Competent Certifying Officer (FCCO) or an Official Veterinarian (OV)], designated by the APHA on behalf of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government. OVs must hold the Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) Products (OCQ(V)PX) authorisation.

In NI, a Veterinary Certifying Officer or FCCO, appointed or designated, respectively, by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland (DAERA) may issue this certificate.

COs should sign and stamp the health certificate with their personal official stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN** that in which the certificate is printed and using a permanent ink.

In GB, a copy (paper or electronic; must be legible) of the completed certificate and any supporting documentation, must be kept for the minimum required time (usually three years) and may be requested for audit and other purposes.

In NI, copies of certificates are stored on the official database (HPRM).

4. **COMPLETION OF PART A - DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT:**

**A.3 Competent Authority:** Enter "DEFRA". Where the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "DAERA" should be entered.

**A.4 Local Competent Authority:** Enter 'APHA' followed by the regional APHA office name (for OVs) or the LA name (for FCCOs) responsible for the exporting establishment. COs in NI can simply insert 'DAERA' a second time or the Local Authority in which they are employed.

**A.6 Country of origin:** Where the fish originate in a UK establishment, or if all the secondary processing takes place in the UK but the fish originate elsewhere (subject to the UK's import controls), state **United Kingdom**.

Where the fishery products originate outside the UK and are only stored in the UK, state the country of origin.

**Country of origin ISO code:** Enter the country of origin ISO code. The international ISO code for the UK is 'GB'. Information on ISO codes can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/iso-country-codes--2>

**A.7 Country of dispatch / Country of dispatch ISO code:**

This has been completed with "GB". (The international ISO code for the UK is 'GB')

**A.8 Country of destination:**

This has been correctly prepopulated as "Brazil"

**Country of destination ISO code:**

This has been pre-populated with the correct ISO code 'BR' for Brazil.

**A.9 Place of loading:** The place of loading or the port of embarkation should be entered.

**A.10 Means of transport:** The means of transport, i.e. airplane (flight number), Ship's name, must be indicated.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry and should check if a replacement certificate is required.

**A.11 Point of entry:** The exporter must evidence to the CO, a point of entry into the destination country, and this should be entered on the certificate.

**A.12 Conditions for transport/storage:** Indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled, or frozen.

**A.13 Identification of container(s)/Seal number(s):**

Where goods are shipped in an international shipping container, the container number must be entered. If and when the importing country or importer requires a seal on the container, the seal number should be added. Sealing and seal numbers must be witnessed by, or evidenced to the satisfaction of, the Certifying Officer.

The EHC may not be issued without these details having been completed by the Certifying Officer. If a seal number is not certified, there should be no space left where a seal number could be entered later.

**A.14 Identification of food products/manufacturer establishment:**

Following the UK exit from the EU, establishments must be approved in accordance with the Hygiene package, which includes Regulations EU 2017/625 (laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption), (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs and 853/2004, laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin. Following the end of the transition period, these regulations will be retained as UK legislation and continue to apply.

In England, the EU Hygiene package is implemented and enforced by the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as

amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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

**HS Code:** The HS assigns specific six-digit codes for varying classifications and commodities. The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics. Countries are allowed to add longer codes to the first six digits for further classification.

The Brazilian Customs System (NCM System) adds two digits to the International Harmonized System (HS). In order to export products into Brazil, goods must comply with its customs system by transposing HS codes into NCM code. NCM means "Nomenclatura Comum do Mercosul", an 8-digit code set up by the Brazilian Government to identify the nature of the goods.

It is unknown at the time of drafting these notes for guidance whether both codes must be entered, although if the code happens to be the same in both systems it stands to reason to enter it once only.

It is the exporter's responsibility to ensure that the HS and/or NCM code is correct 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>

**PURPOSE:** This has been prefilled with 'For Human Consumption'

**Description of the product:** The description of the product should be entered.

**Scientific name of species:** The scientific name of the species should be entered.

**Lot or production date:** The lot or production date should be entered.

**Type of packaging:** The type of packaging should be entered. The international reference system for packaging description should be used. <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:std:iso:21067:-1:ed-1:v1:en>

**Number of packages:** The number of packages should be entered.

**Net weight (Kg):** The total net weight in KG should be entered.

If the space on the certificate proves insufficient, a schedule may be added to the EHC, appropriately referenced, containing the details. The schedule may be in English only if the text is limited to the categories referenced.

**5. COMPLETION OF PART B - HEALTH INFORMATION:**

- I. a - b These paragraphs can be certified if the Certifying Officer has received supporting evidence that the fish were caught and handled on board vessels that are registered or officially approved by the local authority (excludes wellboats), that the fish were processed in establishments that are food approved establishments by the Local Authority and are therefore subject to official controls according to UK hygiene standards, in particular Regulations 852 and 853 of 2004.

Certifying Officers should have personal knowledge of the Official Controls program for the establishment, make their own checks and if not involved with the official controls program, regularly check and confirm with the LA that the establishment is still operating to the satisfaction of the LA.

- I. c-k - The Certifying Officer will be able to certify these paragraphs based on his/her personal knowledge, or based on written evidence received from the exporter, which must be kept on record together with a copy of the certificate.

**Additional Notes:**

- d. Local authorities are responsible for the classification of water from which Live Bivalve Molluscs and gastropods are harvested.  
h. this point is only relevant to fresh products shipped chilled and not frozen.

**II - ANIMAL HEALTH ATTESTATION:**

Points:

- 1: Aquaculture premises in the UK must be registered with the competent authority (Cefas in England and Wales; Marine Scotland in Scotland). When this is evidenced to the Certifying Officer, they can sign for the required surveillance requirement being in place.  
2-4: These points may be certified on the basis of UK legislation, specifically Dir 2006/88 and Reg 2151/2008, or legislation that supersedes these legal instruments. The UK is a member of the OIE and, as such, will notify the OIE and therefore Brazil, if there is a disease outbreak as required.  
5-6: Certifying Officers should verify the circumstances, as appropriate, to certify these requirements, specifically that no disease control measures have been imposed.  
7: Certifying Officers should verify that this requirement is taking place as part of the production process or otherwise.

**6. DISCLAIMER**

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily reflect fully, 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 APHA, Carlisle - the Centre for International Trade (CIT), via the link below:

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

