

EXPORT OF HORSES TO SINGAPORE**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER****IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 189EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 189EHC. Please note this EHC contains paragraphs numbered IV(i) and IV(o). 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

Export health certificate 189EHC may be used to accompany horses exported to Singapore, subject to the issuing of an import permit by the Singapore authorities. (See paragraph 3 below).

It is not permitted to export horses and other equines from Great Britain for slaughter. This applies to journeys from, and transit journeys through, Great Britain to destinations outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by 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 is an OV on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation. OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour OTHER THAN BLACK - each page should also be signed, dated and stamped, together with all associated documentation (e.g. laboratory reports, if applicable).

Under the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, it is an offence to export horses and other equines for slaughter, beginning in or transiting through Great Britain to a third country.

If the OV has suspicions that the consignment is being exported for slaughter in contravention of section 1 of the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, this should be reported as soon as possible to APHA by calling 03000 200 301. In your report, please detail the following:

- EHC and journey log reference number
- Location and address of inspection, including CPH number
- Name and address of transporter and journey organiser
- Transporter authorisation number
- Details of the animals in the consignment (number, species, age)
- The reason for your concern
- Any relevant additional information

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office, in GB the APHA Centre for International Trade, within seven days of issue.

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

3. **Import permit**

Permission to import equidae into Singapore must be obtained from the Singapore authorities before the shipment leaves the United Kingdom. The owner or agent must apply for an import licence at least 3 weeks before the proposed importation date. An import licence may be obtained using the AVA LicenceOne e-Licensing service. This can be found on the following website:

<https://licencel.business.gov.sg/AVA>

Step-by-step guidance on obtaining the import permit can be found at:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/docs/default-source/e-service/step-by-step-guide/import-export-transship-animals-birds-eggs-and-biologics-application>

More info can be found at:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/explore-by-sections/pets-and-animals/bringing-animals-into-singapore-exporting/animals>

Exporters are advised to compare the health conditions attached to the import permit with the health certificate 189EHC and to advise the local APHA office or equivalent if there are any discrepancies.

4. **Identification**

Paragraph I of the health certificate must be fully completed. The silhouette on page 2 of the 189CON should also be completed and the passport number inserted. The Official Veterinarian must verify the identity of all registered horses by reference to the passport. The Official Veterinarian must be satisfied that the horse is adequately identified at the time of inspection and each time that samples are taken for pre-export testing.

5. **Health examination**

The examination mentioned at paragraph IV. (r) must be carried out as near as possible to the intended date of export and not more than 24 hours prior to shipment.

6. **Disease clearance**

The certification contained in paragraphs IV.(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (g), (j), (k), and (l) if applicable, may be signed on behalf of DEFRA provided written authority from the issuing office has been received on form 618NDC. A case of EVA in April 2019 means that currently the testing option must be undertaken.

7. **Laboratory tests**

Paragraphs IV. (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i) refer. Blood samples for these laboratory tests should be sent to the APHA laboratory, Weybridge, allowing sufficient time for the tests to be completed and for results to be received before the proposed export date.

In case a seropositive EVA test result is obtained, Official Veterinarians are advised to take duplicate blood samples and to store one sample until the first EVA test result is received. If the protocol at paragraph IV. (h) is followed, a second sample should be

taken at least 14 days after the first sampling. The second sample together with the stored sample should be submitted for EVA serological tests with a request that the samples are run concurrently.

8. Contagious equine metritis

The tests for contagious equine metritis mentioned at paragraph IV.(f) must be carried out within 30 days of export. The 3 sets of swabs, consisting of 3 separate swabs in each set, must be taken at intervals of not less than 7 days and submitted to a DEFRA laboratory as follows:

APHA Penrith

Swabs should be taken from the following sites:

For mares: clitoral fossa and and a separate swab from each
 clitoral sinus;

For stallions: urethra, urethral fossa and penile sheath.

9. Owners declaration

Paragraphs IV. (m) (n) (o) and (q) refer. Owners declarations should be retained by the Official Veterinarian for record purposes. The Official Veterinarian should make due enquiries as necessary into the validity of the declarations. If the Official Veterinarian has any reason to doubt the validity of any declaration, the local APHA office should be consulted.

10. Exposure to infectious disease

Paragraphs IV.(n) and (o) refer. The Official Veterinarian should make due inquiry as to the disease status of the horse, its contacts and premises of residence during the previous three months, or six months for glanders. The Official Veterinarian may need to obtain supporting statements from veterinary surgeons responsible for other premises where the horse has been kept during this period.

11. Transport

The horses should be transported direct from UK to Singapore; landing at any intermediate airports must be approved beforehand by the Primary Production Department, Singapore.

12. Travel certificate

The exporter/agent must arrange for a declaration to be provided by the ship's captain or aircraft's pilot stating that:

(i) the horse was embarked or emplaned in the United Kingdom and has not been landed at any intermediate port (unless it is an approved port -Amsterdam, Bahrain, Basel, Berlin, Brussels, Copenhagen, Dubai, Dublin, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Luxembourg, Manchester, Paris, Taipei, Tokyo, Vienna and Zurich) during the voyage/flight to Singapore.

(ii) no horse from another country was carried in the ship/aircraft during the time that the horses to which this declaration refers were on board the ship/aircraft (unless prior approval obtained is from AVA);

(iii) no fodder from another country was carried in the ship/aircraft during the time that the horses to which this declaration refers were on board the ship/aircraft (unless prior approval obtained is from AVA);

(iv) the horse was transported in accordance with the latest

recommendations of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) International Animal Health Code and the International Air Transport Association's Live Animal regulations.

There is no standard format for such a certificate.

13. Quarantine restrictions

Upon arrival in Singapore the horses will be quarantined for a period of not less than 14 days. The owner or his agent is responsible for ensuring that quarantine space is available.

14. Welfare

Most horses and ponies exported from United Kingdom need certification to satisfy British export welfare legislation IN ADDITION TO the export health certification. Information about the necessary requirements and application forms may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Department at the following offices:

ENGLAND, SCOTLAND and WALES

Welfare in Transport Team, Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA),
Centre International Trade (CIT), Eden Bridge House, Lowther St,
Carlisle CA3 8DX Tel: 03000 200301 Fax 0208 0260 498
E-mail: CentralOps.carlisle@apha.gsi.gov.uk

NORTHERN IRELAND

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Animal
Welfare Section, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast,
BT4 3SB Tel: 028 9052 4580 Fax 028 9052 5012

15. 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 Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#specialist-service-centres-ssc>

