

**EXPORT OF HORSES FOR TEMPORARY ENTRY INTO CANADA - 7422NFG  
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the 7422EHC "Export of Horses for temporary entry into Canada". 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.

A valid import permit is required to accompany exports of horses for temporary entry from the UK into Canada. Exporters should seek advice from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regarding import permits.

[National Import Service Centre - Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
\(canada.ca\)](http://canada.ca)

**1. SCOPE**

The export health certificate should be used to accompany horses exported from the United Kingdom to Canada on a temporary basis. This includes horses for competition or racing (horses that are intended to participate in a specific short-term event only), Training\* and Stallions for non-competitive entertainment.

[Import policies for live animals - Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
\(canada.ca\)](http://canada.ca)

**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.

OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in a colour that must be different to the colour of the printing of the certificate

Instructions on certified copies, retention and returning of the same can be found in APHA Vet Gateway, please make sure you follow the latest government guidance.

[OV Instructions \(defra.gov.uk\)](http://defra.gov.uk)

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

**3. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE**

The text and layout of this certificate has been agreed between the United Kingdom and the CFIA to enable the export of horses for temporary entry from the UK to Canada.

Specific guidance on completing this certificate is provided via footnotes in the certificate itself and in these notes.

**4. COMPLETION OF PART I - DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT**

**I.2a - Certificate reference number**

This will be completed by the issuing APHA office or DAERA if exported from Northern Ireland.

**I.2b - Import permit number**

Please insert here the number if required, otherwise please strike through.

**I.3 - Central Competent Authority**

This is pre-populated with "Defra". When the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "DAERA" should be entered.

**I.4 Local competent authority**

This is pre-populated with "Animal and Plant Health Agency". Or "DAERA" if exported from NI.

**I.5 - Consignee**

Enter the details of the importer.

**I.6** - Enter related certificate and document numbers, if any. Otherwise, please strike through.

**I.7 and I.9 - Country ISO Codes**

ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the **United Kingdom** is "GBR" and this is pre-populated at **Box I.7**.

The ISO Code for **Canada** is "CAN" and should be entered at **Box I.9**.

**I.8** - Intentionally struck through.

**I.10** - Enter the region of destination.

**I.11 - Place of origin**

Enter the details of premises of dispatch.

**I.12** - Enter place of destination.

**I.13** - Enter place of loading.

**I.14 - Date and time of departure**

The date of departure must be entered in the format **dd/mm/yyyy**.

**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 **Identification Number(s)** should be completed with the name of the vessel and, if known, the flight number of the aircraft.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been

signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry.

I.16 - intentionally struck through.

I.17 - intentionally struck through.

I.18 - intentionally struck through.

I.19 - intentionally struck through.

I.20 - intentionally struck through.

I.21 - intentionally struck through.

**I.22 - Commodities certified for**

The relevant box should be ticked if the EHC is used for transit or export.

**I.23 - Identification of the commodities**

If the consignment consists of several different animals 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.23** of the certificate and this box must be annotated "See Attached Schedule".

Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the **Certificate reference number** and/or **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.23** should be struck through with diagonal lines.

**5. DISEASE CLEARANCE**

The notifiable disease freedom statements in paragraphs II.1.1, II.1.2, II.1.3, II.2, II.4 and II.5, and II.7 (in respect of Equine Infectious Anaemia - EIA - only) refer. Japanese encephalitis is considered to be notifiable as it is an equine encephalitis. **For residencies in the UK only**, these may be signed on behalf of the Department by an OV provided written authority from the APHA has been received on form 618NDC. The OV must make enquiries to check that the horse(s) comply with the other statements in these paragraphs regarding vaccination (eg examination of the passport) and (in paragraph II.7) regarding equine piroplasmiasis as this is not a notifiable disease.

In the case of horses which have been resident in another country during the periods in question, paragraphs II.2, II.4 and II.5 may be signed on the basis of EU legislation e.g. in the case of Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE - II.2 refers), EU legislation requires the third country of origin to be free of VEE for 2 years. If the horse has been in a country (eg Mexico) during the past 6 months but disease (eg VEE) was confirmed after it left the country, this paragraph may still be signed on the basis that when it left, the

horse complied with EU legislation; a risk assessment of all movements during the critical period is undertaken by the EU, and any 'hot' contacts are investigated. In respect of paragraph II.7, support certification is required to enable this paragraph to be certified in relation to equine infectious anaemia (EIA) and equine piroplasmiasis. (EIA continues to be confirmed in other MSs of the EU - see [http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-diseases/monitoring/poa/\(Defra's outbreak assessments and EU ADNS website for pointers on affected MSs \(http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/adns/adns\\_outbreaks\\_per\\_disease\\_en.pdf\)\)](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-diseases/monitoring/poa/(Defra's%20outbreak%20assessments%20and%20EU%20ADNS%20website%20for%20pointers%20on%20affected%20MSs%20(http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/adns/adns_outbreaks_per_disease_en.pdf)).)).

**6. IDENTIFICATION**

The identification details in Box I.23 need to be completed as explained in the Notes (Part I) at the bottom of the EHC. The system is the passport and microchip, and their numbers need to be recorded. The horse's passport must also accompany the 7422EHC and detailed in I.23. OV's must be satisfied that the horse is adequately identified each time that samples are taken for pre-export testing and at the time of the pre-export examination.

**7. RESIDENCY**

Paragraph II.3 refers. Horses must have been continuously resident in the UK for at least 60 days prior to entering the pre-export isolation premises or the commencement of testing where pre-export isolation is not required (see below). The 60 day residency requirement is in addition to the pre-export isolation period or time required to complete testing, as appropriate. OV's should receive a written declaration from the owner/representative of the owner stating each premises where the horse has been kept during this period. OV's should check the validity of the declaration by inspecting the passport or other available records.

**8. BLOOD TESTS**

Paragraph II.6, II.9, II.11 and Notes Part II (6) at the bottom of the EHC refer. Blood tests must be carried out during the pre-export isolation period or within the 30 days prior to export where pre-export isolation is not required. 5ml whole blood without additive is required for each test. Blood samples must be sent to the APHA laboratory in Weybridge (or for horses exported from NI to the VSD Belfast). The Coggins test for EIA is acceptable to Canada. A CFT for CEM is currently not available at the APHA, so on the rare occasion that this might be required, APHA Carlisle should be contacted to explore what other arrangements may be made.

**9. PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION**

Paragraph II.8 refers. In the case of horses going for competition or racing under the first option of paragraph II.10, Canada have specified that no officially approved pre-export isolation is required, and for these horses paragraph II.8 does not apply although the expectation is that horses being exported must not have any direct contact with horses of a lower health status during the time it takes to complete the testing requirements - structurally and operationally - see footnote (3) on page 4 of the certificate. For

example, the horse should be kept separate from other horses while not under human control i.e. in its own box or grazed in an isolated paddock, but could be exercised with other horses when under human control so that direct contact could be avoided.

In the case of horses going under the second and third options of paragraph II.10, official pre-export isolation (in a dedicated premises/facility) is required.

#### 10. CEM TESTING AND ISSUE OF IMPORT PERMIT

Paragraph II.10 and the Footnotes (Part II, especially 4) refer. A Canadian import permit must be obtained prior to export, and it must accompany the animal during transport. Details may be obtained on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) website at:

[National Import Service Centre - Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(canada.ca\)](http://canada.ca)

It is essential that all the instructions regarding the CEM test procedure as set out in the Notes (Part II) and in this NFG are followed precisely. The APHA Penrith laboratory, an OIE reference laboratory, is aware of the requirements in this certificate. OVs must not sign the export health certificate until an import permit has been issued by the Canadian Authorities.

#### 11. CEM TESTS APPLICABILITY

Paragraphs II.10, II.11 and II.12 as applicable refer. (Note also the instructions in paragraph on CEM testing of these Notes for Guidance).

- Horses going for a competition or racing under the first option at paragraph II.10.

No CEM testing is required regardless of age or sex.

- Thoroughbred horses over 731 days of age from France, Germany, UK or Republic of Ireland going for training and possible subsequent racing, under the second option at paragraph II.10

CEM testing is required, except for geldings, although geldings are best exported on the certificate for permanent exports - 7421EHC.

- Stallions over 731 days of age from certain specified countries going for non competitive exhibition or entertainment under the third option at paragraph II.10

CEM testing is required.

#### Procedures once applicability is determined

In the case of horses which do not require CEM testing the appropriate paragraphs must be deleted.

In the case of horses which do require CEM testing, the following procedures apply:

The horse must be swabbed for CEM testing within 30 days of the date of export, and must not undergo natural service, artificial insemination or semen collection from the time of sampling.

Swabs must be taken from the exact sites specified in the health certificate, and the laboratory submission form must use the same nomenclature. In the case of a mare swabbing sites are the clitoral fossa, the medial clitoral sinus, and both lateral clitoral sinuses. In the case of a stallion the sites are the prepuce, the urethral sinus, and the fossa glandis (including the diverticulum). The nomenclature used by the OV on the submission form will be copied exactly by APHA on the laboratory report form.

Moistened mini swabs should be used. A separate swab must be taken at each of the specified swabbing sites. It is not permissible to use one swab applied to several sites, except in the case of the lateral clitoral sinuses, when the swab MUST be placed into BOTH sinuses.

All swabs must be submitted to the APHA Laboratory in Penrith.

All swabs from an individual animal must be submitted to the same laboratory and must arrive at the laboratory within 48 hours of sampling. Swabs must be refrigerated (NOT frozen) with a cool pack included in the parcel. The maximum transmission time of 48 hours must be confirmed by reference to the laboratory report form so that the assurance at paragraph II.11, II.12 and Notes Part II (3) can be provided. The samples must be cultured for at least 7 days. If more than 10 swabs are to be submitted, prior notice should be given to the laboratory. A separate laboratory submission form must accompany each sample. **An official copy of the lab report showing the result of the test must be attached to certificate.**

If the horse is undergoing any form of antibiotic treatment swabbing for culture must not take place until a minimum of 7 days after the last administration of antibiotics.

**12. CLINICAL EXAMINATION**

Paragraph II.14 refers. OVs should carry out the final clinical examination and complete the export health certificate within 72 hours of export.

**13. ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION**

Paragraph II.15 relates to the following import condition.

"The horse(s) being presented for importation must not come into contact with any animals, products, or equipment of a lesser zoosanitary health status during the entire required periods of residency, isolation, transportation to the port of exportation, and loading onto the international transport

carrier. The carrier must be instructed to maintain this status throughout transport to the port of entry into Canada.”

This should be taken to mean that the health status of the horse has not been compromised by exposure (direct or indirect) to notifiable disease, and may be certified provided the horse is not subject to any restrictions imposed due to contact with notifiable disease nor the subject of any tracing enquiry due to such contact. OVs must make due enquiry to satisfy themselves that this is the case.

**14. TRANSPORT**

Paragraph II.14 refers. IATA Standards: The owner/exporter is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of transport meet the standards laid down by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). He/she should ask the transporting airline to confirm this, and if necessary provide a copy of the relevant conditions. Published copies of the IATA conditions can be purchased via the following link:

IATA Live Animals Regulations:

<https://www.iata.org/en/publications/store/live-animals-regulations/>

Route: Horses must be shipped directly from the United Kingdom to Canada unless written authorisation for routing via another country has been obtained from the CFIA.

**15. POST IMPORT CHECKS**

Each horse is subject to post-import checks, quarantine and restrictions on arrival in Canada as specified in the import permit issued by the CFIA.

**16. 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 Customer Service Centre in Carlisle, via the link below:

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