

EXPORT OF POULTRYMEAT TO NORTH MACEDONIA - 5863EHC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5863EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5863EHC. 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.

This certificate is for the export of fresh poultry meat to the Republic of North Macedonia. Fresh poultry meat is defined as the edible parts of farmed birds, including birds not considered as domestic but which are farmed as domestic animals such as farmed wild game-bird meat, though with the exception of ratites, which have not undergone any treatment other than cold treatment to ensure preservation. The conditions in the certificate are identical to the conditions in the EU model certificate in EU Regulation 798/2008 for the import of fresh poultry meat from Third Countries into the EU.

2. Official Signature

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and

supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: provision of certified copies

Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification On-Line (DECOL) produced EHCs must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the Department where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. **PART I: Details of despatched consignment**

Box 1.2. This number will be supplied and filled in by the issuing office of APHA/DAERA.

Box 1.3. DEFRA.

Box 1.4. APHA for Great Britain or DAERA for Northern Ireland.

Box 1.7. The ISO code for the whole of the United Kingdom is GB.

Box 1.8. Region of origin: give the county where the cutting plant or cold store of despatch is located. The ISO code is again GB.

Box 1.9. For country if destination write North Macedonia; ISO code MK.

Box 1.11. Give details of the final cutting plant or cold store.

Box 1.15. 'Documentary references' may be left blank.

Box 1.16. The OV/AVI must obtain the name of the proposed entry point from the Exporter.

Box 1.17. Write 'not applicable'.

Box 1.19. Insert the appropriate commodity code; 02.07., 02.08. or 05.04.

Box 1.25 Tick the box

Box 1.27 Tick the box

Box 1.28. For chicken meat the species name is '*Gallus gallus*'. For the abattoir, cutting plant and cold store it is not necessary to

provide the addresses, but only the approval numbers. Details can be contained on a separate schedule document if necessary, ensuring the document contains the corresponding certificate reference number and is signed, stamped and dated by the certifier. Use of a schedule should be indicated in I.28 of the EHC by writing 'see attached schedule'.

4. **PART II.**

4.1 **Section II.1 Conformity with EU Regulations**

Knowledge of Macedonian regulations may be overlooked, and the alternative of conformity with EU regulations can be relied upon. The specified EU regulations are all applicable to the production of fresh poultry meat within the EU, and in the UK under retained legislation. Therefore if the meat has been marked with the official oval health mark the entire section II.1 may be certified.

4.2. **Section II.2.1. and Section II.2.4. and Section II.2.6(a) Notifiable Disease Clearance**

In the line titled 'territory of code' the OV must write 'GB'. The line titled 'compartment' must be deleted.

The ISO code for the country of origin entered in Section II.2.1 will be applicable to the whole territory of the country of origin except any areas under restriction due to an outbreak of highly pathogenic Avian Influenza or Newcastle disease under the principle of Regionalisation/Zoning at the time of signature of the certificate or at the time of slaughter of the birds from which the meat was produced, as applicable.

To certify, the following criteria must be met:

II.2.1: At the time of slaughter, slaughterhouses must be in an area free of restrictions due to an HPAI/ND outbreak, therefore premises within 10km of an infected premises cannot be certified for at least 30 days following an outbreak. The requirement to be free "at the date of issue of the certificate" can be disregarded.

II.2.4: At the time of slaughter, the poultry holding must not have been under HPAI/ND restrictions in accordance with EC 798/2008 (the restrictions are 10km radius around an infected premises and last 90 days from the outbreak, extending the 30 days mentioned in the certificate)

II.2.6.(a): At the time of slaughter, meat from slaughterhouses within 10km of an infected premises cannot be certified for at least 30 days following an outbreak. This effectively repeats the requirement of II.2.1.

Freedom from highly pathogenic avian influenza and Newcastle disease, and absence of any animal health restrictions, may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the issuing office [in GB, APHA Centre for International Trade - Exports in Carlisle; or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland].

Note that the 'absence of any animal health restrictions' applies only to notifiable poultry disease; therefore only notifiable avian influenza and Newcastle disease.

For meat imported from outside the UK, the above paragraphs may be certified on the basis of the certificate used for import into the UK.

4.3. **Section II.2.2 Avian influenza Vaccination**

The vaccination of domestic poultry for avian influenza in the UK is forbidden under legislation, except with special dispensation at times of particular risk. The UK has never authorised approval of the use of AI vaccination in domestic poultry.

The OV must certify this paragraph on the basis of his/her personal knowledge of the premises of origin, supported by whatever written statements may be considered necessary from the owner and other veterinarians.

4.4. **Section II.2.3 Flock Residency**

In the line titled 'territory of code' the OV must write 'GB'. The line titled 'compartment' must be deleted.

The meat must have been derived from birds which were kept in the UK since hatching, or were imported to the UK as day old chicks in accordance with UK legislation. In the latter case they must have been accompanied by an import health certificate conforming to the model in EU Regulation 798/2008. If the OV has any doubts he/she should make enquiries and may ask for a written statement from the owner of the slaughtered poultry.

4.5. **Section II.2.5. and Section II.2.6(b) Slaughter Conditions**

The OV must certify these sections on the basis of his/her personal observations and any further enquiries that appear necessary. The presence of the official oval health mark may be taken as confirmation that the meat has not been slaughtered under any official disease control programme [sub-paragraph II.2.5(b)]

4.6. **Section II.2.7. Further Newcastle Disease Conditions**

This paragraph does not apply to exports from the United Kingdom. The OV should draw a single line across the paragraph and write 'not applicable'. The OV stamp and signature should be added.

5. **Section II.3. Welfare at Slaughter**

If the birds were slaughtered at an approved slaughterhouse within the UK and the meat bears the official oval health mark the OV may assume that the welfare provisions of the EU legislation have been met. The section may be certified on this basis.

6. **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, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk