

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8737EHC titled:
EXPORT TO BRUNEI OF FROZEN POLYCHAETE WORMS FOR ANIMAL

Associated Documents: 8737EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8737EHC. 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 may be used for the export of frozen polychaete worms to Brunei for the purposes of feeding to animals.

2. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian 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 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 any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or to DAERA, within seven days of issue.

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

3. **Paragraph IV - Health information**

The health information may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

(a) **Paragraph IV(a) - Specified pathogen free status**

Each consignment must be accompanied by a laboratory analysis report which must:

- accompany the consignment and certificate to Brunei;
- relate to tests carried out on samples taken from batches of the product present in the consignment;
- confirm satisfactory results with respect to the causative agents of the named diseases;

- include details of the laboratory's accreditation to demonstrate that it is appropriately approved;

The laboratory analysis report should not be signed, stamped or otherwise endorsed by the Official Veterinarian.

The exporter is responsible for confirming which test methods the Brunei authorities will acknowledge and verifying what they will consider as a satisfactory test result. The exporter is also responsible for verifying what form of laboratory accreditation or approval the Brunei authorities require.

(b) Paragraph IV(b) - Absence of antibiotics

The product may be considered to be free of antibiotics on the basis that antibiotics are not administered during the farming and preparation of the worms. This may be supported by a suitably worded declaration from the producer.

(c) Paragraph IV(c) - Compliance with HACCP norms

This may be certified on the basis of the OV's familiarity with the producer's Hazard and Critical Control Point plan.

(d) Paragraph IV(d) - No traces of porcine material

This requires that the products do not contain any detectable amounts of porcine material. This may be certified on the basis that no materials of porcine origin or products containing them were used during the farming and preparation of the worms.

However, the importing authorities may decide to test consignments for the presence of porcine material upon arrival. In which case, exporters may wish to carry out their own laboratory analysis to be confident of their product passing such import checks.

Exporters may therefore choose to carry out porcine-specific PCR tests. These tests may be carried out on samples taken as part of a risk-based routine monitoring programme, or taken from each processed batch, or taken from each consignment.

4. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

Where declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process and/or declared intended use. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

5. **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 (CIT) - Exports in Carlisle, via the link below:

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

In Northern Ireland, contact the DAERA trade administration team:
e-mail- tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk
Phone - 0289 0520989