

**EXPORT OF MARINE FISHERIES PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION TO SOUTH AFRICA**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

**Associated Documents:** 7385EHC

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7385EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7385EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 7385EHC may be used for the export of marine fisheries products for human consumption to South Africa.

For the purposes of this certificate, marine finfish (but **excluding** salmonids for which separate health standards should be obtained from the South African authorities), mollusks (e.g. mussels, oysters, clams, cockles, scallops, abalone, whelks, snails), crustaceans (e.g. crabs, lobsters, prawns, scampi, crayfish, shrimps), echinoderms (e.g. sea urchins, sea cucumbers) and tunicates, are included.

Salmonids mean fish in the genera *Oncorhynchus*, *Salmo* and *Salvelinus*.

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

This certificate may be signed by a Local Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government - Rural Directorate, Welsh Government, Department for Rural Affairs, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI), 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 AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

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

**3.** Paragraph (IV) and (V) can be signed on the basis of compliance with the EU food hygiene regulation. If necessary, the certifying OV must liaise with the Local Environmental Health Officer. The products can, therefore, be exported on the basis of compliance with EU Regulations Directives 91/942/EEC and 91/943/EEC have been repealed and replaced by Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, No 853/2004 and 854/2004.

4. **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 AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contact-us/tradeexports.html>