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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8703EHC titled:
VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR PROCESSED ANIMAL PROTEINS AND RENDERED FAT OF POULTRY ORIGIN INTENDED FOR EXPORT TO SOUTH AFRICA FROM UNITED KINGDOM FOR USE IN PETFOOD OR IN AQUATIC FEED

Associated Documents: 8703EHC and 618NDC

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 8703EHC.**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

This certificate may be used for the export of **processed animal proteins** (**PAP**) including feathermeal and blood meal, and/or **rendered fats** derived from **Category 3 poultry material of UK origin** and intended for feeding to pets and aquatic animals.

Note that **paragraph II 1** and **paragraph II 2** of the certificate require the PAP and rendered fats to have been made in a UK rendering establishment from materials obtained from animals slaughtered in the UK.

It may be possible to use this certificate for compound feeds containing PAP derived from poultry, but exporters are advised to confirm this with the importing authorities.

Note that **the export of PAP from the UK is controlled by elements of domestic legislation** in addition to the requirements imposed by the authorities in the importing country. **See paragraph 2** below.

For the purposes of this document, the following legislative references will be used:

- **retained Regulation (EC) 142/2011** refers to Regulation (EC) 142/2011 as published at https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2011/142#
- **retained Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** refers to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 as published at https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2009/1069#
- **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001** refers to Regulation (EC) 999/2001 as published at https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2001/999#

For the purposes of the certificate the following definitions laid down in the **retained Regulation (EC) 142/2011**, shall apply:

"**'processed animal protein'** means *animal protein derived entirely from Category 3 material, which have been treated in accordance with Section 1 of Chapter II of Annex X (including blood meal and fishmeal) so as to render them suitable for direct use as feed material or for any other use in feedingstuffs, including petfood, or for use in organic fertilisers or soil improvers;*

however, it does not include blood products, milk, milk-based products, milk-derived products, colostrum, colostrum products, centrifuge or separator sludge, gelatine, hydrolysed proteins and dicalcium phosphate, eggs and egg-products, including eggshells, tricalcium phosphate and collagen".

"**'rendered fats'** means either fats derived from the processing of:
(a) animal by-products; or
(b) products for human consumption, which an operator has destined for purposes other than human consumption;"

Similarly, the definition of **Category 3 material** from Article 10 of the **retained Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** shall also apply.

The principles and controls laid down under the **retained Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** and the **retained Regulation (EC) 142/2011** continue to be enforced and implemented by the **Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013** (as amended) and by equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters and certifying Official Veterinarians are reminded that:

- the **export of Category 1 material**, **Category 2 material** (and any product derived from those materials) from the UK to countries outside the EU **is prohibited** unless specific export rules have been laid down for the specific commodity concerned.
  Articles 8, 9, and 43(3) of the **retained Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** refer.

- the feeding of most animals or farmed fish with PAP derived from the same species, a practice referred to as intra-species recycling, is prohibited.
  Article 11 of the **retained Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** refers.

2. CONTROLS ON THE *EXPORT* OF PAP

The export of PAP from the UK is controlled by the **Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2018** (as amended) and by equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments continue to enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down in the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001.**

Controls on the export of PAP from the UK are laid down under **Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to the retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001.**

Note: Compliance with these TSE-related export controls is required regardless of the requirements of this certificate and independently of any other requirements the authorities in the importing country may have.

PAP derived from non-ruminant animals and compound feed containing it, may only be exported if:

EITHER

- it complies with the **standard conditions** set out under Point 3 of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001.**
  See **section A** below for more information.

OR

- it complies with one of the **derogations** provided for under Point 4 of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001.**
  See **section B** below for more information.

OV's and exporters are advised to familiarise themselves with the detail of the export controls referred to above, but for convenience the key principles of the requirements are outlined below:

Section A

STANDARD CONDITIONS for the export of non-ruminant PAP and compound feed containing it

Point 3 of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001** focuses on the complete segregation of ruminant and non-ruminant materials at each stage in the production of the PAP and of compound feeds containing the PAP, supported by regular sampling for the presence of ruminant proteins using a method set out under the **retained Regulation (EC) 152/2009** (as last amended 16th November 2020) to verify the absence of cross-contamination.

As a result, these conditions focus on robust segregation at:

- **slaughterhouses, cutting plants and other establishments supplying the starting animal material;**
- **rendering establishments;**
  and
- **compound feed establishments.**

The requirements for each of these establishments are outlined in Point (c) of Section D of Chapter IV of Annex IV of the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001.**

In addition, **Point 3** of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001** also sets out certain additional requirements regarding:

- **the packaging and labelling of compound feed containing non-ruminant PAP**
- **the storage of bulk non-ruminant PAP and bulk compound feeds containing non-ruminant PAP.**

The **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001** should be consulted for more details of these Standard Conditions.

Section B

DEROGATIONS from the Standard Conditions for the export of NON-RUMINANT PAP and compound feed containing it

Point 4 of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001** provides derogations from the requirements set out under **Section A** above.

For the purposes of this certificate, the Standard Conditions set out at **Section A** need not apply to:

- **fishmeal**, provided that it was produced in accordance with the requirements of **Annex IV** to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001;**

and

- **compound feed containing fishmeal** and no other processed animal protein, provided that it is produced in accordance with the requirements of **Annex IV** to the **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001;**

and

- **PAP derived from non-ruminants** and destined for the manufacture of petfood or of organic fertilisers and soil improvers in the destination country, provided that, before export, the exporter ensures that **each consignment of PAP is analysed in accordance with the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) method** set out under Point 2.2 of Annex VI to the **retained Regulation (EC) 152/2009** (as last amended 16th November 2020) to verify the absence of constituents of ruminant origin.

The **retained Regulation (EC) 999/2001** should be consulted for more details of these Derogations

The certifying OV is advised to keep records of the evidence used to determine compliance with either the Standard Conditions at **Section A** or the Derogations at **Section B** above.

If the OV has any concerns that the consignment does not comply with the above requirements, then the certificate should not be signed and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade (CIT) in Carlisle or DAERA should be consulted for advice.

3. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

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 should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any 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.

4. COMPLETION OF PART I – DETAILS OF DISPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

Box 1. – Veterinary Import Permit number
The number of the import permit issued by, for example, South Africa's Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, must be entered in the space provided.

Box 2. – Origin of the consignment (Address and approval number of the processing plant)
This relates to the **rendering establishment** responsible for processing Category 3 animal by-products to produce the PAP and/or rendered fat present in the consignment.

The rendering establishment must be approved in accordance with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments currently enforce and implement the

principles and controls laid down under **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** (as amended).

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the responsible local APHA or DAERA office. Note that if the rendering establishment consists of a number of separately approved production lines, the approval number entered must relate to the relevant production line.

In addition, the rendering establishment must also satisfy the relevant conditions described at **Section A** of **paragraph 2** above regarding the separation of ruminant and non-ruminant PAP (unless if one of the permitted Derogations at **Section B** is being used).

Box 3. – Certificate Number
A unique number will be pre-printed as part of the certificate issuing process.

Box 4. – Responsible Ministry
This should be completed with "**Defra**".

Box 5 – Certifying Department
This should be completed with either "**APHA**" or "**DAERA**" depending on whether the certificate was issued in Great Britain or Northern Ireland.

Box 8. – Country of Origin
ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

This should be completed with "**United Kingdom**" and "**GB**" because the consignment must have been made using meat of United Kingdom origin processed in a rendering establishment located in the United Kingdom.

Box 13. – Declared point of entry
The exporter must advise the OV of the point of entry into the destination country and this must be entered in the space provided.

Box 14. – Conditions for transport/storage
This must be completed to indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled or frozen. For chilled or frozen products, the target temperature should also be included.

Box 15. – Identification of container(s)/Seal Number
The relevant container or seal number may be entered here.

Box 16. – Identification of the Consignment
A brief veterinary description of the goods should be entered in preference to commercial branding or trade names.

If there is insufficient space, OVs should use a separate schedule to identify the full consignment. The schedule must, as a minimum, contain the same information as that required under **box 16** of the certificate, and **box 16** must be annotated "See Attached Schedule".

Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number from **box 3** 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 16** should be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. PART II – CERTIFICATION

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.

II.1 – Healthy animals born, reared and slaughtered in the UK

This may be certified on the basis that the raw animal materials were Category 3 materials obtained from approved UK slaughterhouses slaughtering animals for human consumption. This may be supported as necessary by examination of relevant documentation and production records.

II.2 – Plant approval and supervision

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the **rendering establishment** is approved in accordance with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as described above in relation to **Box 2** of the certificate.

II.3 – Suitable for feeding pet animals and aquatic animals

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the final products were produced in an approved rendering establishment using Category 3 material and that the product can be placed on the UK market for the manufacture of products intended for consumption by pet animals and aquatic animals.

II.4 – Notifiable Disease Freedom or heat treatments

This paragraph requires that the raw poultry material was:

Either

- obtained from an area of the UK which was not under veterinary restrictions due to highly pathogenic notifiable avian Influenza or Newcastle disease.

Or

- subjected to a specific heat treatment to ensure the destruction of the highly pathogenic notifiable avian Influenza and Newcastle disease viruses.

Paragraph II.4(a) – Notifiable Disease Freedom

If this option is to be certified, paragraph **II.4(b)** must be entirely struck through in the usual manner.

This may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle or DARD on form **618NDC.**

However, due to the seasonal outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the UK **it may not be possible for this paragraph to be signed.**

Therefore, **it is anticipated that the heat treatment option at paragraph II4(b) will be certified in most cases.**

Paragraph II.4(b) – Heat Treatment
If this option is to be certified, paragraph **II.4(a)** must be entirely struck through in the usual manner.

Each of the listed heat treatments is considered by the importing authority to be sufficient "to ensure the destruction of Highly Pathogenic Notifiable Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease viruses".

This paragraph should be completed to most accurately reflect how the raw animal material was processed during the manufacture of the final product.

One of the four options, (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) must be certified. In the case of option (ii), only one of the subparagraphs needs to be certified.

All of the options which are not to be certified must be struck through in their entirety in the usual manner.

II.5. – Microbiological standards
This requires the product, as exported, to be tested for the presence of Salmonella and Enterobacteriaceae in line with the same microbiological standards laid down under Annex X, Chapter I, of the **retained Regulation (EU) No 142/2011.**

However, note that **this paragraph still requires rendered fats to comply with these microbiological standards**, even if those rendered fats were obtained from the processing of animal by-products resulting in processed animal protein satisfying these microbiological standards.

II.6. and II.7 – Exclusion of ruminant or lagomorph origin material
The certifying Official Veterinarian must make due enquiry to verify that the product is not made using any material of ruminant or lagomorph origin, and that the product is made on an approved production line that does not process any material of ruminant or lagomorph origin.

Exporters should be aware that importing authorities are likely to test consignments for the presence of ruminant and lagomorph material. Therefore, **exporters must be confident that their consignment would be capable of passing these very sensitive tests.**

II.9 – Sealed under official supervision
This paragraph requires the consignment to be sealed under the supervision of the United Kingdom Veterinary Authority. This means that an appropriate uniquely-numbered tamper-evident seal/s must be applied in the direct presence of either the certifying OV or the Certification Support Officer (CSO), and the unique seal number/s entered in the space provided at Box 15 of the certificate.

6. 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.

7. 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