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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8569EHC titled:
EXPORT TO BRAZIL OF FISH FOOD CONTAINING INGREDIENTS OF MARINE ORIGIN (FISH AND SHELLFISH)

Associated Documents: 8569EHC.

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8569EHC. 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 export to Brazil of aquaculture feed containing ingredients of fish and shellfish origin and intended for feeding to aquatic animals which are not destined for the human food chain.

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.

**** IMPORTANT ****

Brazil does not allow manual strikethroughs or alterations to final certificates. OVs / FCCOs must cross out electronically any sections not applicable before printing EHCs for Brazil.

For exports from Great Britain, this functionality will be added to the certificates produced by EHC Online. The editable certificate must be downloaded from EHC Online and opened in Adobe Reader to ensure the correct sections of the certificate are properly struck through.

For exports from Northern Ireland, guidance is available on the DAERA website at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/apvp-notes-guidance>.

Consignments arriving in Brazil with an EHC containing manual strikethroughs or alterations may be detained or refused entry into Brazil.

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. Completion of the Certificate - Consignment information (Section 1 to 16)

Box 1: "Exporter" field: Enter the name and address of the exporter.

Box 2: "Certificate number" field: Enter the unique certificate number provide by the issuing office.

Box 3: "Name of Competent Authority" field: Prefilled (Defra).

Box 4: "Competent authority issuing the certificate" field: enter name of certification body, either APHA or DAERA as appropriate.

Box 5: "Importer" field: Enter the name and address of the importer

Box 6: "Country(ies) of origin" field: enter the name(s) and two-digit alpha-2 code(s) of the country(ies) of origin **of the raw material**. Alpha-2 codes are set out under ISO 3166 which can be viewed online at <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#search> .

Box 7: "Country of destination" field: Prefilled (Brazil and BR).

Box 8: "Country of manufacture/dispatch" field: Prefilled with United Kingdom as the country of dispatch. For products manufactured in the UK, this may be left as it is. For products produced, manufactured or packaged outside the UK, the name and two-digit alpha-2 code of the relevant country should be entered. Alpha-2 codes are set out under ISO 3166 which can be viewed online at <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#search> .

Box 9: "Transit country" field: enter name(s) and two-digit alpha-2 code(s) of the country through which the shipment will transit to reach its destination. Alpha-2 codes are set out under ISO 3166 which can be viewed online at <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#search> . **If not applicable, place "XXXX" in the box.**

Box 10: "Place and date of loading" field: enter place where the cargo was stored in the export container and the date of loading.

For cargo exported in aircraft and ships holds, the location and date of loading at the airport and / or port should be entered.

Box 11: "Means of transport" field: enter the export vehicle type (e.g. plane, train)

Box 12: "Declared point of entry": enter the name of the entry point in Brazil.

Box 13 "Conditions for transport/storage" field: enter the conditions (e.g. ambient, refrigerated, frozen) for the transport / storage of the product.

Box 14 "Identification of container(s)/ Seal(s) number(s)" field: enter the identification of the container and numerical sequence of the seal. For loose cargo, exported in the hold of a ship and aircraft, the name and / or number of the cargo must be mentioned, in addition to including the expression "loose cargo".

Box 15: "Certification requesting establishment (registration number and name)" field: describe the name and registration or approval number of the production establishment requiring health certification.

Establishments producing animal feedingstuffs in the UK must be approved or registered in accordance with the Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015 (as amended) or equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments continue to enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under Regulation (EC) 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene.

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the manufacturing establishment.

Section 16:

Box 16 should be left unfilled, as it is the title for the fields immediately below.

16.1 "NCM code or HS code" field: Enter the Mercosur Common Nomenclature - NCM or Harmonized System of the World Customs Organization - HS Code) for the exported product as accepted by the destination country. The NCM can be viewed in Spanish at <https://www.mercosur.int/politica-comercial/ncm/> .

Alternatively, the UK Integrated Online Tariff, which is also based on the HS Code, be viewed online at <https://www.trade-tariff.service.gov.uk/browse> .

16.2: "Purpose" Field - enter intended end use (fish feed).

16.3 "Name/Nature (type) of product (include animal species)" field: insert the product name as described on the label. Describe the scientific names of the species related to the mentioned product.

16.4 "Lot and Production date" field: enter specific date or a date range covering when products in the consignment were produced, and lot number details, if applicable.

16.5 "Approval number of the final manufacturing establishment": Registration number of the establishment manufacturing the final product (see above re box 15).

16.6 "Type of Packaging" field: Enter the type of packaging

16.7 "Number of Packages" field: Enter the number of packages

16.8 "Quantity of product (net weight - kg)": enter product weight, in kilograms, discounting the weight of the packaging.

4. Completion of Certificate - Health Information (Section 17)

Section 17 may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OV's 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.

17. I: Official government supervision and approval to export

For UK-based establishments, this may be certified on the basis that the slaughterhouse or fish processing establishment is approved in accordance with the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments continue to enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under the retained EU Hygiene package which includes retained Regulations (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs, 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin and 854/2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption.

The UK establishment's approved or registered status may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document, or by reference to the enforcement authority (APHA, DAERA or Local Authority) responsible for the establishment.

For imported products, this may be certified on the basis of official or commercial supporting statements regarding the approval status of the slaughterhouse or fish processing establishments involved.

17. II and III: Absence of ruminant proteins

The certifying OV must make due inquiry to verify that the manufacturing establishment identified at paragraph II(a) does not use any prohibited ruminant proteins in the manufacture of its products, including those products present in the consignment. The footnote explains that, for the purposes of this certificate, the following proteinaceous materials are NOT considered to be 'ruminant protein':

- milk and dairy products;
- deproteinated tallow (with insoluble impurities corresponding, at most, to 0.15% by weight) and products derived therefrom;
- calcined bone meal (without protein or fat);
- hides and skins;
- gelatine and collagen processed in accordance with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

17.IV: Processing parameters

If there is insufficient space to enter all the necessary information, **additional schedules or supporting documentation should be used**. These should **cross-refer** appropriately, be **securely attached** to the certificate and **fan-stamped**.

Exporters are advised to verify that the processing parameters used are acceptable to the importing authorities prior to export.

17.V: Sealing of the products

For the purposes of this paragraph, the reference to being sealed relates to the secure closing of the individual bags or tubs of product during manufacture, as opposed to the official sealing of the consignment referred to in 17: VI.

17.VI: Sealing of the consignment and preparations for direct transport

This paragraph requires the consignment to be sealed under the supervision of the official veterinary service. This means that appropriate uniquely-numbered tamper-evident seals must be applied in the direct presence of either the certifying OV or the Certification Support Officer (CSO), and the unique seal numbers entered in the space provided at paragraph 14 of the certificate.

If the consignment is palletised for loading into a shipping container which will be sealed elsewhere, then the pallets must be sealed to ensure that no product could be added or removed unnoticed and appropriately designed uniquely-numbered tamper-evident seals applied, for example, to the cross strapping to ensure the consignment's integrity.

This paragraph also requires that the consignment is "prepared for direct transportation to the place of dispatch". For the purposes of this certificate, this may be certified on the basis that the necessary physical and logistical arrangements have been made to prepare the consignment for loading and delivery to the port of exit from the UK in its sealed state.

17. VII: Intending for feeding to aquatic companion animals not intended for human consumption

The certifying OV should make due inquiry to confirm that the exported products are intended for feeding to aquatic companion animals which are not intended for human consumption.

For the purposes of this certificate, the reference to aquatic companion animals means those aquatic animals which are not intended to enter the human food chain.

This may be supported by the usage instructions, data sheets and marketing information relating to the products in the consignment.

5. 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.

6. **DISCLAIMER**

This certificate and these notes are 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) - Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#customer-service-centres-csc>

In Northern Ireland, please contact the DAERA trade administration team:

- e-mail - tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk
- Phone - 02877442146