

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8787EHC titled:
EXPORT OF PETFOOD TO MAURITIUS

Associated Documents: 8787EHC

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 8787EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 8787EHC may be used for the export of petfood to Mauritius.

The relevant import permit number must be entered into the appropriate space on the first page of the certificate.

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.

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 II(b) - Approval Number**

Establishments handling unprocessed animal by-products or manufacturing products derived from unprocessed animal by-products 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 the **retained Regulation (EC) 1069/2009**.

Alternatively, establishments producing pet food or animal feedingstuffs from processed ingredients of animal origin require approval in accordance with the **Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015** (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 the **retained Regulation (EC) 183/2005** laying down requirements for feed hygiene.

The appropriate approval or registration number should be entered into this section. If the establishment is in possession of approval/registration under both of the abovementioned statutory instruments, then the number entered should reflect the number which is used on product labels or on other paperwork associated with the export.

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the responsible local APHA or DAERA office.

For products manufactured in processing plants outside of the UK, the approval number issued by the relevant competent authority of the country of manufacture should be entered. The OV should refer to relevant approval documentation, commercial documentation or veterinary certification relating to the legal importation of the product or its ingredients into the UK.

4. **Paragraph IV - CERTIFICATION**

Taking into consideration the additional guidance below, the health information may be certified on the basis of the OV's familiarity with the sourcing, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment and/or examination of relevant records and documentation including applicable laboratory test results.

- (a) **Paragraph IV 1 refers.** The raw (unprocessed) animal materials used in the manufacture of the pet food may be considered to be "*low risk material*" if they were Category 3 materials referred to in Article 10(a) to (m) of the **retained Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009**. In England, this Regulation continues to be enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The certifying OV must **also** ensure that the Category 3 material used was obtained from healthy slaughtered animals whose meat was passed as eligible for the human food chain.

- (b) **Paragraph IV 3(a) refers.** This relates to animal materials obtained from slaughtered animals, as referred to in paragraph (a) above.

- (c) **Paragraph IV 3(d) refers.** For the purposes of this paragraph, "satisfactory" means compliance with the following standards:

Salmonellae: absence in 25g, n=5, c=0, m=0, M=0
Enterobacteriaceae: n=5, c=2, m=10, M=3x10² in 1g;

Where:

- n** = number of units comprising the sample;
- m** = threshold value for the number of bacteria; the result is satisfactory if the number of bacteria in all the sample units does not exceed **m**;
- M** = maximum value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered unsatisfactory if the number of bacteria in one or more sample units is **M** or more;
- c** = number of sample units the bacterial count of which may be between **m** and **M**, the sample still being considered acceptable if the bacterial count of the other sample units is **m** or less.

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 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