

EXPORT OF CAPTIVE-BRED BIRDS OTHER THAN POULTRY TO SOUTH AFRICA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to the Official Veterinarian (OV) and the exporter. The NFG should have been issued to you together with its related export health certificate. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the health certificate. 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 800EHC may be used for the export of captive-bred birds, including pet birds, other than poultry to South Africa.

2. **Official Signature**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), The Scottish Government, The Welsh Government, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), who is an 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 APHA - Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

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

3. **Import Permit**

Exporters are responsible for ascertaining whether an import permit is a compulsory requirement in the importing country, and if so, for ensuring that the importer has obtained the necessary permit. The import permit number should be entered in the appropriate section of the 800EHC.

4. **Notifiable Diseases**

Paragraph IV a) refers. This can be certified as Equine viral encephalomyelitis is notifiable in the UK.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV. b), c) and d) iv) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by (in GB, APHA)- Exports, Carlisle) or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland within 10 days before shipment.

Avian disease on individual premises:

Paragraph c): This can be certified if the residence of the birds prior to pre-export isolation has not had any confirmed outbreak of HPAI on the premises, or if a confirmed outbreak at least 90 days has elapsed following the completion of final cleansing and disinfection on the premises.

Paragraph d) iv): This can be certified if the pre-export isolation premises have had no cases of LPAI confirmed in the 6 months prior to export and no cases of HPAI or ND confirmed in the 3 months prior to export.

Avian disease zonal restrictions:

Paragraph d) iv): the premises being free from veterinary restrictions in this context means not subject to restrictions put in place for the control of an outbreak of avian diseases (excluding any Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) in place). Restrictions apply to a zone around an infected premises until that zone is lifted.

6. **Pre-export isolation & Veterinary supervision**

Paragraphs IV) d) ii), iii), v) and vi) refer.

Parts v) and vi): The birds for export must be kept in a pre-export isolation premises for at least the last 28 days prior to export or since hatching. The birds must be individually identified at the onset of isolation.

Part ii): To certify these requirements, the OV must inspect and approve the premises prior to the entry of the birds in order to confirm that they are suitable for isolation. The OV must use his/her discretion to apply the normally accepted principles of biosecurity: Access by people must be restricted to authorised visitors only.

Part iii): The OV must personally verify the date of entry into the approved isolation facility, and must be satisfied that the bird(s) will remain in these conditions continuously during the isolation period. There must be no contact with any other birds, and none of the people visiting the birds in isolation may have contact with any other birds throughout the isolation period. During isolation the OV may make additional visits at his/her discretion if these are considered necessary in order to confirm the continuity of isolation.

Note that at least two visits will be necessary during the isolation period in order to collect the samples described in paragraph vii).

Part v): In a case of captive birds, they can be exported from the captive birds' establishment and quarantined there under OV supervision. The all-in, all-out principle should be applied in the isolation quarters. The first part of v) ("EITHER") should be certified.

In a case of pet birds, isolation may be allowed to take place within the owner/exporter's home provided that the OV is satisfied that the conditions provide suitable biosecurity. A "dedicated bird establishment" can be taken to mean the premises of residence of the bird, provided there are no poultry on the premises. The second part of v) ("OR") should be certified.

7. **Avian Influenza and Newcastle disease Tests**

Paragraph (d) vii) refers.

Sampling must be carried out during pre-export isolation to test for avian influenza and Newcastle disease. Sampling should be carried out according to the protocols shown on page 4 of the 800EHC, as repeated below. The samples must be tested at the avian virology laboratory, VLA Weybridge, and it is strongly recommended to consult the laboratory well in advance for advice about taking and handling the samples. It is particularly necessary to ensure that samples are taken early enough for the result to be available in advance of the export date. A copy of the test results should be attached to the 800EHC and summary details should be added in paragraph f).

Notes on testing

Avian Influenza

Following individual identification, samples must be collected for testing for Avian Influenza virus, with negative results on agent identification by means of both tracheal/oropharyngeal and cloacal swabs taken from live birds subjected to Real time PCR -matrix (M) gene test done according to the WOAH manual of standards for diagnostic Tests and Vaccines Chapter 3.3.4.

In the case of waterfowl, all birds to be exported must be tested individually. In the case of birds other than waterfowl, the following table should be used to determine the number of birds to be tested per epidemiological unit. Samples may be pooled up to a maximum of 5 samples per pool.

Number of birds	Number of birds to be sampled
≤59	All
>/=60	60

Newcastle Disease virus

Notes on testing for Newcastle disease virus- Avian Paramyxovirus type 1 (APMV-1) (genus Orthoavulavirus)

Following individual identification, samples must be collected for testing for Newcastle disease virus, with negative results on agent identification by means of both tracheal/oropharyngeal and cloacal swabs taken from live birds subjected to real time- PCR done according to the WOAH Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines chapter 3.3.14

In the case of waterfowl, all birds to be exported must be tested individually. In the case of birds other than waterfowl, the following table should be used to determine the number of birds to be tested per epidemiological unit. Samples may be pooled up to a maximum of 5 samples per pool.

Number of birds	Number of birds to be sampled
≤59	All
>/=60	60

Additional notes for both Avian Influenza and Newcastle disease testing

- All tests must be done at a government approved laboratory under official supervision and all test results must be attached.
- If any birds test positive, the Director of Animal Health for South Africa must be notified. The birds will have to undergo a further quarantine period of 28 days then be retested.
- In case of small birds, human paediatric swabs can be used. Only thin wire or plastic shafted swabs may be used (no wooden shafted swabs)

8. Clinical Examination

Paragraph IV) d) ix) refers. The examination should be conducted within 48 hours of the intended time of export.

9. **Vaccination History**

Paragraph IV d) viii) refers. If the veterinarian responsible for the premises of origin cannot certify this statement on the basis of his/her personal knowledge he/she should obtain a written declaration from the flock owner/manager.

10. **Test & Treatment of Psittacines**

Paragraph d) x) refers. The relevant option should be chosen and the other deleted. For birds other than psittacines the entire paragraph should be deleted.

(i): The samples as stated must be tested at the avian virology laboratory, VLA Weybridge. If the testing option is used, a copy of the test results should be attached to the 800EHC and summary details should be added in paragraph f).

(ii): Treatment is intended to eliminate infection with psittacosis (*Chlamydophila psittaci*). Doxycycline is the preferred antibiotic because it appears to be palatable to birds.

11. **Owner's Declarations**

Paragraphs IV) d) i), d) viii) and e) refer. The OV must obtain these declarations in writing from the owner/exporter. The written declarations must not be attached to the certificate, but should be retained by the OV for record purposes.

12. **Disclaimer**

This certificate is provided based on 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 Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>

13. **Welfare of Animals**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852