

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA – 7241EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7241EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7241EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities of the Republic of Macedonia, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 7241EHC may be used for the export of breeding pigs from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Macedonia (RM) .

It is not permitted to export pigs or wild boar from Great Britain for fattening or slaughter. This applies to journeys from, and transit journeys through, Great Britain to destinations outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Prior to making arrangements to export breeding pigs to the RM, exporters are advised to contact the Veterinary Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy of the RM for up to date information on requirements for any import documentation.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

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 must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Under the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, it is an offence to export pigs or wild boar for slaughter and fattening, beginning in or transiting through Great Britain to a third country.

If the OV has suspicions that the consignment is being exported for fattening or slaughter in contravention of section 1 of the Animal Welfare (Livestock

Exports) Act 2024, this should be reported as soon as possible to APHA by calling 03000 200 301. In your report, please detail the following:

EHC and journey log reference number
Location and address of inspection, including CPH number
Name and address of transporter and journey organiser
Transporter authorisation number
Details of the animals in the consignment (number, species, age)
The reason for your concern
Any relevant additional information

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

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates 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. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

In accordance with the requirements of the Veterinary Authorities of the RM, the layout and numbering of certificate 7241EHC follow the template of Intra-Trade Animal Health Certificates (ITAHCs) produced by the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES).

5. COMPLETION OF PART I - DETAILS OF DISPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.4. - Local Competent Authority

The certifying Official Veterinarian should enter the name of the local office of APHA or DAERA in whose administrative area the premises from where the pigs to be exported is located.

I.7. - Country ISO Codes

ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the United Kingdom is 'GB' and this should be entered at Box I.7. Box I.8 should be marked N/A (not applicable).

The ISO Code for Macedonia is 'MK' and should be entered at Box I.9. The certifying Official Veterinarian should make enquiries to verify the destination Macedonian Regional Code, which should be entered in Box I.10.

I.11. - Approval Number

Official Veterinarians should enter the County/Parish/Holding (CPH)

number in addition to the address of the premises of origin.

I.15. - Identification

The registration number of transport vehicles, flight number or name of the vessel must to be provided. In case of unloading and reloading, the consignor must inform the BIP of entry into the RM.

I.16. - Border Inspection Post (BIP) of Entry into the RM

The BIP of entry must be shown on the journey plan and is entered at Box I.16.

I.19. - Commodity (HS) Code

The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system in which articles are grouped into various categories. It is used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics. The HS Code for purebred breeding pigs is '0103.10.0000' and should be entered in Box I.19.

I.28. - Official Identification

All pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2007. Animals intended for export from the United Kingdom must be marked with an identification mark. The identification mark, usually in the form of an approved tamperproof ear tag, must include the letters 'UK', followed by the officially authorised herd mark and a unique identification number allotted to the pig by the keeper (e.g. UK AB1234 0001).

Official Veterinarians must be satisfied that each animal is individually identified in accordance with the schedule to the health certificate. The Official Veterinarian may wish to read the identification marks personally, or they may be read by a responsible person in the employment of the veterinary practice and under the direction of the certifying veterinarian. The terms "direction" and "supervision" are defined in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

I.28. - Schedules

A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. The schedule must contain the same information as that required in Box I.28 of the certificate and this box must be annotated "See Attached Schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number 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 I.28 should be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. ORIGIN, RESIDENCY AND OTHER SUPPORT STATEMENTS

Paragraphs II.1.1, II.2.2 and II.2.3 refer. The certifying Official Veterinarian should check farm movement and other records to verify that the animals have been born and reared in the United Kingdom and meet the conditions specified in these paragraphs.

The Official Veterinarian may also wish the owner/exporter/agent of the exporter to provide the signed statements at **Annex 1** to these

notes as additional verification of origin and residency.

7. **PROHIBITION ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES**

Paragraph II.1.2 refers. This paragraph may be signed on the basis of the provisions laid down in the Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 1997 (as amended) (S.I. 1997/1729) and parallel legislation in the devolved administrations.

This statutory instrument implements Council Directive 96/22/EC, concerning the prohibition on the use in stockfarming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and of beta-agonists. This legislation prohibits the administration the substances listed in paragraph II.1.2 to any animal, unless it is in the form of a licenced veterinary medicinal product given by a veterinary surgeon in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Official Veterinarians should also rely on their own personal knowledge of the nature and usage of therapeutic agents on the farm of origin.

Any doubt about the usage of this category of therapeutic substances should be discussed with APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or DAERA in advance of the export.

8. **OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCES**

Paragraphs II.2.1(a)(i), II.2.1(b)(i), II.2.4.A, II.2.5 and II.4.1 may be certified on behalf of the Department on the basis of a valid written authorisation issued by the APHA or DAERA on Form 618NDC.

Official Veterinarians must also delete paragraphs II.2.1(a)(ii), II.2.1(a)(iii), II.2.1(b)(ii), II.4.2 and II.4.3 (a), (b) and (c).

9. **VACCINATION OF PIGS AGAINST NOTIFIABLE DISEASES**

Paragraph II.2.1(c)(i) may be certified on the basis that vaccination of pigs against the diseases listed in paragraph II.2.1 of the certificate and importation of pigs that have been vaccinated against these diseases is not permitted in the United Kingdom.

OVs must also delete paragraphs II.2.1(c)(ii) and II.2.1(c)(iii) on the basis that importation of pigs that have been vaccinated against classical swine fever is not permitted in the United Kingdom.

10. **PRE-EXPORT TESTING OF ANIMALS**

Paragraphs II.2.4.B and II.2.4.C refer. In the case of export of breeding pigs from the UK, the veterinary authorities of the RM have agreed that pre-export testing for swine vesicular disease, classical swine fever and swine brucellosis caused by *B. suis* is not required.

OVs may therefore delete paragraphs II.2.4.B and II.2.4.C of the certificate.

Exporters are advised that serological testing for Aujeszky's disease, classical swine fever and brucellosis caused by *B. suis* will be carried out on the exported animals during post import quarantine on arrival in the RM.

11. **TRANSPORT TO AIRPORT / PORT OF SHIPMENT**

Paragraphs II.2.6, II.2.7, II.2.9 and II.3. refer. In order to certify these paragraphs, the certifying OV should obtain written declarations from the owner / exporter / agent of the exporter stating that these conditions will be complied with.

Annex 1 to these notes lists the required declarations, which should be signed and dated by the owner or owner's representative and retained by the OV.

In addition, appropriate checks should also be carried out verify that the owners declarations are accurate and true.

12. WELFARE

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team
Centre for International Trade
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street, Carlisle
CA3 8DX
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

13. 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

Annex 1

EXPORT OF PIGS TO THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

DECLARATIONS TO BE MADE BY THE OWNER / AGENT OF THE OWNER / EXPORTER OF THE ANIMALS TO BE EXPORTED

Health Certificate Number

1. I, (name in block capitals)
of

..... (address)

am the *owner / *agent of the owner / *exporter of the breeding pigs to be
exported to the Republic of Macedonia accompanied by an export health
certificate the number of which appears above.

2. I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the
following statements are correct and true with regard to the above
consignment;

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
II.1.1	The animals come from holdings which have been free from any official prohibition on health grounds, for the past 42 days in the case of brucellosis, for the past 30 days in the case of anthrax and for the past six months in the case of rabies, and, have not been in contact with animals from holdings which did not satisfy these conditions.	
II.2.2.	The animals have remained in the United Kingdom since birth, or for at least the last six months before dispatch to the Republic of Macedonia and without contact with imported cloven-hoofed animals for the last 30 days.	
II.2.3.	The animals have remained in the holding(s) described under point I.11 of the certificate since birth, or for at least 40 days prior to dispatch, and, during this period, in the holding(s) and in an area with a 10 km radius around the holding(s) of origin, there has been no case/outbreak of the diseases referred to in paragraph II.2.1 of the above mentioned certificate.	

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EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
II.2.6	The following arrangements have been made regarding the transportation of the animals from the premises of origin to the airport/port of shipment;	
II.2.6(a)	(i) they will dispatched from their holding(s) of origin, without passing through any market, directly to the Republic of Macedonia;	
II.2.6(b)	(ii) they will be transported without coming into contact with other cloven-hoofed animals not complying with at least the same health requirements as described in the above mentioned health certificate;	
	(iii) until dispatched to the Republic of Macedonia, they	

II.2.9	will not be kept at any place where, or around which within a 10 km radius, during the previous 40 days there has been a case/outbreak of any of the diseases mentioned under II.2.1. of the above mentioned health certificate;	
II.3	(iv) any transport vehicles or containers into which they are loaded will be cleaned and disinfected before loading with an officially authorised disinfectant and so constructed so that faeces, urine, litter or fodder could not flow or fall out of the vehicle or container during transportation; (v) they will be treated before and at the time of loading in accordance with the relevant provisions of Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005, in particular as regards watering and feeding.	

Signature

Date