

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO TAIWAN - 202EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

Important

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 202EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but should be read in conjunction with certificate 202EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 202EHC may be used for the export of domestic breeding pigs from the United Kingdom to Taiwan.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Exporters are advised to contact the Taiwan authorities for advice regarding any import permits that may be required for the export of domestic breeding pigs from the UK to Taiwan.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN - SIGNATURE AND COMPLETION OF CERTIFICATE

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. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Section I refers. In Great Britain, all pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (England) Order 2011 and parallel legislation in the devolved administrations of Wales and Scotland. In Northern Ireland, all pigs must be identified in accordance The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012.

Animals intended for export from the United Kingdom must be marked with an identification mark. The identification mark 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).

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

5. SCHEDULES

Section I refers. If needed, a separate schedule may be used to include and identify all animals certified. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in the table at Section I. Should additional papers be needed to include all animals, Section I of the certificate 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 must '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 Section I must be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCES

OVs may certify paragraphs IV(a) and IV(b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

7. PREMISES FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES

Paragraph IV(c) refers. OVs should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin (and isolation premises if different), if necessary with the support of an owner's declaration confirming freedom from certain diseases for the specified periods.

OVs should also carry out appropriate checks of the farm records including use of medicines, fertility and birth records to verify freedom from the named diseases. If necessary this statement can be supported with a veterinary declaration from the supervising farm veterinarian.

8. COUNTRY FREEDOM FROM OTHER NOTIFIABLE AND NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Paragraph IV(e) refers. Taiwan import conditions specify certain time periods of freedom in the United Kingdom from the diseases referred to in this paragraph.

The World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) Interface of the WOA website indicates the last occurrence of these diseases in the United Kingdom as follows:

- Foot and mouth disease - last occurred in 2007
- African swine fever - never occurred
- Brucellosis (*B abortus* - last occurred in 2012 in NI
- Swine vesicular disease - last occurred in 1982
- Aujeszky's Disease - last occurred in 1989
- Vesicular stomatitis - never occurred
- Transmissible Gastroenteritis - last occurred in 1999
- Porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED) - not recorded in England since 2015, not recorded in Scotland since 2016.

NB: OVs are specifically requested to consult with APHA if any export clearance for PED is needed for England or Scotland

Paragraph IV(e) may be certified on this basis. OVs may wish to check the WOA website to verify these statements via the following link: <https://wahis.woah.org/#/home>

OVs may also wish to check the following links to confirm current UK disease status with regard to these diseases:

For Non-Notifiable Diseases

[UK Status for Non-Notifiable Disease Relevant to Export Certification \(defra.gov.uk\)](http://defra.gov.uk)

The Latest Situation for Notifiable Disease

[http://apha.defra.gov.uk/External OV Instructions/Export Instructions /Updates/index.htm](http://apha.defra.gov.uk/External_OV_Instructions/Export_Instructions/Updates/index.htm)

The certifying veterinarian may also wish to contact the APHA CIT in Carlisle for the latest situation regarding any of these diseases in the UK prior to signing the certificate.

9. APPROVED QUARANTINE PREMISES

Paragraph IV(f) refers. The pigs must be held in approved isolation premises for a minimum period of 14 days immediately preceding export and must be transported only with animals of equal health status. The following conditions must be met by the isolation premises before approval is given by the Official Veterinarian. The Official Veterinarian must consult APHA at Carlisle or DAERA in case of any problems:

- The isolation accommodation must comprise of an airspace separate from any airspace in which any other livestock are present and be as remote as practicable from any other livestock accommodation.
- The interior of the isolation building must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using a Defra / DAERA approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.
- No drainage or effluent produced by or derived from other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.
- Any person who requires to enter the isolation accommodation must first put on overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation.
- A footbath containing an approved disinfectant, diluted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, must be located at the entrance to the isolation premises. Any person entering must first wash and disinfect their footwear.

10. TESTING/TREATMENTS IN APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES

The tests described at paragraphs IV(f) (i) and IV(f) (ii) must not be carried out until the animals have commenced the period of pre-export isolation.

The Taiwan import conditions specify a minimum period of 14 days pre-export isolation. This may not be considered appropriate time during which to carry out all the pre-export tests and to obtain the results in good time to meet the date of export. Exporters should

note that 14 days is a minimum requirement and they may wish to extend this period so that tests can be completed and all the results obtained without causing unnecessary concerns in meeting export deadlines.

Senecavirus testing

Paragraph IV(f) (ii) refers. Outbreaks of Seneca Valley virus, also known as Senecavirus A (Senecavirus), has been confirmed in the United Kingdom.

Accordingly, OVs should delete the first sub-paragraph and submit blood samples for testing for Senecavirus by PCR to The Pirbright Institute (see paragraph 11 below)

11. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

The certifying veterinarian must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing the pigs is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 357335).

Samples for testing for Senecavirus by PCR must be sent to The Pirbright Institute, Ash Rd, Pirbright, Woking, GU24 0NF. (Tel: 01483 232441)

Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) Stormont Veterinary Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (Tel: 028 9052 5791 (General Enquiries)).

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the AVS/OV is advised to check with the APHA, AFBI or The Pirbright Institute to determine the correct laboratories to which samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported.

If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, packaging and dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

Date of Testing

Taiwan import conditions specify that the date(s) of sampling and the actual date(s) on which the tests were run must be entered on the certificate, together with the name of the Government laboratory carrying out the tests. OVs submitting samples to laboratories must request this additional information from the laboratory at the time of submission by annotating the submission sheet accordingly.

12. TRANSPORT TO PORT / AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE

The certifying Official Veterinarian must obtain the written declaration referred to in paragraph IV(h). For convenience these have been printed at **Annex A** to these notes.

The design of the containers, the recommended species requirements, and preparation for transport must be in accordance with the recommendations of the WOAHIInternational Animal Health Code and International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.

For further information on WOAHI recommendations, exporters and Official Veterinarians should contact the APHA at Carlisle, or in the case of Northern, DAERA at the addresses stated below.

13. WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT

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.

14. 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 A

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO TAIWAN - 202EHC

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

Health Certificate Reference No:.....

1. I, (name in block capitals)
of
.....
..... (address)
am the *owner / *agent of the owner / *exporter of the breeding pigs to be
exported to Taiwan accompanied by export health certificate 202EHC, the
reference 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:

The following arrangements have been made regarding the transportation of
the animals from the isolation premises to their destination:

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
IV(h) (i)	the means of transport and transit comply with the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the Live Animal Regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA);	
IV(h) (ii)	the animals will be transported in containers/vehicles previously cleansed and disinfected with an approved disinfectant	
IV(h) (iii)	the animals will not transit through seaports/airports in countries or zones not recognised as being free from FMD, CSF and ASF	
IV(i) (iv)	no additional feed, straw and forage, bedding or other susceptible animals will to be loaded en route to the destination	

Signature

Date