

**EXPORT OF CATTLE FOR BREEDING TO SERBIA**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS**

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**IMPORTANT NOTE**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7851EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7851EHC.

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

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**1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 7851EHC may be used for the export of cattle for breeding from the United Kingdom to Serbia.

**The certificate must be signed, dated and stamped on the day of shipment.**

**2. 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**.

**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](mailto: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.

**3. OBTAINING AN IMPORT PERMIT**

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit. The import permit number must be given in the health certificate at paragraph III.(d).

**4. SCHEDULES**

Paragraph I refers: A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I and paragraph I must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV).

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV 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 paragraph I must be deleted with diagonal lines.

**5. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION/EAR TAGS/BORN AFTER 1 AUGUST 1996**

Paragraphs I, IV.2 and IV.15 refer: The EU requirements for identification must be complied with. These are explained in Annex A of the guidance notes for intra-EU trade <http://ahvla.defra.gov.uk/documents/traces/cattle/bovine-breeding-production-nfg.pdf>.

Council Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000 lays down that all cattle born after 1 January 2000 should be double tagged with approved tags using the all-numeric code.

The derogation for cattle to be ear tagged with a single tag no longer applies and any cattle born before this date must have a second tag inserted before export.

The exceptions to this requirement are:

- (i) Cattle identified with double alphanumeric ear tags up to 31 December 1999 do not need to be re-tagged with the all numeric ear tags;
- (ii) Cattle identified with double alphanumeric ear tags during the extended derogation period between 1 January and 30 June 2000 do not need to be re-tagged with the all-numeric code before export.

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 Official Veterinarian. The terms "direction" and "supervision" are defined in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

The passports must be consulted to determine the date of birth.

**6. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)**

Paragraphs IV.4, IV.5 (in respect of official freedom of herd for brucellosis, EBL and tuberculosis), IV.8, IV.9, IV.12 a) i) and 13 (in if derived from UK) refer: OVs may certify the relevant parts of these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

**7. PREMISES FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES**

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Paragraphs IV.6 and the second part of paragraph IV.5 refer: Official Veterinarians should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin, if necessary with the support of a written declaration from the person in charge of the animals, confirming freedom from certain diseases.

Certifying Official Veterinarians 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.

8. **TREATMENT FOR LIVER FLUKE (DYSTOMATOSIS) AND VACCINATION AGAINST IBR/IPV**

Paragraphs IV.7 and 11 refer: Preparations with marketing authorisations should be used and these can be found in the NOAH compendium <http://www.noahcompendium.co.uk/Compendium/Overview/-21789.html>

Certifying Official Veterinarians may also rely on a written declaration from the person in charge of the animals, confirming that the required treatment/vaccination has been carried out. OVs should also carry out appropriate checks of the farm records of the use of medicines.

9. **LABORATORY TESTS**

The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing 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 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or VSD to determine to which laboratories 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, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

10. **TRANSPORT DECLARATIONS**

Paragraphs IV.13 and IV.18 refer: The certifying Official Veterinarian must obtain a written declaration from the person in charge of transporting the animals confirming the origin of the fodder and litter to be sent with the cattle. He/she must also study the Journey Plan to ascertain the shipping route to be followed in the UK.

The OV must then obtain confirmation from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland that these two paragraphs can be certified.

11. **BSE**

Paragraphs IV.14 and 16 refer: These can be certified on the basis that the UK TSE Regulations require restrictions on BSE suspects, and cohorts and offspring of BSE cases to be slaughtered and their carcasses disposed of.

12. **CLINICAL EXAMINATION**

Paragraph IV.17 refers: The examination must be carried out by the certifying Official Veterinarian within 24 hours of loading. It should consist of a visual appraisal and, if deemed appropriate, physical examination of the animals for export. Each animal subject to examination must be assessed as an individual.

OVs must use their professional judgement to determine the level of examination required in order to ensure that no animal is exported which  
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shows signs of infectious or contagious disease and that animals are fit to travel to their intended destination.

Infectious and contagious disease includes infestation with external parasites and active lesions of ringworm.

**13. 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](mailto: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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)