

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF LIVE SWINE FOR BREEDING PURPOSES INTO INDIA - 8022EHC**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF 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 8022EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8022EHC.

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 8022EHC may be used for the export to India of breeding pigs that have been born and continually resident in the United Kingdom.

**2. IMPORT PERMIT AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

Exporters intending to export breeding pigs to India are strongly advised to contact the Government of India Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHD) to obtain up to date requirements for the importation of livestock into India, including procedures for electronic application for a Sanitary Import Permit (SIP) and pre-notification of export (see paragraph 11 of these notes),

The following extract for guidance purposes has been taken from the website of the Government of India Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHD) <http://dahd.nic.in/>

*(i) No live-stock shall be imported into India without a valid import licence issued by the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to an importer.*

*(ii) The import licence shall include the name of specific country at the time of applying for licence through Director General of Foreign Trade.*

*(iii) The import is subject to the fulfilment of a valid and authenticated Veterinary Certificate issued by the official veterinarian of the exporting country or country of origin as per Indian health protocol annexed along with "No objection" issued by this Department.*

*(iv) All live animals are presently allowed only through the seaports or airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. Any other port of entry may also be notified by the Central Government from time to time.*

*(v) All importers, airlines and shipping companies shall ensure that no animal shall be imported through any non-designated port other than the ports mentioned at (iv) above.*

**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**.

#### **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.

#### **4. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION**

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 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.

5. **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 be signed, dated and stamped by the 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 should be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. **COUNTRY DISEASE CLEARANCE**

OVs may certify paragraphs IV(c) (1) (i), IV(c) (2) (ii), IV(c) (3) (i), IV(c) (5) (ii), IV(c) (7) (ii) (re. *Brucella suis*) and IV(c) (9) (first paragraph) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CSC at Carlisle or from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

7. **PREMISES FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES**

Paragraphs IV(c) (4) re. TGE, IV(c) (6) re. PRRS and IV(c) (8) re. PED refer.

OVs 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 the above-mentioned diseases for the time periods stated in the certificate.

Certifying OVs should also carry out appropriate checks of the farm records including use of medicines, fertility and birth records to verify freedom from the above-mentioned diseases.

With regard to PRRS, the second paragraph of the statement may be certified on the basis of an ongoing surveillance programme for PRRS, which is the subject of regular reports and updates from the APHA and industry.

Compliance with OIE biosecurity measures may be certified on the basis that the premises has in place an effective biosecurity policy,

which has been prepared and operates in accordance with Government recommendations.

**8. APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES**

Paragraph IV(c) (9) refers. The pigs must be held in approved isolation premises for a period of not less than 30 days prior to shipment, or until completion of all of the serological tests, 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 OV. The OV is advised to consult the local office of APHA or DAERA in case of any problems.

(i) 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.

(ii) 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 approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.

(iii) No drainage or effluent produced by or derived from other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.

(iv) Any person entering the isolation accommodation must first put on overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation.

(v) 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.

The isolation premises, if different to the premises of origin, must also comply with the requirements regarding freedom from the diseases referred to in paragraph 7 of these notes.

**9. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES**

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 357335). 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.

**The Indian authorities stipulate that copies of all test results must accompany the animals to the destination port in India.**

**10. TRANSPORT TO PORT/AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE AND ONWARDS TO DESTINATION**

The certifying OV must obtain the written declaration referred to in paragraph IV(g) and IV(j). For convenience these have been printed at **Annex A** to these notes.

**11. PRE-NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR EXPORTS OF LIVESTOCK TO INDIA**

The following pre-import requirements are taken from the Government of India import conditions for breeding pigs, on which certificate 8022EHC is based:

*1. Import of live animal(s) is/are allowed through the ports located at Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi.*

*2. At least seven days before import into India, the test report conducted as per clause (9) [paragraph IV(c) (9) of the certificate] to be submitted to Quarantine Officer for examination along with a draft copy of health certificate and the importer will obtain prior NOC [No Objection Certificate] from the Quarantine Officer before actual shipment. If the test reports are not satisfactory and has not been conducted as per the said clause, the Quarantine Officer may not allow landing of the animal at designated ports of India.*

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

**Annex A**

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF LIVE SWINE FOR BREEDING PURPOSES INTO INDIA - 8022EHC**

**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 India accompanied by export health certificate 8022EHC, 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:

<b>EHC Paragraph</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>YES (Initial)</b>
IV(g)	The vehicle used to transport the animals from the approved pre-export quarantine premises to the port or airport of departure has been cleansed and disinfected with a disinfectant approved by the United Kingdom veterinary authorities.	
IV(j)	The containers in which the pigs are to be exported are constructed of wood or other impervious material. They are new, unused and have been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected with a disinfectant approved by the United Kingdom veterinary authorities.	

**Signature** .....

**Date** .....