

No:

EXPORT OF BREEDING SHEEP AND GOATS TO BERMUDA - NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF EXPORTERS AND OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS
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 6987EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6987EHC.

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.

1. **SCOPE**

6987EHC can only be used for the export of breeding sheep and goats only from the United Kingdom to Bermuda.

2. **IMPORT PERMIT**

Exporters are advised to contact the veterinary authorities of Bermuda prior to export for the latest information on requirements for any import documentation. An application for permission to import must be filed with the Bermuda Department of Environmental Protection before the animals can be exported. Please see their website www.animals.gov.bm .

The import permit and original export health certificate 6987EHC must accompany the animals to Bermuda.

3. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

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.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHC 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. **IDENTIFICATION FOR EXPORT**

Paragraph I. refers.

Regardless of their age, sheep and goats for export (both Intra-Community and Third Country Trade) must be identified by two eartags both bearing the same unique identification number consisting of "UK" followed by the **flock/herd number** of the natal holding and the **individual animal ID number**, for example *UK 123456 0001*, where 123456 is the flock/herd number of the holding on which the animal was born. The use of X tags is no longer permitted. Sheep and goats identified by means of a red 'R' replacement tag must not be certified by Official Veterinarians as they are not eligible for intra-Community trade or for export to third countries (via EU member states).

Tattoos are **not** an acceptable form of identification for export purposes.

IMPORTANT

Detailed Information

For full details on identification requirements, please consult the following documents:

Rules for identifying sheep and goats / Guidance for keepers in England:

http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/movements/goats/documents/keepers_guidance.pdf

- The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification & Movement) (England) Order 2007

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<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/eid/stat-instruments.pdf>

• Also, a list of ear tag manufacturers can be obtained at:
http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/movements/cattle/eartag_makers.htm

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

Paragraphs IV 1. and IV 2. refer: OV's may certify paragraphs IV 1. and IV 2. on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the local Animal Health Divisional Office (or equivalent in Northern Ireland).

6. **SCRAPIE REQUIREMENTS**

Paragraph IV 9.(ii) and (iii) may be certified if scrapie has not been recorded on any of the holding(s) that the sheep/goats have been resident on since they were born, during the previous 7 years, and the animals are not related as stated to an animal that has been confirmed to have had scrapie. This may be ascertained by providing AH with details of the movement history of the animals since birth, and also details of their parents, progeny and siblings, to enable the relevant checks to be carried out.

7. **PREMISES FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES**

Paragraph IV 3. refers. Official Veterinarians should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin, if necessary with the support of an owner's declaration 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. 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

8. **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
6987NFG (Agreed 19/10/2009) (Revised 20/10/2023)

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.