

No:

EXPORT OF DOGS AND CATS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO CANADA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 2923EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 2923EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 2923EHC to be used for the export of dogs and cats from the United Kingdom to Canada.

2. **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.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with an 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.

3. **CLINICAL EXAMINATION**
Paragraph IV. (a) refers. The clinical examination of the animal(s) must be undertaken within 72 hours of export. The animal(s) must not have clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases, and must be considered fit to travel (if an unaccompanied commercial dog please see paragraph (7 (iii))).
4. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**
Official Veterinarians may certify paragraph IV. (b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle on form 618NDC.
5. **RESIDENCY AND AGE**
Paragraph IV. (b) and (c) refer. These paragraphs may be certified on the basis of a written declaration from the owner/agent of the owner. OVs should keep these declarations for record purposes. Owners and exporters/agents should check the latest information that is available on the Canadian website relevant to the age of their animal at the time of export.
6. **DOGS AND CATS LESS THAN 3 MONTHS OF AGE**
Dogs less than 3 months of age must not be vaccinated against rabies. Exporters/agents are advised to check with the Canadian authorities for the full set of requirements applicable for dogs under 3 months of age
7. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING DOGS**
 - (i) ASSISTANCE DOGS
Assistance dogs that are certified in canine vision, hearing ear, or other special skills are exempt from import restrictions when the person assigned the dog accompanies it to Canada. Unaccompanied assistance dogs must be considered as commercial dogs.
 - (ii) FREQUENT EXPORTS AND EXPORTS OF 3 OR MORE DOGS
If you frequently import dogs or import several dogs at one time, you may be asked to certify that they are your personal pets and that they are not for resale.
 - (iii) COMMERCIAL EXPORTS
Commercial breeders can import dogs under eight (8) months of age (without an import permit) on a temporary basis for entry in competitions if they can provide an inspector with proof that the dog is entered in a show or trial organized by a recognized association. A dog is required to possess a veterinary health certificate.
 - (iv) DANGEROUS BREED PROHIBITION
Dog owners must **not** import pit bulls into the Province of Ontario in contravention of that province's ban. For information on Ontario's pit bull ban, visit the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General's website at:

www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/about/pubs/dola-pubsfty/dola-pubsfty.asp
 - (v) DOGS EIGHT (8) MONTHS OF AGE OR YOUNGER FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM *
 - 1) Dogs between the ages of three (3) and eight (8) months, which are **accompanied by their owners**, require rabies certification in accordance with CFIA requirements.

The information required is:

- Dates(s) of vaccination
- Name of vaccine
- Name of supplier
- Batch number
- Expiry date

This can either be in an up to date Pet Passport or a document provided by the veterinary practice. If the owner wishes to return this pet to the UK then a Pet Passport will be needed.

There is no waiting period imposed between the time the animal is vaccinated for rabies and the time the animal is imported into Canada. Commercial accompanied dogs require an additional veterinary certificate of health, that is distinct from the export health certificate.

- 2) Dogs, which are **not accompanied by their owners**, require the following, in addition to the official export health certificate:

2.1 a detailed private health certificate, bearing a legible signature of the licensed veterinarian, clearly identifying the dogs, and stating:

2.1.1 that the veterinarian has examined the dogs within 72 hours of export and is satisfied that the dogs:

- a) are not less than eight (8) weeks of age at the time of examination;
- b) are free of any clinical evidence of disease;
- c) were vaccinated not younger than six (6) weeks of age for distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and parainfluenza virus; and,
- d) can be transported into Canada without undue suffering by reason of infirmity, illness, injury, fatigue, or any other cause;

2.1.2 the date on which the dogs were vaccinated, that the vaccine was licensed by the dog's country of origin, and the trade name and serial number of the vaccine, and

2.1.3 the date and time of the examination referred to in paragraph 2.1.1, recorded legibly in the veterinarian's handwriting, which indicates that the dogs are being imported into Canada not more than seventy-two(72)hours after the the examination referred to in paragraph 2.1.1

*An EU Pet passport can be supported to supplement the Export Health Certificate a (but is not an acceptable alternative to a veterinary certificate of health) so long as it meets the conditions dependent on the dog's age. Any query regarding the age

related requirements should be at first instance directed to the Canadian authorities website (see paragraph 8 below for the website link).

DOGS OVER 8 MONTHS OF AGE

COMMERCIAL/PET: Require certificate of rabies vaccination, or residency declaration

8. **INSPECTION FEES**

Upon arrival at the first port of entry in Canada, dogs and cats and their accompanying paperwork will be inspected. For details of inspection fees visit the following website:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/imp/petani/feefrae.shtml>

9. **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."

10. **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