

EXPORT OF LIVE BIRDS TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

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 3835EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3835EHC. 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 3835EHC may be used for the export of live birds including captive birds from the United Kingdom to the United Arab Emirates.

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.

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 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. Clinical Examination

Paragraph IV. (4) refers. The examination must be made on the same day as the certificate is signed, which should be within 48 hours prior to the intended time of export.

4. Notifiable Disease Clearance

Paragraphs IV. (1) and (2) may be certified on behalf of the Department provided the OV has received written authority from APHA - Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle on form 618NDC which will be sent to him/her within 10 days before shipment. In the case of Northern Ireland, a similar written authority must be obtained from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

In order to certify the freedom from disease restrictions on the birds required at paragraph IV. (1), (2) and (3), the 618NDC document will cover official clearances for notifiable avian influenza (which includes notifiable High pathogenic avian influenza).

5. Owner's Declarations

Paragraph IV. (6) refers.

The OV must obtain a declaration to this effect in writing from the owner/exporter, and may carry out any other checks of movement records, etc. which may appear necessary.

The written declaration should not be attached to the certificate, but should be retained by the OV for record purposes.

6. Vaccinations

Paragraph IV. (5) refers. Any vaccinations given to the birds must be entered in the table provided (in any case if and as prescribed in the import permit). If no vaccinations are required in the import permit and none have been given to the birds, then the OV must write clearly and in capital letters "None given".

7. VETERINARY SUPERVISION

Paragraph IV 7) a. refers. The birds for export must be kept in pre-

export isolation for at least 21 days immediately prior to export. To certify this requirement, the OV must inspect the premises prior to the entry of the birds in order to confirm that they are suitable for isolation.

8. Avian Influenza Tests

Paragraph IV (7) b. refers. The OV can choose the most appropriate and convenient type of sample to take. The samples must be tested at the avian virology laboratory, APHA Weybridge, and it is strongly recommended to consult the laboratory well in advance for advice about taking and handling the samples. It is particularly necessary to ensure that samples are taken early enough for the result to be available in advance of the export date, as some tests may take a long time. The acceptable tests are:

AGID. Agar Gel Immunodiffusion, also known as Agar Gel Precipitation. Specific for each sub-type, therefore necessary to specify test for sub-types H5 and H7

HI. Haemagglutination Inhibition. Covers all serotypes in single test.

ELISA. Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay.

VI. Virus isolation. Culture takes 12 days before negative can be confirmed.

PCR. Polymerase Chain Reaction. Commonly done by APHA.

NASBA. Nucleic Acid Sequence Based Amplification. A variation of the PCR test, not normally done by VLA, and included here only because it is mentioned in the South Africa import conditions. It should be disregarded.

9. C.I.T.E.S

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.). Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department at the address given below:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service (WLRS)
Zone 1/17, Temple Quay House,
2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EB
Tel: 0117 372 8774 Fax: 0117 372 8206

10. No paragraph (i)

In certificate 3835EHC the omission of paragraph IV (i) is deliberate to avoid confusion, as the symbol 'i' is used to number indented paragraphs.

11. 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

12. Welfare of Animals 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.