

No:

EXPORT OF RABBITS FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO CANADA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 2257HC may be used for the export of rabbits from Great Britain to Canada.

2. **IMPORT PERMIT**

The original import permit must accompany the rabbit(s) to Canada and be presented to the inspector of the Canadian Food and Inspection Agency (CFIA) at the first port of entry.

3. The rabbit(s) must be shipped directly to Canada, unless authorisation is obtained from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency

4. **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 or Welsh Government, 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.

5. **QUARANTINE**

Upon arrival at the first Canadian port of entry, the rabbit(s) will be subjected to veterinary inspection and provided the rabbit(s) are healthy will be permitted to proceed directly to quarantine at the premises which has previously been approved by an inspector of the CFIA.

6. **IDENTIFICATION**

If the animals to be exported are not individually identified, e.g. by tattoo or microchip, then an uniquely numbered tamperproof seal should be applied to the transport container and the seal number entered at section 1.

7. **DISEASE CLEARANCE AND VACCINATION**

Paragraph IV(b), (c), (d) (i) and (ii) refer - the official veterinarian should obtain a written declaration from the owner or exporter and make due enquiry as to the validity of the declaration by reference to practice records and if necessary the records of any other veterinary surgeon responsible for the care of the animals to be exported during the relevant period.

8. **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, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

9. **TRANSPORT CONTAINERS**

Paragraph IV(e) (i) refers. Details of International Air Transport Association standards may be obtained by contacting International Air Transport Association directly or by consulting the local Divisional Veterinary Manager or the Animal Welfare Divisions, at the addresses below.

10. **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