

**EXPORT OF PORCINE SEMEN TO THAILAND - 1951EHC**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS**

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**IMPORTANT NOTE**

These notes are not intended to operate as a standalone document but must be read in conjunction with Export Health Certificate 1951EHC.

We would also strongly advise exporters to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the appropriate veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

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**1. IMPORT PERMIT**

Prior to making arrangements to export porcine semen, exporters are advised to contact the veterinary authorities of Thailand for the latest advice regarding any import documentation that may be required.

**2. 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 ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

**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**

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.

### **3. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCES**

Paragraphs V(a) and V(b) refer. The certifying Official Veterinarian may certify freedom for the diseases listed in these paragraphs provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC issued by the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

### **4. COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 90/429/EEC (as amended)**

Paragraphs V(c), V(e) and V(j) refer. The semen collection centre must be approved by Defra or DAERA in accordance with Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended). The certifying Official Veterinarian must be fully conversant with the provisions of Council Directive 90/429/EEC and any subsequent amendments, laying down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the porcine species.

### **5. FREEDOM OF THE COLLECTION CENTRE FROM OTHER DISEASES**

Paragraph V(d) refers. Official Veterinarians should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the approved collection centre. If necessary, this may be supported by discussion with the local Animal Health Agency Regional Veterinary Lead (RVL).

Certifying Official Veterinarians should also carry out appropriate checks of collection centre records including use of medicines and fertility records to verify freedom from the named diseases. If desired, these checks may also be supported by means of a written declaration from the operator of the collection centre attesting to freedom from the diseases mentioned in these paragraphs.

### **6. TIMING OF TESTING/TREATMENT OF DONOR BOARS**

Paragraphs V(f), V(g) and V(h) refer. Official Veterinarians should note the requirement for the tests/treatments described in these paragraphs to be carried out within 30 days of the first collection of semen for export to Thailand from the boar in question, but not necessarily the semen being certified for export. In the latter case, evidence of a sample being taken and tested within 30 days of a previous export should be sufficient; it is recommended that a copy of such a certificate be attached to 1951EHC.

7. **TUBERCULIN TESTING OF DONOR BOARS FOR EXPORT PURPOSES**

Paragraph V(h) refers. Exporters and Official Veterinarians should note that tuberculin testing should not be repeated within 45 days of a previous tuberculin test. Before a pre-export test is carried out, the Official Veterinarian should make due enquiries to ascertain that the animals to be tested have not had a previous test within that period.

**Tuberculin Testing Method**

The preferable site is the loose skin at the base of each ear. Each site should be cleaned, the loose skin at the base of the ear raised into a fold and the skin thickness measurement recorded. Standard strength PPD, as issued for cattle, must be used and a dose of 0.1 ml injected intra-dermally into each raised fold taking care not to inject subcutaneously

A useful aid for subsequently reading the test is, after cleaning, to draw a circle on the skin at each selected site with a black felt-tip pen and the injections are made within the encircled areas.

Any increase in skin thickness of more than 2mm at the site of injection or any oedema, necrosis or swelling of associated lymph nodes, should be regarded as a positive reaction. If any animal has a reaction at the bovine site greater than at the avian site, the Local Animal Health Agency RVL must be informed.

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 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)