

NO:

6956EHC - EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN OF EC STATUS TO JERSEY COLLECTED
BEFORE 01 JANUARY 2005

6957EHC - EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN OF EC STATUS TO JERSEY COLLECTED
AFTER 01 JANUARY 2005

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTERS

Associated Documents: 6956EHC or 6957EHC, and 372DMR

1. SCOPE

The **6956EHC** and **6957EHC** can be used for the export of bovine semen collected at EC Approved Semen Collection Centres in United Kingdom, or the re-export of semen legally moved into United Kingdom from another EU Member State or a third country in accordance with Council Directive 88/407/EEC.

The **6956EHC** is for bovine semen produced before 1st January 2005.

The **6957EHC** is for bovine semen produced after 1st January 2005.

2. COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 88/407/EEC

The certifying veterinarians must be conversant with the provisions of Council Directive 88/407/EEC (and any subsequent amendments), which lays down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the bovine species.

3. COMPLETION OF THE HEALTH CERTIFICATE

The health information at section **IV** of **6956EHC** and **6957EHC** 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 to be in charge of the Semen Collection Centre on which the consignment of semen was stored and who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes.

OVs should 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

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.

4. Countersignature Requirements

This certificate must be countersigned by a salaried Veterinary Official of the National Government in the Department of Environmental Food Rural Affairs in Great Britain or Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland.

In the case of exports to USA, an Official Veterinarian (OV) is an Authorized veterinarian of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) or of the Department of Agriculture, Environmental and Rural Affairs (DAERA)*.

All requests for countersignature must be submitted to the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (CITC) at least two working days in advance of the requested date/time of countersignature using Request for APHA Veterinarian Countersignature of an Export Health Certificate (ET145) application.

The ET145 application can be submitted to CITC by email to processingteam@apha.gov.uk

Upon receipt of your ET145 application CITC will liaise with an APHA Veterinarian* at your preferred countersigning office/area to make arrangements for countersignature to take place and notify you of the arrangements made.

*In Northern Ireland, a DAERA salaried Official Veterinarian /certifying officer is authorised to countersign this certificate.

5. **BLUETONGUE**

Directive 2000/75/EC (as amended) establishes an exit ban which prohibits movements of ruminant animals and their germplasm from bluetongue restricted zones (RZ).

Paragraph IV 4. of 6957EHC may be certified on the following basis:

The semen must have been collected from donor animals complying with **at least one** of the following options:

Option 1: the donor animals have been resident **outside a RZ** for at least **60 days** both before and during the collection of the semen being certified; semen collected during the 60 days prior to the centre/holding getting caught up in the RZ will be ineligible for export under this option. However, if the donors can be/have been tested serologically between 21 and 60 days after the final collection in accordance with option 4, with negative results, then the semen can be certified for export under that option.

Option 2: the donor animals have been resident in a bluetongue **seasonally-free zone** during that zone's seasonally vector-free period⁽¹⁾ for at least **60 days** both before and during the collection of the semen being certified;

AND

the donor animals have been subjected to an **agent identification test** (according to the OIE Terrestrial Manual) with negative results no earlier than **7 days** before collection of the semen being certified.

Option 3: the donor animals have been resident in a bluetongue **seasonally-free zone** during that zone's *seasonally vector-free period* for at least **60 days** both before and during the collection of the semen being certified;

AND

the validity of the *seasonally vector-free period* has been substantiated by favourable epidemiological data obtained from the implementation of a bluetongue monitoring programme for the last 3 years.

NOTE: No seasonally-free zones currently exist in the United Kingdom, therefore this Option cannot currently be used.

Option 4: the donor animals have been subjected to a serological test (according to the OIE Terrestrial Manual) to detect **antibodies** to the bluetongue virus group, with negative results, at least every **60 days** during the collection period and between **21** and **60 days** following the final collection;

Option 5: the donor animals have been subjected, with negative results, to an **agent identification test** (according to the OIE Terrestrial Manual) carried out on blood samples collected:

(i) at the time of the first and final collection;

and

(ii) during the period of semen collection:

- at least **every 7 days**, in the case of a **virus isolation** test,

or

- at least **every 28 days**, in the case of a **polymerase chain reaction** test.

6. **IBR/IPV**

If bovine semen is collected **on or before** 31/12/2004, the semen from bulls giving a positive reaction to the serum neutralisation test or the ELISA test for infectious bovine rhino tracheitis/infectious pustular vulvo-vaginitis but which has already given a negative reaction to these tests prior to a first vaccination may be certified on **6956EHC**, as laid down in the Council Directive.

Bovine semen collected **after** 31/01/2004 must be from centres where all bovine animals are seronegative to IBR/IPV. Semen from bulls collected after 31/12/2004 should be certified on **6957EHC**.

7. **TRANSPORTATION**

During transport, the semen must not come into contact with semen not certified to the same health status.

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