

**EXPORT OF CANINE SEMEN FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 4668EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 4668EHC. 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 4668EHC may be used for the export of Canine Semen from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Ireland.

**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](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**

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. **IMPORT PERMIT**

The exporter should obtain an import permit from prior to export. It is the exporter's responsibility to ensure that the export complies with the requirement of the import permit. It should be attached with all other relevant paperwork accompanying the consignment being exported.

4. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Official veterinarians may certify Part II(a) (i) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

5. **RESIDENCY OF DONOR ANIMAL**

Part II(a) (ii) refers. The OV should obtain a declaration from the owner/exporter to support this statement.

6. **HEALTH STATUS OF DONOR ANIMAL**

Part II(b) (i) and (ii) refer. The donor dog should be subject to a veterinary examination at the time of collection of the semen and 15 days after collection. If another authorised Veterinarian carried out either of these examinations the OV should obtain a declaration from the other Veterinarian.

7. **SEMEN COLLECTION**

Para II(c) refers. The Veterinarian responsible for collecting the semen in accordance with the paragraph must complete Part III of the export health certificate accompanying the consignment.

8. **APPROVAL OF SEMEN STORAGE SPACE**

The semen storage place has to be approved by an OV. The storage place can either be a room, a locker or a container provided it is lockable and no other semen apart from the one for export to the Republic of Ireland is kept in it. The OVs should keep the key of the storage place. A record log book should be kept with details of semen put in or taken out and any other relevant information.

9. **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)