

EXPORT OF *FRESH/*FROZEN PORCINE SEMEN TO ISRAEL - 8613EHC
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

Important

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8613EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8613EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country in advance of each consignment.

1. IMPORT PERMIT

Prior to making arrangements to export porcine semen, exporters are advised to contact the Veterinary Services and Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the State of Israel 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.

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. NOTIFIABLE/REPORTABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

In the case of animals originating from the UK, OV's may certify paragraph IV(a) (ii) and IV(b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CIT at Carlisle.

In **Great Britain**, OV's may also wish to check Form ET171, via the Gov.UK link for UK's Notifiable Disease Status, prior to certification to ensure that the above paragraphs can still be certified:

<http://apha.defra.gov.uk/external-operations-admin/library/documents/exports/ET171.pdf>

In the event of a disease outbreak: APHA Carlisle will also notify OV's to make it clear which of those disease freedom statements should not be certified.

In the absence of a specific disease notification from APHA Carlisle: OV's may certify that the UK has disease free status or region free status for those diseases mentioned in the health certificate once they have checked the disease list for the last occurrence of the disease and have ensured it complies with the time frames in the certificate.

In **Northern Ireland**, OV's may certify that the UK/NI has disease free status for those diseases mentioned in the health certificate if in possession of a valid DAERA Veterinary Support Certificate. DAERA OV's use the Notifiable Disease Clearance (NDC) system to obtain the required disease status necessary for certification. The NDC system is based on obtaining daily updates on disease status from NI, GB and the ROI.

4. LEGAL STATEMENT - RETAINED EU LAW

Existing EU legislation, with which the UK already complies, will be incorporated into UK domestic law as 'retained EU law' under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

References in guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this retained EU law. Under the Withdrawal Act, the UK will ensure that current EU standards remain in force, without amendment, in the immediate months after EU exit as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

5. COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 90/429/EEC (as amended)

8613NFG Porcine Semen to Israel(19/01/2021) (ECL) (Revised 08/11/2023)

The semen collection centre must be approved by Defra or DAERA in accordance with Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended). The certifying OV 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.

6. FREEDOM OF THE COLLECTION CENTRE FROM OTHER DISEASES

Paragraphs IV(a) (iii) and IV(e) (i) refer. OVs 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 office of APHA or DAERA.

Certifying OVs should also carry out appropriate checks of collection centre records including results of specific disease monitoring programmes, use of medicines and fertility records to verify freedom from the named diseases. 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.

7. LABORATORY TESTS

Paragraphs IV(c), IV(d) and IV(e) refer. The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing and monitoring is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB. Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD

For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

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