

EXPORT TO AUSTRALIA OF COOKED PIG MEAT IMPORTED FROM AN APPROVED COUNTRY THAT HAS UNDERGONE FURTHER PREPARATION IN GREAT BRITAIN - 8021EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

Exporters and certifying Official Veterinarians (OVs) are advised that the conditions for export of cooked pig meat to Australia are complex and demanding to ensure the requirements have been met and that the meat for export to Australia has been produced at all times in establishments approved and eligible for export to Australia.

Well in advance of exports taking place, exporters and certifying OVs must become familiar with these notes for guidance and all associated documents. In the event of any questions, they are advised to contact the APHA Customer Service Centre (CSC) by email at exports@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301.

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8021EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificates 8021EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) Australia, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

Associated Documents

- **8021NFG** - this document
- **8021EHC** - export health certificate for the export to Australia of cooked pig meat from an approved country that has undergone further preparation in Great Britain
- **8021IMC** - Internal Movement Certificate for the movement within GB of cooked pig meat (from an approved country that has undergone further preparation in Great Britain) for further processing, storage and export to Australia;
- **Specimen of Danish veterinary certificate** for cooked pork from Denmark to GB for further preparation in GB and export to Australia. Further certificates from other 'origin countries' may be added in the future if agreed between that country and the Australian authorities.

These documents can be obtained from APHA CIT or DAERA upon request.

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 8021EHC may be used for the re-export of **cooked** pig meat to Australia that was imported pre-cooked into the UK from a country approved by Australia **and** accompanied on entry into Great Britain by an official veterinary health certificate fulfilling the Australian requirements; the imported d cooked pig meat may undergo further preparation/assembly in Great Britain (such as inclusion in a composite product). Currently the only agreement by Australia is further certification from GB of cooked pig meat originating from Denmark; further processing/assembly and storage in Great Britain must only take place in establishments approved for exports to Australia.

Export of cooked pig meat in **composite products (eg pizzas containing dairy components)** has been agreed with Australia. Until a single certificate for the composite product has been agreed with Australia, such products must be certified and accompanied by both the relevant cooked pork certificate (as above) and the 6969EHC export health certificate for the export of dairy and dairy based products to Australia; both certificates must be completed and signed by the same Official Veterinarian. The OV must ensure that any particular requirements in the specific import permit, such as a requirement that milk is of bovine only origin if applicable, are met as the 6969EHC certificate may allow for milk from other species to be certified.

2. **IMPORT PERMIT**

The exporter must apply to the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for an Import Permit. The contact details are as follows:

Website: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/>

Tel: 0061 3 8318 6700

Email: imports@agriculture.gov.au

NOTE: the certifying OV must check that import permits include cooked pig meat and, in the case of pizzas containing dairy product, the dairy component. It is also important for the OV to confirm any other the requirements of the import permit for dairy, e.g. to see if there are any restrictions for the dairy component (e.g. Bovine milk only) and ascertain which of the 3 sections of 6969EHC should be certified. Further information on certification of dairy components is included in the guidance notes (6969NFG) of the certificate for export of dairy and dairy based products to Australia (6969EHC). The milk/product used might have been imported into the UK so assurances relating to the country of collection and/or processing of the milk might have to be obtained from the competent authority of the country/ies in question.

3. **APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENTS HANDLING / ASSEMBLING PRE-COOKED PIG MEAT FOR EXPORT TO AUSTRALIA**

Local Authorities are responsible for the general registration (as opposed to approval) of establishments which handle or assemble food which has been pre-cooked or pre-processed and does not require any further cooking/processing. The Local Authority issues a registration number for such establishments and this number must be included in the labelling of the product and in the export health certificate.

However, all establishments in the supply chain including cold stores, intending to export cooked pig meat (and composite products containing cooked pig meat) to Australia require further specific approval.

Under no circumstances should meat be exported from plants which are not specifically approved to do so.

Food Business Operators in GB wanting to obtain specific approval for export of cooked pig meat to Australia should apply via the APHA CIT at Carlisle at the following address: exports@apha.gov.uk. APHA will refer the application to Defra. Defra will update the Australian authorities of any new listings of GB establishments as eligible for export of cooked pig meat to Australia.

In the case of GB establishments, OVs must confirm premises/ establishment approval by sight of the relevant documents of approval or by reference to the Centre for International Trade at Carlisle.

There is no requirement for specific approval of establishments in connection with dairy ingredients; approval is only required for the cooked pig meat component. However, additional certification that the dairy components meet the expected Australian requirements is needed under the 6969EHC certificate.

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 should sign and stamp the certificate with the OV stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Where the 8021EHC states certification can be made by an "official veterinarian employed by the competent veterinary authority of Great Britain", this can be read as per the above paragraph.

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. **OFFICIAL OVERSIGHT AND CERTIFICATION**

An Official Veterinarian must be responsible for oversight of product for export to Australia and:

- Be satisfied that the cooked pig meat has been received from the origin country with the appropriate certificate, **exactly matching**

the format and content of the template agreed between Australia and that country for the movement of cooked pork to GB for further preparation/export to Australia.

- Confirm that the sourcing and treatment of pig meat in the product prior to entry in GB, as attested in the origin country certificate to be attached with the 8021EHC for export, meets Australia's entry requirements for cooked pig meat from the origin country.
- **Officially endorse a copy of the original certificate** received from the origin country confirming that he/she had oversight of receipt of the pig meat/meat product at the establishment that received and unpacked (broke the seal) the cooked pig meat/meat product on arrival in Great Britain. **Such endorsed copy must be attached and accompany the consignment to Australia together with the 8021EHC** (and the 6969EHC - dairy certificate, if applicable).
- A certified copy of the original / endorsed health certificate from the origin country and any attachments must be retained for 7 years from the date of arrival and made available to the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on request.
- The OV must be familiar with the procurement processes for cooked pork to Australia of and must be satisfied that product eligible for export to Australia has been **segregated at all times during unpacking, storage, handling/preparation and packing** and that he/she is satisfied that there **has not been any substitution or adulteration** by products of animal origin from other sources. The OV must decide on the level of oversight during handling/preparation of product for export to Australia, use his/her personal experience and familiarity with the processes for export to Australia in the establishment and be in possession of any evidence, declarations and sight of internal movement certificates (8021IMC) as he/she considers necessary before certifying product as eligible for export to Australia.
- **Notifiable disease clearances:** Paragraph IV(a) of 8021EHC refers. OVs may certify this paragraph on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from DAERA

Where it is possible for the Official Veterinarian (OV) in Great Britain to obtain disease clearance themselves, the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (CITC) will not issue a 618NDC notifiable disease clearance.

OVs must check the following sources of disease information for the United Kingdom immediately prior to certification, to ensure disease freedom statements can be certified:

- the Notifiable Disease Occurrence List for Great Britain (ET171) available on the Exports > Certification Procedures page of the APHA Vet Gateway
- the UK Status for Non-Notifiable Diseases Relevant to Export Certification (ET152) available on the Exports > Certification Procedures page of the APHA Vet Gateway.

[http://apha.defra.gov.uk/External_OV_Instructions/Export Instructions/Certification Procedures/index.htm](http://apha.defra.gov.uk/External_OV_Instructions/Export_Instructions/Certification_Procedures/index.htm)

For Great Britain:

In the absence of a specific Notifiable Disease Clearance (618NDC) from CITC: OVs 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(s) for the last occurrence of the disease and have ensured it complies with the time frames in the certificate.

In the event of a disease outbreak that affects an OV being able to obtain their own disease clearance, CITC will notify OVs to make it clear which disease freedom statements should not be certified and where necessary, will issue a 618NDC notifiable disease clearance if the EHC can continue to be issued for certain regions that retain free status.

In the event of a disease outbreak after the EHC has been issued that affects the disease clearance, OVs must not certify the EHC and must contact CITC immediately for advice on whether certification can still take place. If a disease outbreak affects the OV disease clearance procedures for this EHC, a 618NDC will be reinstated by CITC which will be issued with the EHC until a time when OV disease clearance can be reinstated.

- An **Internal Movement Certificate (8021IMC)** must be provided for product dispatched to cold stores (if not co-located with the manufacturing establishment) from which final certification for export will be provided.
- The OV is responsible to confirm that all the attestations in the 8021EHC export certificate and any additional requirements in the import permit are met before certifying product for export to Australia.

6. FINAL COMPLETION OF CERTIFICATE 8021EHC PRIOR TO DESPATCH

Prior to final certification of the consignment, OVs must ensure that if the product has been moved on to the establishment in which the certification will take place from a different establishment within GB they have a completed copy of the relevant 8021IMC confirming that the cooked pig meat complies with the import requirements of DAWR Australia.

The OV must make any enquiries as he/she considers necessary to confirm that the product is correctly identified, labelled and attested for export to Australia.

7. 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>