

**INTERNAL MOVEMENT OF BOVINE / OVINE / CAPRINE / PORCINE SEMEN WITHIN GREAT BRITAIN FOR THE EVENTUAL EXPORT TO THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR AUTHORISED CENTRE VETERINARIANS**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Centre Veterinarians for the completion of the Internal Movement Certificate for transfer of semen within Great Britain from different approved Germinal Product Establishments (e.g. from an approved Semen Collection Centre to an approved Germinal Product Storage Centre). These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with the Internal Movement Certificate and relevant Export Health Certificate to the Union.

Authorised Centre Veterinarians must be familiar with the export requirements to the European Union which includes relevant conditions for collection, processing, and storage of germinal products, where applicable.

**1. Scope of the Certificate**

These notes are intended for authorised centre veterinarians in approved Germinal Product Establishments **where the consignment of semen collected after 20 April 2021** will be transferred to another approved Germinal Product Establishment in Great Britain for further storage and/or processing before export to the Union.

Centre veterinarians in approved establishments are required to provide support documentation in the form of an Internal Movement Certificate (IMC), confirming that the semen collected, processed and/or stored after 20 April 2021 meets the relevant Animal Health Regulation (AHR) requirements, as specified in Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692. This support document enables the Official Veterinarian in the approved establishment of dispatch in Great Britain to sign the final Export Health Certificate (EHC). The IMC shall be attached to the final EHC as an 'accompanying document', where required in the EHC.

The certificate applies to EU 'approved germinal product establishments' for collection, storage and/or processing of semen, which includes a semen collection centre, a germinal product processing establishment and a germinal product storage centre, approved in accordance with Article 97 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429. Definitions of the types of approved establishments can be found in Article 2 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/686.

**2. Certification by a Centre Veterinarian**

The Centre Veterinarian who is the lead veterinarian in the establishment and authorised by APHA and who is familiar with the operational procedures of the establishment may certify the IMC and must sign and stamp the certificate with the establishment stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**. The centre veterinarian does not have to hold OV qualification to certify this certificate.

Please note, if the lead centre veterinarian is not available at the centre (e.g. due to annual leave/sick leave) to certify the certificate, then the certificate may be certified by a listed deputy centre veterinarian provided they have been authorised by the lead centre veterinarian and are familiar with the operational procedures of the establishment. However, where possible, the lead centre veterinarian must certify the certificate.

The certified certificate must accompany the consignment to its destination in GB. It shall then be an 'accompanying document' to the final EHC and consignment for final export to the Union, as required in the 'GP-STORAGE-ENTRY' and 'GP-PROCESSING-ENTRY' EHCs.

The certifying Official Veterinarian of the final Export Health Certificate should also stamp and initial each individual page of the IMC and accompanying schedules. This gives assurance to the EU BCPs that the IMC and schedules have been checked by the OV.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be kept by the centre veterinarian in the establishment of origin for his/her own records. The copy of the certificate should be made available to APHA during routine inspections of the establishment.

**3. Schedules**

Paragraph I refers:

Separate schedule(s) may be used to identify the consignment certified where there is too much detail to include in the paragraph 1 of the certificate. The schedule(s) must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I with the semen collection centre approval number and paragraph I must be annotated "See attached schedule(s)". Each page of the schedule(s) must bear a page number and the Internal Movement Certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Centre Veterinarian.

The schedule(s) must be stapled inside the Internal Movement Certificate and the Centre veterinarian should stamp each page of the schedule(s) and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule(s) and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule(s) or in paragraph I must be deleted with diagonal lines. The stamp used maybe an establishment stamp. The certifying OV of the final EHC should also stamp with an official OV/APHA stamp and initial each page of the IMC and schedules.

If using schedule(s), please write 'see attached schedule(s)' in paragraphs 1(3) and 1(4).

**4. Approved establishments**

The Centre Veterinarian must check the establishment of origin and establishment of destination in Great Britain are approved by the UK and listed by the European Union. Please refer to the lists of approved establishments in the EU Website and Gov.uk.

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/semens-oocytes-embryos\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/semens-oocytes-embryos_en)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/livestock-and-equine-semen-collection-approved-premises>

**5. Animal Health Regulation requirements**

The European Commission introduced new animal health requirements for export to the Union of germinal products in the new Animal Health Regulation (AHR) that came into force on 21 April 2021. The establishment must therefore comply with the relevant AHR requirements for collecting, storing and/or processing semen of the species of concern for export to the Union from the 21 April 2021. The requirements are outlined in Regulation (EU) [2016/429](#) and Delegated Regulation (EU) [2020/692](#). These regulations refer to detailed requirements in Delegated Regulation (EU) [2020/686](#).

Please note, establishment(s) approved by the UK and listed by the European Union and exporting since 21 April 2021 must already be compliant with the relevant requirements in the aforementioned Regulations. If you require further advice on AHR requirements, please contact APHA CIT.

The model EU EHCs contain the relevant requirements for export to the Union of Semen and can be found in Annex II to Regulation (EU) [2021/404](#) and [EHC Form Finder](#). Please refer to the corresponding Notes for Guidance for further information as well. The applicable model

certificates maybe labelled as e.g. BOV-SEM-A-ENTRY, BOV-GP-STORAGE-ENTRY, BOV-GP-PROCESSING-ENTRY.

If the semen is transferred from an approved Semen Collection Centre to an approved Storage Centre/Processing establishment, then the relevant certificate that needs to be complied with in the IMC from the Semen Collection Centre is the 'BOV-SEM-A-ENTRY' or 'OV/CAP-SEM-A-ENTRY' or 'POR-SEM-A-ENTRY' or 'EQUI-SEM-A-ENTRY' EHCs (where appropriate for the species of concern).

6. **Sealing of the transport container and Transport conditions**

If the consignment of semen is frozen then paragraph IV.3(b) must be certified confirming the container has been filled with cryogenic agent which has not been previously used for other products of lesser health status. Otherwise, delete if the semen is transported chilled.

The consignment of semen must be secured within the container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal must be entered at III.4 on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, topping up should be done by the centre veterinarian who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The centre veterinarian must write in paragraph III.4 on the health certificate the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating and stamping in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black**.

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 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 at Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>