**EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA - 1047EHC**

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

**Associated Documents:** 1047EHC and 618NDC

**IMPORTANT**
**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 1047EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1047EHC. 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 1047EHC may be used for the export of dairy and dairy products from the United Kingdom to South Africa.

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

**Certified Copy Requirements**
Certifiers are only required to return a certified copy of EHCs for the following EHC types:

- If the commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids
- EHCs where the certifier cannot submit certifier feedback

If you are required to return a certified copy to CITC, email a scanned copy to certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

Retain a copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified for two years.

Certifiers 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's importing agent in South Africa must obtain a veterinary import permit from the South African Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for each individual consignment. Certification should not be provided unless the Veterinary Import Permit has been seen by the certifying Veterinarian. The Import Permit number must be entered on the 1047EHC as indicated. Both the permit and this certificate must accompany the consignment.

4. **PACKING, CONTAINER AND SEAL**

The seal and container numbers must always be entered onto the certificate at section I. f) and g).

Any consignment imported into South Africa packed with either wood packing material or dunnage, will require treatment to remove any pests present (by heat or methyl bromide fumigation).

Treatment must be indicated on packing material.

The importation is subject to:

- the consignment being accompanied by the import permit;

**and,**

the arrival of the consignment at the port of entry being reported immediately to the State Veterinarian/Quarantine Master whowill break the seals, inspect the consignment and documentation and if found satisfactory, release it to the importer. Under no circumstances may the seals be broken and the goods unloaded or taken into receipt without his/her written permission.

5. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Official Veterinarians may certify Section IV.4.1 and 5 (no outbreak of FMD within 12 months prior to collection and/or no vaccination) in respect of origins from the United Kingdom only on behalf of the Department, provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the issuing office on form 618NDC.

In the case of origins outside the UK, *either* supporting certification or evidence from those countries is required *or* the treatment options certified *or* the requirements in Section IV.4.2 followed unless it is unpasterurised cheese/raw milk, in which case country freedom from FMD is required.

6. **SECTION IV.1 (ORIGIN OF THE DAIRY)**

The origin of the dairy must comply with one or more of the sub-paragraphs. The "or" indicator between sub-paragraphs can be construed as "and/or" in the case of the origin being covered by more than one paragraph, such as in the case of dairy products made from milk of both UK and EU origin. In any case, the relevant sub-paragraph to which the product applies does not need to be indicated, and the other sub-paragraphs should not be deleted even if they do not apply.

**SECTION IV.1.1 (HERDS UNDER VETERINARY RESTRICTIONS)**

This should be interpreted as herds under veterinary restrictions because of suspicion and/or confirmation of notifiable disease to which the species of origin is susceptible and which can be transmitted through the (raw) product. It includes FMD, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and lumpy skin disease. It does not include diseases like bluetongue.

The paragraph may be signed on the basis of EU legislation (and in the case of herds of UK origin, disease orders made under the Animal Health Act 1981) which require restrictions on movement of milk should disease be suspected and the slaughter and disposal of animals if disease is confirmed.

7. **SECTION IV.3. (SCRAPIE FREEDOM)**

Should the product contain milk of ovine or caprine origin then this statement can only be certified if the herds or flocks producing this milk are members of the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme and in the negligible risk category. OVs will need to obtain the details of the flocks or herds of origin, then request the current SMS membership certificate from each flock / herd concerned. Should the ovine / caprine milk originate from outside the UK then advice should be sought from the Centre for International Trade – Carlisle.

If the product does not contain ovine or caprine milk then this statement can be ignored but should NOT be deleted.

8. **PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS (SECTIONS IV. 4.1, 4.2 AND 5 REFER).**

The relevant sub-option in sections 4.1 and 4.2 should be certified to indicate which of the applicable treatment options the milk was subjected to. The other options should be deleted.

These processing requirements may be certified on the basis of the certifying veterinarian's knowledge of processing at the manufacturing establishment, including HACCP provisions as relevant. The time, temperature and pH requirements are the minimum required i.e. interpreted as 'at least' even if this is not explicit. In the case of milk and pasteurisation, 'equivalent' treatments are not catered for, so a derogation must be requested if the options available cannot be complied with. Generally speaking, evidence that the equivalent treatment is capable of inactivating alkaline phosphatase is required. A number of Official Control Laboratories (OCLs) or Control Bodies provide an ISO 17025 accredited test for alkaline phosphatase, and such laboratories must be used.

For a composite product, if the final product is subjected to the required treatment criteria as applicable individually for ingredients in question, the paragraph can be signed.

If products are to be exported from establishments other than those at which the treatment(s) were carried out, certification must be based on veterinary support documents confirming the processing details.

9. **PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN AND ADDITIVES**

Section IV. 6.1 and 6.2. may be certified on the basis of the certifying veterinarian's knowledge of processing at the manufacturing establishment and the requirements of the Regulations covering the use of the principal classes of food additives (sweeteners, colours, preservatives, antioxidants, emulsifiers, stabilisers and carrier solvents). It must be noted that animal derived rennet cannot be used to make cheeses intended for export to South Africa as 6.1 cannot be certified for such cheeses. Guidance on additives can be found at: http://www.food.gov.uk/sites/default/files/multimedia/pdfs/guidance/food-additives-legislation-guidance-to-compliance.pdf

10. **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