EXPORT OF PETFOOD ADDITIVES TO AUSTRALIA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

Associated Documents: 7205EHC.

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7205EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7205EHC. 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 7205EHC may be used for the export of petfood additives from the United Kingdom to Australia in accordance with a valid import permit issued by the Australian competent authority.

The number of the import permit issued by, for example, Australia's Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, must be entered into the appropriate space on the front page of this certificate.

The import permit may also include requirements that are outside the scope of this certificate, such as the need for specific manufacturer's declarations. The exporter should therefore ensure that the necessary steps have been taken to satisfy any additional applicable requirements of the import permit.

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.

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. Paragraph II(a) – Approval number

Establishments handling unprocessed animal by-products or manufacturing products derived from unprocessed animal by-products must be either approved or registered in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended). In England, this is enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Certifying Official Veterinarians are advised that, in accordance with Articles 54 and 55 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), references to Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) shall be construed as references to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) and that establishments, plants and users approved or registered in accordance with regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) before 4 March 2011 shall be deemed to be approved or registered, as required, in accordance with regulation (EC) 1069/2009.

Alternatively, establishments producing pet food or animal feedingstuffs from processed ingredients of animal origin require approval or registration in accordance with Regulation (EC) 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene. In England, this is enforced by the Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the manufacturing establishment.

4. Paragraph IV – Health attestation

Paragraph IV must be completed to accurately reflect the sourcing, ingredients, processing and handling of the product (as appropriate) and to ensure compliance with the relevant elements of the valid import permit.

The number of the import permit must be entered into the appropriate space.

Paragraph IV may be certified on the basis of the following specific

guidance in conjunction with any necessary evidence resulting from the OV's familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the facility. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations.

(a) **Paragraph IV 1 – Manufacturer's declaration**
The manufacturer's declaration should be uniquely identifiable by means of a reference number, date of signature and specific links to the consignment being certified, such as the container number, bill number, invoice number, letter of credit number, batch/serial number, and/or the date of manufacture.

The manufacturer's declaration must contain the appropriate wording and information to enable this paragraph to be fully completed and to satisfy the requirements set out in the valid import permit.

The certifying OV should make due enquiry as to the veracity of the declaration. This may include physical inspection of the product and/or the manufacturing establishment and examination of relevant records.

(b) **Paragraph IV 2 – Ante- and post-mortem inspection**
This paragraph requires that the animal materials (other than dairy, avian or fish products, or products of Australian or New Zealand origin) were obtained from slaughtered animals which were found to be free from contagious and infectious disease. It does not, however, require the material itself or its source tissue to be fit for human consumption.

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations.

(c) **Paragraphs IV 3 – Countries of origin**
The countries of origin of the enzymes must be those stated in the corresponding import permit.

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations.

(d) **Paragraph IV 4 – dairy product species of origin**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's familiarity with the sourcing and procurement arrangements in place at the facility.

This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations confirming that the only bovine material present in the product is of bovine dairy origin.

(e) **Paragraph IV 5 – origin of dairy ingredients**
The countries of origin of the milk from which the dairy ingredients are derived must be those stated in the corresponding import permit.

(f) **Paragraph IV 6 – health status of dairy animals**
For dairy products of UK origin, this paragraph may be certified based on milk hygiene legislation in force in the UK

which ensures that only healthy animals are used for milk production.

For dairy products of non-UK origin, this paragraph may be certified on the basis of examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, import certification, veterinary statements and valid declarations confirming the health status of the animals from which the milk was derived.

(g) **Paragraph IV 7 – milk heat treatments**

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of confirmation that the milk from which any dairy ingredients in the consignment were derived has undergone one of the two listed heat treatments.

This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations.

(h) Paragraphs IV 8 – Absence of ruminant material

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's familiarity with the sourcing and procurement arrangements in place at the facility.

This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements and valid declarations confirming that the only bovine material present in the product is of bovine dairy origin, and that the product does not contain ovine, cervine or caprine derived material.

5. Where declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

The RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct 2012 states that [Veterinary Surgeons] "must not recklessly confirm what other people have stated". Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

6. 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