

No:

EXPORT OF GIANT PANDAS FROM UNITED KINGDOM TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

1. **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and Exporters. The notes do not necessarily cover all the requirements listed in the health certificate and therefore should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8802EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8802EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in China, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

2. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 8802EHC may be used for the export of Giant Pandas from the United Kingdom to Republic of China.

3. **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 apply the OV stamp to the certificate in the normal manner. The health certificate must be signed and stamped with an OV stamp in any 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

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.

4. **IDENTIFICATION**

It is a requirement that the animal is individually identified by means of a microchip. Information regarding the microchip number and the location of the microchip must be recorded on the export health certificate.

5. **IMPORT PERMIT**

The exporter must be aware that no animal will be allowed entry unless an import permit has first been obtained from the local animal health authorities in China. This permit must accompany the animal.

6. **DISEASE CLEARANCE: RABIES AND TUBERCULOSIS**

The first (either) option of paragraphs II (a) and (b) may be certified on behalf of the Department provided that the OV has received written confirmation (form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the Centre for International Trade at Carlisle within 10 days before export.

(Applicable for Scotland) With regards to bovine tuberculosis, a copy of the tuberculosis freedom declaration signed by CVO Scotland must be attached to the certificate.

7. **RABIES VACCINATION**

Paragraph II (a) refers. If animals to be exported have been vaccinated against Rabies, a vaccination certificate should be attached to the export health certificate. A vaccine licensed for use in the UK must be used, in accordance to the manufacturer's recommendations and/or according to standard procedures for animals for export at the zoo.

8. **PRE-EXPORT QUARANTINE**

Paragraph II (c) refers. Animals to be exported must have been quarantined for at least 30 days prior to export and have not been in contact with domestic livestock and other zoo species in the 30 days prior to export.

The China import conditions do not lay down specific terms for the quarantine premises. Consequently the OV must use his/her discretion to apply the normally accepted principles of biosecurity. Access by people must be restricted to authorised attendants only. Appropriate disinfection facilities must be available for footwear, and dedicated clean overalls must be provided and used whenever the animals in isolation are attended. Before quarantine commences the facility must be inspected and approved by the OV. Further inspection visits must be made at the OV's discretion during the quarantine period in order to satisfy the requirement that the premises are under his/her supervision. It is recommended that these visits should take place at least once a week. Some of these visits will coincide with visits for sample collection or treatments as required in the certificate.

9. **CANINE DISTEMPER**

Paragraph II (e) refers. Either the date of antibody test (a copy of the laboratory report attached to the certificate), or the details of vaccination against canine distemper (a copy of the vaccination record attached to the certificate) must be entered on the certificate.

10. **CANINE PARVOVIRUS**

Paragraph II (f) refers. Either the date of antigen test (a copy of the laboratory report attached to the certificate), or the details of vaccination against canine parvovirus (a copy of the vaccination record attached to the certificate) must be entered on the certificate.

Animals must have been kept in canid proof enclosure for the entire captivity at the establishment.

11. **TREATMENT FOR PARASITES**

Paragraph II (g) refers. Both treatments must be given on two occasions (not less than 14 days apart) during the 30 day pre-export quarantine period. If the products do not have a valid UK marketing authorisation for the species concerned, the OV may use his/her clinical judgement to operate in accordance with the 'cascade principle'. The OV must be aware that the use of a pharmaceutical preparation 'off the data sheet' may entail a risk, and the owner of the animal should be made aware of this risk and their agreement obtained in writing before the substance is used.

12. **CLINICAL INSPECTION**

Paragraph II (h) refers. The clinical inspection should be carried out no more than 72 hours prior to export.

16. **TRANSPORTATION - OWNER/EXPORTER'S DECLARATION**

Paragraph II (i) refers. OVs can certified by inspecting the

transport container and based on an owner/exporter's declaration.

A DEFRA approved disinfectant should be used for the transport container. Disinfectants are approved under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) Order 1978 (as amended). The list contains over 200 brands of disinfectant approved on the basis of their efficacy against certain notifiable disease viruses. DEFRA approved disinfectants carry a statement on the container, and other references to their approval may be found in their data sheets or label instructions.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) provides written guidelines for transport conditions including cage design specifications. The owner/exporter is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of transport meet the standards laid down by IATA. He/she should ask the transporting airline to confirm this, and if necessary, provide a copy of the relevant conditions.

17. **C.I.T.E.S**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.). Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department at the address given below:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service (WLRS)

UK CITES Management Authority
Centre for International Trade - Bristol
Horizon House, Deanery Road,
Bristol, BS1 5AH

Tel: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
Fax: +44 (0) 28 415 2510
Email: wildlife.licensing@apha.gov.uk

18. **WELFARE**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team
Centre for International Trade
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street, Carlisle
CA3 8DX
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

19. **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