

**EXPORT OF SCOURED WOOL, GOAT HAIR, MOHAIR, CASHMERE AND ALPACA HAIR TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA - 8598EHC**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR EXPORTERS AND OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS - 8598NFG**

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**IMPORTANT**

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 Centre for International Trade (CIT) or DAERA in Northern Ireland.

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8598EHC.

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 EXPORTS TO THE PRC**

Export health certificate **8598EHC** may only be used for the export from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of China (PRC) of **wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere and alpaca hair** which was:

- (a) **Either**  
sourced from animals born and raised in the UK;  
**Or**  
legally imported into the UK;
- (b) **And**  
scoured in a UK-based processing plant which has been registered by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC).

**2. IMPORT PERMIT**

Prior to making arrangements to export scoured wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere and alpaca hair to the PRC, exporters are advised to ensure that the necessary import permit and any other import documentation is available.

Applications for import permits are usually made by the Chinese customer or the local import company in China and tend to be specific to the UK exporter.

**3. REGISTRATION OF SCOURING ESTABLISHMENTS TO EXPORT TO THE PRC**

Scouring establishments intending to export eligible scoured wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere and alpaca hair to PRC must be specifically inspected and registered before exporting to PRC.

This GACC-registration is in addition to compliance with the applicable domestic requirements in the UK.

Operators of scouring establishments will be required to confirm that they can comply with the requirements for export and nominate the Official Veterinarian(s) (OVs) who will be responsible for completing the assessment of compliance and submitting their recommendation for GACC-registration to Defra via either APHA or DAERA. The assessing OV will also ultimately be responsible for periodic checks of compliance and certification for export.

The PRC also requires that all OVs carrying out final export certification using **8598EHC** must first provide specimen copies of their signatures and stamps for registration by GACC China before certifying any consignments destined for PRC.

To facilitate the registration of a scouring establishment and the registration of an OV with GACC, the following forms can be obtained from APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle:

- o **8598CLK** - Checklist for assessment of compliance and recommendation of establishments for approval by GACC China to export scoured wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere and alpaca hair to China.
- o **8598SIG** - Form for submission of specimen signatures and stamps of certifying Official Veterinarians for registration by GACC China. See **Paragraph 6** below for more information.

Successful OV recommendations for GACC China registration will be forwarded by Defra to the veterinary authorities of the PRC for their consideration.

Once listed by the PRC as registered to export, establishments should be subject to periodic audits by the certifying OVs to ensure ongoing compliance against domestic and Chinese export requirements. The OVs may decide at their discretion on the frequency of such audits, depending on the throughput for export. **However, it is suggested that audits are carried out at least quarterly.**

The OV should keep records of any such audits for inspection by the authorities of the UK or PRC.

The scouring establishments eligible for export to China are only those included in the current list of registered establishments maintained by the PRC veterinary authorities. At the time of writing, this list was published as Appendix 46 at:

<http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/dzs/2747042/3378361/index.html>

Direct link to Appendix 46:

<http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/dzs/2747042/3378361/2021042115041120893.xlsx>

The names of the GACC-registered scouring establishments in the UK are also reproduced at **Annex 1** of these guidance notes.

However, the exporter should confirm the latest list via their Chinese contacts.

#### 4. **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](mailto: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.

Provided appropriate checks and inspections are carried out with respect to these procedures being followed, the final 8598EHC can be signed by the Official Veterinarian in accordance with the ten principles of certification as stated by the RCVS and adopted by the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe.

See: <http://www.rcvs.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/code-of-professional-conduct-for-veterinary-surgeons/supporting-guidance/certification/>

5. **NOTES ON COMPLETION OF 8598EHC**

**Important note to certifying OVs**

**Certificate entries must be fully typed/printed.**

Certifying OVs must note that unauthorised deletions or manuscript amendments to 8598EHC are not permitted.

**The only permitted handwritten entry is the signature of the OV.**

**The OV stamp to be inserted ONLY on the space provided (next to the OV signature).**

**If the final date of certification cannot be typed in, this may be entered with a rubber stamp using ink of any colour OTHER THAN BLACK.**

The details of the OV must exactly match the information supplied by the OV in **8598SIG**. This also includes the Official Veterinarian's name. OVs are strongly advised to keep a copy of their submission to Defra/GACC China for their reference.

Additional information such as title or qualifications/registrations (including M/F RCVS) should not appear alongside the OV's name in the **8598EHC** certificate as this may be misinterpreted as being part of his/her name and could result in consignments being detained on arrival to China.

Consistency in recording details:

Both the OV and the exporter should note that it is imperative that the details on the EHC, and on all documents accompanying the consignment, match the details displayed on the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) registration lists and that consistency is maintained across all accompanying documentation.

OVs and exporters should note that they have the final responsibility to ensure that the details on the completed certificates are correct. Due to the complexity of the conditions, it is recommended that such checks should be carried out sufficiently in advance of the date of export to enable any changes that may be required. The PRC authorities will expect that the details of the establishments entered onto the certificate are correct and consistent.

**6. PROVIDING SPECIMEN COPIES OF OV SIGNATURES AND STAMPS TO CHINA:**

Further to paragraph 3 above, exporters and Official Veterinarians (OVs) providing final export certification must note that China requires that all OVs carrying out export certification for scoured wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere and alpaca hair must provide specimen copies of their signature and OV stamp, well in advance of the intended export, to ensure that they have been received and acknowledged by the Chinese authorities, before any exports take place.

It is recommended that specimen copies of stamps and signatures of alternative OVs should also be provided, to facilitate certification during periods of absence, such as sickness or annual leave.

This information must be provided on the **8598SIG** form, which may be specifically requested by contacting APHA or DAERA. The completed **8598SIG** must be scanned and e-mailed back to APHA or DAERA as appropriate.

APHA and DAERA will forward the information to Defra in London for onward transmission to the Chinese authorities.

Updates to the list will be sent to China on a **quarterly** basis, depending on demand. On each occasion, several weeks should be allowed for the information to be processed by the authorities in China and received by their port control authorities. Exporters should, therefore, plan ahead and ensure that any likely changes or additions to their OV's details are communicated well in advance.

**However, it is imperative that the exporter and/or their importer ensure that the Chinese officials at port/s of entry into China have a copy of the certifying OV's stamp and signature on file, before the 8598EHC is signed.**

Unless any changes or corrections are required, specimen signatures and stamps only need to be submitted once.

7. COMPLETING THE (PRE) CERTIFICATE

PART I - IDENTIFICATION OF CONSIGNMENT

N.B.: the 8598EHC requires that the name and weight of product, and the name and registration number of processing enterprise are clearly marked in the packaging.

**I (a) Description of the products:** enter scoured wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere or alpaca hair, as appropriate. The name/description of the product should correspond exactly with the name of the product printed on the label/packaging or identification marks on the containers/consignment;

**I (b) Type and number of packages:** enter the type and number of packages for each category of product indicated in I(a);

**I (c) Net weight of consignment:** enter the net weights for each category of product indicated in I(a);

**I (d) Identification marks:** enter any shipping marks as they appear on the product or its packaging for each category of product exported;

**I (e) Container number(s):** enter the identification number of containers in which the consignment is exported;

**I (f) Seal number(s):** enter the seal numbers applied to the crates or containers. The OV must ensure that seals are applied in a manner to prevent additions or substitutions of product after it has been certified;

PART II - ORIGIN OF PRODUCTS

**II (b) Name, address and registration number of the processing establishment:** The PRC authorities will expect that the details of the establishments entered onto the certificate are both correct, consistent and in accordance with their own records of the registered processing establishment.

PART III - DESTINATION OF PRODUCTS

**III (a) Enter United Kingdom and the Port of departure from which the consignment leaves the United Kingdom;**

**III (a) Enter People's Republic of China and the port of destination, which should correspond with the Port of Entry in China as indicated in the Import Permit.** Where two ports are involved on arrival to China, i.e. transshipment at initial port of arrival in China for internal travel to the final port of entry where the final import clearance will be carried out, then both ports also need to be entered. For example "People's Republic of China: TIANJIN / XINGANG"

**III (c) Date of departure:** For the purposes of this certificate, the date of departure is the expected sailing date of the vessel (i.e. the date of despatch from the final port in the UK). OVs must complete the final export health certificate prior to the expected sailing date from the initial/final port(s) in the UK.

**NB:** the date on which the certificate is signed (the date of issue) must be prior to the date of despatch. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** should the export health certificate be completed after the vessel has left the UK port.

**III(d) Means of Transport including identification:** In the majority of cases the means of transport should be entered as 'Non refrigerated Container by Sea'. Any identification/number of containers should match those provided in Section I (e). It is at the discretion of the OV to decide which descriptor is most appropriate to be entered in this section. The name of the ship need not be entered in this section.

#### **PART IV - HEALTH INFORMATION**

OVs may certify this section on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

**Paragraph IV 1(a) refers** - Approval by the competent authority of the exporting country may be certified on the basis of the scouring establishment's approval/registration under the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

**Paragraph IV 1(b) refers** - Registration by GACC may be certified by:

- reference to GACC's list published as Appendix 46 at: <http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/dzs/2747042/3378361/index.html>
- or by reference to **Annex 1** of these guidance notes.
- or by reference to APHA or DAERA (as appropriate).

**Paragraph IV 1(c) refers** - Being under effective supervision of the competent authority of the exporting country may be certified on the basis of compliance with paragraph IV 1(a) as described above, and on the basis of the ongoing supervision of the scouring establishment by the Official Veterinarian, as described in **Paragraph 3** above.

**Paragraph IV 2 refers** - this paragraph may be certified as follows:

- **Animals legally imported into the UK:** Declaration by the producers, commercial documentation, veterinary export certificates from the country of origin, and/or any other evidence that the OV considers necessary;
- **Animals born and raised in the UK:** Declaration by the producers that the raw material was been collected from animals born and raised in the UK and/or any other evidence that the OV considers necessary;

**Paragraph IV 3 refers** - this paragraph may be certified as follows:

- **Farms under disease surveillance programme:** In the case of **raw materials derived from animals of UK origin**, this may be certified on the basis that the farms of origin are registered by APHA or DAERA, as appropriate.

Exporters must provide the details of the farms of origin of the animals from which the raw material was collected for traceability and certification purposes. The scouring establishment may need to ask **British Wool** to provide the OV with the details of the farms of origin for each lot being exported.

In the case of **raw materials imported into the UK**, this may be certified on the basis of official veterinary certification provided by the country of origin and/or any other evidence that the OV considers necessary.

- **Notifiable animal disease clearances:** This paragraph requires animal disease freedom for the 12 months preceding the earliest date of shearing of the wool forming the consignment.

In the case of **raw materials derived from animals of UK origin**, exporters must provide the details of the **farms of origin** of the animals from which the raw material was collected and the **earliest date of shearing**.

The scouring establishment may need to ask **British Wool** to provide the OV with the details of the farms of origin and shearing dates for each lot being exported, particularly in the event of an outbreak of one of the named diseases.

Without this information it may not be possible for the certificate to be signed in the event of an outbreak of any of the named diseases.

This paragraph may be certified provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA/DAERA issuing office on form **618NDC**.

In **Great Britain**, OVs may also wish to check Form ET171, via the Gov.UK link for UK's Notifiable Disease Status, prior to certification to ensure that the above paragraphs can still be certified:

<http://apha.defra.gov.uk/external-operations-admin/library/documents/exports/ET171.pdf>

**In the event of a disease outbreak:** APHA Carlisle will also notify OVs to make it clear if any of those disease freedom statements cannot be certified.

**In the absence of a specific disease notification from APHA Carlisle:** 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 for the last occurrence of the disease and have ensured it complies with the time frames in the certificate.



In **Northern Ireland**, OV's may certify that the UK/NI has disease free status for those diseases mentioned in the health certificate if in possession of a valid DAERA Veterinary Support Certificate. DAERA OV's use the Notifiable Disease Clearance (NDC) system to obtain the required disease status necessary for certification. The NDC system is based on obtaining daily updates on disease status from NI, GB and

For **raw materials imported into the UK**, this paragraph may be certified on the basis of evidence provided by the country of origin of the raw materials, such as an official veterinary certificate and/or any other evidence the OV considers necessary.

- **No animal movement restrictions**

For **raw materials derived from animals of UK origin** this paragraph may be certified on the basis that the farms of origin were not under any animal disease movement restrictions affecting the species and product concerned at the time of shearing. If the farms were under animal health restriction, shearing and other activities, including movements on/off susceptible animals or potentially infected/risk materials will be have been prohibited. This will be especially the case if the farms of origin were restricted because of suspicion/confirmation of one of the named notifiable diseases.

For **raw materials imported into the UK**, this paragraph may be certified on the basis of evidence provided by the country of origin of the raw materials, such as an official veterinary certificate and/or any other evidence the OV considers necessary.

**Paragraph IV 4 refers - Processing parameters:** this paragraph may be certified on the basis of the certifying OV's knowledge of and familiarity with the UK scouring establishment and examination of production records and supporting documentation such as scouring certificates.

**Paragraph IV 5 - Physical appearance:** compliance with this paragraph may be certified by physical inspection of the finished product for export as supported by the OV's familiarity with the UK scouring establishment.

**Paragraph IV 6 - Technical index:** compliance with this paragraph may be certified by corresponding quality control records kept by the scouring establishments and scouring certificates.

**Paragraphs IV 7, 8 and 9 - Packaging, labelling, storing and transport** Compliance with these paragraphs may be supported by physical inspection and knowledge of the relevant procedures employed at the UK scouring establishment.

## 8. **USE OF DECLARATIONS AS SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

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 and/or declared intended use. 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.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

**9. 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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)

**Annex 1****LIST of Scouring Establishments registered by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) to scour wool, goat hair, mohair, cashmere and alpaca hair for export to China**

<b>序号 No.</b>	<b>官方批准编号 Approval NO.</b>	<b>企业名称 Establishment Name</b>	<b>企业地址 Establishment Address</b>
<b>1</b>	C1116521	HAWORTH SCOURING CO LTD.	CASHMERE WORKS, BIRKSLAND STREET, BRADFORD. BD3 9SX. WEST YORKSHIRE
<b>2</b>	49/529/8015/ABP/HANSTO	THOMAS CHADWICK & SONS	EASTFIELD MILLS, GOODS LANE, DEWSBURY WF12 8EH