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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8504EHC titled:
EXPORT TO HONDURAS OF RENDERED POULTRY PROTEINS AND RENDERED POULTRY OILS INTENDED FOR ANIMAL CONSUMPTION - 8504EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

Associated Documents: 8504EHC

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8504EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8504EHC. 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**

This certificate may be used for the export to Honduras of rendered poultry proteins and rendered poultry oils intended for animal consumption.

Note that rendered proteins typically means processed animal proteins (as defined below). However, if the exporter is able to obtain confirmation that the importing authorities would accept this certificate for consignment containing other rendered proteins, such as dried blood products or hydrolysed proteins, then this certificate may be used for that purpose.

For the purposes of this certificate the following definitions laid down in **Regulation (EC) 142/2011** (as amended), shall apply:

> "'**processed animal protein**' means animal protein derived entirely from **Category 3 material**, which have been treated in accordance with Section 1 of Chapter II of Annex X (including blood meal and fishmeal) so as to render them suitable for direct use as feed material or for any other use in feedingstuffs, including petfood, or for use in organic fertilisers or soil improvers;
>
> however, it does not include blood products, milk, milk-based products, milk-derived products, colostrum, colostrum products, centrifuge or separator sludge, gelatine, hydrolysed proteins and dicalcium phosphate, eggs and egg-products, including eggshells, tricalcium phosphate and collagen;".
>
> "'**rendered fats**' means either fats derived from the processing of:
> (a) animal by-products; or
> (b) products for human consumption, which an operator has destined for purposes other than human consumption;"

Similarly, the definition of **Category 3 material** under Article 10 of **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** (as amended) shall also apply.

The principles and controls laid down under **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** (as amended) and **Regulation (EC) 142/2011** (as amended) continue to be enforced and implemented by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) and equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Exporters and certifying Official Veterinarians are therefore reminded that:

- the **export of Category 1 material**, **Category 2 material** (and any product derived from those materials) from the UK to any countries outside the EU **is prohibited** unless specific export rules have been laid down for the commodity concerned.

  Hence only fats derived from Category 3 material may be exported at this time.

  [Articles 8, 9 and 43(3) of **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** (as amended) refer]

- **intra-species recycling**, that is, the feeding of animals or fish with PAP derived from the same species, **is prohibited**.

  [Article 11 of **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** (as amended) refers]

2. CONTROLS ON THE *EXPORT* OF PAP

The export of PAP from the UK to countries outside the EU is controlled by the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2018 (as amended) and equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments continue to enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under **Regulation (EC) 999/2001** (as amended).

PAP derived from non-ruminant terrestrial animals and compound feed containing it may only be exported subject to the **export controls** laid down under **Regulation (EC) 999/2001**, as summarised below:

Either

- the **standard conditions** set out under **Point 3** of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to **Regulation (EC) 999/2001** (as amended) are fully complied with.

  See **paragraph A** below.

Or

- the **derogation** provided for under **Point 4(e)** of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to **Regulation (EC) 999/2001** is fully complied with.

  See **paragraph B** below.

Note: Compliance with the above **export controls** is required regardless of the requirements of this certificate and independently of any other requirements the authorities in the importing country may have.

OV's and exporters are advised to familiarise themselves with the detailed export controls referred to above, but for convenience the key requirements are outlined below:

A **Standard Conditions for the export of non-ruminant PAP**

Point 3 of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to Regulation (EC) 999/2001 (as amended) relates to the complete segregation of ruminant and non-ruminant materials at each stage in the production of the PAP and of compound feeds containing the PAP, supported by regular sampling and analysis to verify the absence of cross-contamination.

As a result, these conditions focus on robust segregation at **slaughterhouses**, **cutting plants**, **rendering establishments** and **compound feed establishments**.

The requirements for each of these establishments are outlined below:

(a) slaughterhouses must:

Either:

(i) be specifically registered by the competent authority as slaughterhouses which do not slaughter ruminant animals;

Or

(ii) be specifically inspected and authorised by the competent authority to also slaughter ruminant animals on the basis that robust and effective measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination between ruminant and non-ruminant by-products, including:

- the use of physically separate lines;
- separate collection, storage, transport and packaging facilities;
- regular sampling and laboratory analysis of non-ruminant animal by-products for the presence of ruminant proteins using a method set out under Regulation (EC) 152/2009.

(b) cutting plants must:

Either

(i) be specifically registered by the competent authority as cutting plants which do not debone or cut up ruminant meat;

Or

(ii) be specifically inspected and authorised by the competent authority to also debone or cut up ruminant meat on the basis that robust and effective measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination between ruminant and non-ruminant by-products, including:

- the use of physically separate lines;

- separate collection, storage, transport and packaging facilities;

- regular sampling and laboratory analysis of non-ruminant animal by-products for the presence of ruminant proteins using a method set out under Regulation (EC) 152/2009.

(c) other establishments must:

Either

(i) be specifically registered by the competent authority as not handling ruminant products;

Or

(ii) be specifically inspected and authorised by the competent authority to also handle ruminant products on the basis that robust and effective measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination between ruminant and non-ruminant by-products, including:

- the use of physically separate lines;
- separate collection, storage, transport and packaging facilities;
- regular sampling and laboratory analysis of non-ruminant animal by-products for the presence of ruminant proteins using a method set out under Regulation (EC) 152/2009.

(d) the **rendering** plant must:

Either

(i) be specifically registered by the competent authority as being dedicated to processing non-ruminant animal by-products and must source their raw materials exclusively from **slaughterhouses**, **cutting plants** and **other establishments** referred to in the abovementioned **paragraphs a.**, **b.** and **c.** respectively;

Or

(ii) be specifically inspected and authorised by the competent authority to also process ruminant animal by-products on site on the basis that robust and effective measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination between PAP of ruminant origin and PAP of non-ruminant origin, including:

- producing PAP of ruminant origin within a closed system that is physically separate from that used for the production of PAP of non-ruminant origin;
- storage and transport of animal by-products of ruminant origin in facilities that are physically separate from those used for animal by-products of non-ruminant origin;
- storage and packaging of PAP of ruminant origin in facilities that are physically separate from those used for finished products of non-ruminant origin;
- regular sampling and laboratory analysis of the PAP of non-ruminant origin using a method set out under Regulation (EC) 152/2009 to verify the absence of PAP of ruminant origin.

(e) the **compound feed** establishment must:

Either

(i) be authorised by the competent authority and be dedicated to the production of feed for aquaculture animals;

Or

(ii) be specifically inspected and authorised by the competent authority to also produce feed intended for other farmed animals (other than fur animals) on the basis that robust and effective measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination between the feed for aquaculture animals and the feed for other farmed animals, including:

- the manufacture, storage, transport, packaging and handling of compound feed intended for ruminant animals must be carried out in facilities that are physically separate from those used for compound feed intended for non-ruminant animals;
- the manufacture, storage, transport, packaging and handling of compound feed intended for aquaculture animals must be carried out in facilities that are physically separate from those used for compound feed intended for other non-ruminant animals;
- the keeping of records detailing the purchases and uses of PAP derived from non-ruminant terrestrial animals (other than farmed insects) and the sales of compound feed containing this PAP and making these available to the competent authority for a period of at least five years;

- regular sampling and laboratory analysis of the compound feed intended for farmed animals other than aquaculture animals using a method set out under Regulation (EC) 152/2009 to verify the absence of unauthorised constituents of animal origin.

Or

(iii) be a **home compounder** that:

- is registered by the competent authority as a producer of complete feed from compound feed containing PAP derived from non-ruminant terrestrial animals (other than farmed insects);
- only keeps aquaculture animals;
- only uses compound feed containing PAP derived from non-ruminant terrestrial animals (other than farmed insects) which contains less than 50% crude protein in the manufacture its complete feed;

B **Derogation from the Standard Specific Conditions for the export of non-ruminant PAP**

Point 4(e) of Section E of Chapter V of Annex IV to Regulation (EC) 999/2001 (as amended) allows rendering establishments to make use of a derogation from the requirements set out under **paragraph A(d)** above on the basis that **each consignment** satisfies the following requirements:

(a) the consignment is destined for the manufacture of **pet food** in the country of destination;
And
(b) the consignment has been **analysed in accordance with the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) method** set out under point 2.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 152/2009 to verify the absence of constituents of ruminant origin.

The certifying OV is advised to keep records of the evidence used to determine compliance with the requirements of either **paragraph A** or **paragraph B** above.

If the OV has any concerns that the consignment or the establishments involved in its manufacture do not comply with either of the requirements summarised at **paragraph A** or **paragraph B** above, then the certificate should not be signed and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle, or DAERA should be consulted for advice.

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
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.

3. **Paragraph II(a) – Approval number.**
This relates to the **rendering establishment** responsible for processing Category 3 animal by-products to produce the PAP and/or other rendered proteins and/or rendered fat present in the consignment.

The rendering establishment must be approved in accordance with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments currently enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** (as amended).

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the responsible local APHA or DAERA office. Note that if the rendering establishment consists of a number of separately approved production lines, the approval number entered must relate to the relevant production line. **In addition**, if the consignment contains PAP, the **rendering establishment** must also satisfy the conditions described under either **paragraph 1A(d)(i)** or **paragraph 1A(d)(ii)** above, unless if the rendering establishment is to make use of the derogation outlined in **paragraph 1B** above.

4. **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 processing establishment supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including commercial documentation and veterinary statements and laboratory test results.

(a) **Paragraph IV 1(a) – health of the poultry at slaughter**
This may be certified on the basis that the material used to produce the product was obtained from poultry which were considered fit to be slaughtered for human consumption following ante-mortem inspection at a slaughterhouse approved in accordance with the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments continue to enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under the EU Hygiene package which includes Regulations (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs, 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin and 854/2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption

The UK establishment's approved or registered status may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document, or by reference to the enforcement authority (APHA, DAERA or Local Authority) responsible for the establishment.

(b) **Paragraph IV 1(b) – Under official veterinary control**
This may be certified on the basis of approval of the manufacturer in accordance with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as described in paragraph 3 above.

(c) **Paragraph IV 1(c) – Processing parameters**
This paragraph should be completed to most accurately reflect how the raw animal material was processed during the manufacture of the final product. One of the three options, (i), (ii) or (iii) must be certified. The two options which are not to be certified must be struck through in their entirety in the usual manner.

(d) **Paragraph IV 1(e) – suitable for pet food and animal feed use**
This may be certified on the basis of approval of the manufacturer in accordance with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as described in paragraph 3 above.

5. If 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.

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