

No:

EXPORT TO THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS OF FRESH MEAT, MEAT PREPARATIONS AND MEAT PRODUCTS, OF NON-BOVINE ORIGIN, AND FRESH POULTRY MEAT, POULTRY MEAT PREPARATIONS AND POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTS - 6979EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

Associated Documents: 6979EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6979EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6979EHC. 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.

EXPORTERS MAY USE THIS CERTIFICATE, BUT AT THEIR OWN RISK WHICH CAN BE REDUCED BY ENSURING THE IMPORTER CHECKS THAT IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE BORDER INSPECTORS/ CYPRUS's AUTHORITIES.

Please note that this Department will assume, unless informed otherwise by an exporter or by the veterinary authorities in the country of destination, that certificate 6979EHC meets Cyprus's import requirements and, therefore, that it is acceptable to the importing country's authorities, however this cannot be guaranteed. Destination countries may change their requirements at short notice; not inform the Department until after a change has been made; or, in some cases, not inform the Department at all.

It is therefore strongly advised that exporters check with their customers that certificates are acceptable to the authorities in the country of destination in advance of each consignment. This Department will not accept liability should it turn out that certification supplied by us does not meet an importing country's requirement.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

This certificate - 6979EHC - is for non-bovine meat only.

Therefore, this certificate should be used for the export of lamb AND pork meat, pork preparations and pork products, including pork sausages made using pig natural (i.e. intestinal) casings, which can come from the whole of the UK.

Poultry-based Products

***Exporters are strongly advised to check with the Northern Cyprus Authorities, that this certificate is acceptable for poultry-based products before use.**

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

6979NFG (Cleared 14/10/2014) (Revised 04/12/2023)

(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 III (a) refers. Under 'means of transport' state whether truck, rail, sea or air. Provide the registration number of the truck, the aircraft flight number, or the name of the ship.
4. Paragraph IV refers. In order to be considered fit for human consumption and suitable for placing on the market within the EU, food including meat must be produced in accordance with EU Regulations 852/2004, 853/2004, and 854/2004. The Food Standards Agency(FSA) is responsible for approving slaughterhouses and cutting plants, and supervising the conditions of production of meat production in accordance with the Regulations. Premises in which the meat is further processed into meat products or meat preparations are also subject to oversight by the FSA, though in most cases

the responsibility is delegated to the Local Authority environmental health officers.

If fresh meat has been produced in accordance with the Regulations anywhere in the EU it should be marked with the official oval EU health mark, containing letters to indicate the country in which it was produced, and numbers to identify the premises in which it was produced. However the oval mark is not required on certain items, notably pizzas. The OV may certify the paragraph on the basis that the items are held in an FSA approved cold store, and the FSA is responsible for ensuring that nothing enters the cold store which is not fit for human consumption in accordance with the EU Regulations.

5. 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