

**TEMPORARY EXPORT OF HORSES FOR COMPETITION TO THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM**

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8536EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8536EHC. 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 covers the temporary export of horses for competition to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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 8536NFG (Agreed 10/02/2020) (Revised 04/12/2023)

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. Clinical examination

Paragraph III b) refers. The examination should consist of visual inspection, supported as necessary by clinical examination, laboratory reports, and pathological examination of any animals in contact with the animals for export.

4. Residency

Paragraph III d) refers. The OV should obtain proof from the owner/exporter the the horse for export meets the 40 day residency requirement.

5. Notifiable Disease Clearance

Official Veterinarians may certify paragraphs III e), f), g i), and g ii) on behalf of the Department provided that written authority to do so has been obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency - Centre for International Trade in Carlisle or DAERA in Belfast on form 618NDC.

6. Treatments, Vaccinations and Tests

Paragraph III j) and k) refer. The treatments used must be licensed in the UK and the date of treatment must be stated on the export health certificate. Treatments should be carried out as detailed on the export health certificate.

The vaccinations against equine influenza must be entered in the passport of the horse. A primary course of vaccinations will be considered to consist of at least two doses of the same vaccine given 21-42 days apart. Where a booster only is entered, certified proof of previous vaccinations must be attached to this certificate and travel with the horse. All vaccinations must be entered in the passport indicating the date of vaccination, name and type of vaccine, and batch number, and be signed by the administering veterinarian.

Blood samples to be tested for diseases that are notifiable in the UK must be sent to the APHA laboratory in Weybridge or in NI to the VSD Belfast.

8. Transporting and crating

Paragraph IV refers. The animal must be transferred from the place of origin directly to the place of loading and then to the destination. The OV must also verify (if necessary, using a written declaration by the owner or its representative, see below) that the that transport takes place in vehicles cleaned and disinfected using a Defra approved disinfectant at the appropriate dilution rate, without coming into contact with animals that were not intended for temporary export to Saudi Arabia.

9. Owner's declarations

The OV must obtain a written signed declaration from the owner or 8536NFG (Agreed 10/02/2020) (Revised 04/12/2023)

representative assurances on the sanitary requirements for transportation have been met. Also that the horse has had no contact with horses not of the same health status and that the residency requirements have been met. The declaration form at the end of the certificate should be used for this purpose and this part should be included in the certificate accompanying the horse. The OV may obtain any further written assurances the he/she considers necessary from the owner or representative. The OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN should retain such written declarations for his/her records. Any declarations provided by the exporter to the OV should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence.

If the OV has any reason to doubt the validity of the declarations, the Animal and Plant Health, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA should be consulted.

10. 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.

11. 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