

EXPORT OF PIGMEAT/ PIG MEAT PRODUCTS TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

PLEASE NOTE: These notes for guidance (NFGs) are not intended to operate as a standalone document, but must be read in conjunction with export health certificate 7027EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the appropriate veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 7027EHC may be used for the export of fresh pigmeat/ pig meat products from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Congo.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

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 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. CONTAINER NUMBER

Paragraph I(e) refers: it is important that the container number in which the consignment is placed is noted fully and the seal applied. If the consignment comprises lots from different establishments which have been collected together before export, the respective weights of each part of the final consignment must be recorded.

4. FORMAT OF APPROVAL NUMBERS

Paragraphs II(a) to (c) refer: veterinary approval numbers for slaughterhouse and manufacturing plant, and approval number for cold stores **must** be entered in the format UK Licence No EC (eg:UK 1234 EC).

5. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

Paragraphs IV a), b) and c) can be signed on behalf of the Department by an Official Veterinarian provided written authority to do so on form 618NDC has been obtained from the issuing office within 10 days of shipment.

6. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS (EC) 852,853 & 854/2004

Paragraph IV(d) can be signed on behalf of the Department by an Official Veterinarian provided the meat is marked with an oval approval mark or the packaging for the meat or meat products are marked with the EC approval number of the plant involved. The presence of such a mark indicates that the meat/meat products comply with Regulations (EC) 852,853 & 854/2004.

7. 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