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**EXPORT OF FRESH MEAT OF SHEEP, GOAT OR PIG TO BARBADOS-1776EHC**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 1776EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1776EHC.

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

**1. Scope of the Certificate**

Export health certificate 1776EHC may be used for the export of fresh meat of sheep, goat or pig from the United Kingdom to Barbados.

**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](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.

**3. Obtaining an import permit**

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit.

**4. Container and seal number**

Paragraph I g) (i) and (ii): The certifying veterinarian should insert both container and seal number.

**5. Oval markings and UK national testing plan**

Paragraph IV 1. may be certified, in the case of meat produced in the UK, on the basis of oval marks demonstrating compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004, and in the case of meat produced before 01/01/2006, Directive 64/433/EEC.

The UK national testing plan covers all licensed slaughterhouses in Great Britain and implements the Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 1997, which implement European Council Regulations 2377/90/EEC, and Council Directives 96/22/EEC and 96/23/EEC in Great Britain. On the basis of this testing plan, it can be considered that the meat does not contain levels exceeding the limits permitted in the European Community for any veterinary medicinal product, antiparasitic agent, or heavy metal contaminant, nor any beta-agonist, or any substances having a thyrostatic, oestrogenic androgenic or gestogenic action, which do not occur naturally in the meat.

Knowledge that meat does not contain prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

**6. Support certification for date of slaughter**

Paragraph IV 2. refers: Support certificate from the Official Veterinary Surgeon responsible for the slaughterhouse(s) in question is required confirming date of slaughter.

7. **Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)**

Paragraphs IV 3. and 4. refer: OV's may certify paragraphs IV 3. and IV 4. on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

8. **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)