EXPORT OF PROCESSED PET FOOD, INCLUDING CANNED PET FOOD, TO CANADA - 7133NFG

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

Associated Documents: Export Certificate 7133 - "Export of Processed Pet Food, Including Canned Pet Food, to Canada".

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the 7133EHC "Export of Processed Pet Food, including Canned Pet Food, to Canada". **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 OF THE CERTIFICATE

This certificate may be used for the export of processed pet food, including canned pet food, to Canada. This certificate may also be used for ornamental fish food.

Exporters should contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to verify if this certificate would be appropriate for their products and whether their importer would need to obtain an import permit prior to shipment.

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 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. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

The text and layout of this certificate has been agreed between the United Kingdom and the CFIA to enable the export of pet food from the UK to Canada.

Specific guidance on completing this certificate is provided via footnotes in the certificate itself and in these notes.

4. COMPLETION OF PART I – DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.2 – Certificate reference number
This will be completed by the issuing APHA office.

I.2a – Unique reference number
If an import permit is required, please insert here the number. If a permit is not required, please strike through this box.

I.3 – Central Competent Authority
This should be completed with "**Defra**". When the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "**DAERA**" should be entered.

I.4 – Local Competent Authority
It should be entered the Animal and Plant Health Agency. Where the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "**DAERA**" should be entered.

I.5 – Consignee
Enter the details of the importer.

I.6 – Enter related certificate and document numbers, if any. Otherwise, please strike through.

I.7 and I.9 – Country ISO Codes
ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the **United Kingdom** is "**GBR**" and this is pre-populated at **Box I.7.**

The ISO Code for **Canada** is "**CAN**" and should be entered at **Box I.9.**

I.8 – Enter the region of origin.

I.10 – Enter the region of destination.

I.11 – Place of origin
Enter the details of establishment of dispatch.

I.11 – Approval/Registration Number
Establishments handling unprocessed animal by-products or manufacturing products derived from unprocessed animal by-products must be approved in accordance with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Alternatively, establishments producing pet food or animal feeding stuffs from processed ingredients of animal origin require approval in accordance with the Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the manufacturing establishment.

I.12 – Enter place of destination.

I.13 – Enter place of loading.

I.14 - Date and time of departure
The date of departure must be entered in the format **dd**/**mm**/**yyyy**.

I.15 – Means of transport
The means of transport i.e. aeroplane, ship, railway wagon, road vehicle must be indicated.

The option 'Other' is not applicable to the movement of products and should not be selected.

The **Identification Number(s)** should be completed with the name of the vessel and, if known, the flight number of the aircraft.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry.

I.16 – Entry point
The exporter must advise the OV of the point of entry into the destination country and this must be entered.

I.17 – intentionally struck through.

I.18 – Temperature of products
Indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled or frozen.

I.19 – Total Gross Weight
Insert the total gross and total net weights in Kg.

I.20 – Total number of packages
Insert the total number of packages forming the consignment.

I.21 - Seal/container number
The seal or container number of consignment may be entered here.

For containers or boxes, the container number and the seal number (if applicable) should be included.

I.22 – Commodities certified for
The box should be ticked to confirm that the consignment is intended for use as a pet food.

I.23 – Strike through if the EHC is used for exports.

I.24 – For export
The box should be ticked to confirm that this is an export, as opposed to transhipment.

I.25 – Identification of the commodities
If the consignment consists of several different types of products then it may be necessary to use a separate schedule to identify the full consignment. The schedule must, as a minimum, contain the same information as that required in **Box I.25** of the certificate and this box must be annotated "See Attached Schedule".

Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the **Certificate reference number** and/or **certificate reference number** and be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian.

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the Official Veterinarian should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also.

Any blank spaces in the schedule or in **Box I.25** should be struck through with diagonal lines.

(a) **Customs code and title:** The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics.

The permitted HS Codes, as referred to in the footnote of the certificate, and their broad headings are given below:

05.11 Animal products not elsewhere specified or included; dead animals of Chapter 1 or 3, unfit for human consumption.

23.09 Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding.

42.05 Other articles of leather or of composition leather.

42.06 Articles of gut (other than silkworm gut), of goldbeater's skin, of bladders or of tendons.

The exporter must select the appropriate HS Code from within one of the above headings which best reflects their consignment. The selected HS Code and its specific description must be entered in the space provided in **Box I.25.**

The OV should confirm with the exporter that the HS Code and specific description entered at Box I.25 correctly describes the products being consigned.

Further information on HS Codes can be found online at:

https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff/sections

5. PART II – CERTIFICATION

Taking into consideration the additional guidance below, the health attestation may be certified on the basis of the OV's knowledge of Regulations (EC) 1069/2009 and 142/2011 (as amended) which has been retained in Great Britain as retained EU law as defined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

And familiarity with the sourcing, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment and/or examination of relevant records and documentation including laboratory test results where relevant.

II.1. – Approval and supervision of processing and storage site
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of approval in line with the advice given for paragraph **I.11** above.

II.2. – Ingredients of animal origin
This paragraph should be completed to reflect the types of animal by-products used in the manufacture of the product.

The options which do not apply should be struck through and the deletions initialed and stamped in the usual manner.

II.3. – Animals not under disease or movement restrictions
This paragraph requires that the ingredients of animal origin are obtained from animals which:

- were not under any official restrictions because of a disease which affects the species and can be *transmitted* through *untreated* ingredients of animal origin;

  and

- were not under movement restrictions and were not culled in relation to any Canadian reportable disease;

A list of animal diseases which are reportable in Canada can be viewed by searching for "reportable diseases" on the CFIA website at:

http://www.inspection.gc.ca/

Most of the listed diseases are notifiable in the UK. Those that are not (e.g. Cysticercosis, equine piroplasmosis, fowl typhoid, pullorum disease, trichinellosis) can either not be transmitted through processed pet food (because the process will inactivate the organism) or because a vector is required for transmission. In the case of notifiable diseases, UK legislation ensures that animals which are under official restrictions can only be slaughtered in designated slaughterhouses (in the case of restrictions because of epizootic diseases) or they are subject to enhanced checks/tests/controls (e.g. for bovine tuberculosis, BSE) to ensure the products are only released for placing on the market after any potential risk is mitigated (processing, post-mortem inspection, removal of SRM).

II.4. – Ingredients derived from slaughtered bovines
There are no provisions for the entire paragraph to be deleted in cases where no ingredients derived from slaughtered bovine animals are used in the product. The certifying OV should therefore follow the guidance below in such cases.

Paragraph II.4.1 – Countries of origin
The CFIA accepts the OIE's classification of BSE risk status, as

published online at:

https://www.oie.int/en/disease/bovine-spongiform-encephalopathy#ui-id-2

This paragraph should be completed with the name of the countries of origin as appropriate.

If the product does not contain any ingredients derived from slaughtered bovine animals, "**not applicable**" may be entered in the spaces provided.

Paragraph II.4.1.1 – Absence of Specified Risk Material
For EU origin ingredients of animal origin, this may be supported by the fact that Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 (as amended) requires the removal and safe destruction of specified risk material from ruminant animals which are slaughtered in a slaughterhouse approved in accordance with the EU Hygiene package.

In the case of ingredients of animal origin collected from bovine animals slaughtered outside the EU, confirmation of the prohibition on the use of the described stunning processes may be supported by the veterinary certificate which accompanied the bovine ingredients into the UK or EU.

Paragraph II.4.2 - Pithing and stunning of bovines
Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001 (as amended, which has been retained in Great Britain as retained EU law as defined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, prohibits bovine animals slaughtered in the EU for human consumption to be subjected to a pitching or stunning process described in this paragraph. In England this is enforced by The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2010 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In the case of ingredients of animal origin collected from bovine animals slaughtered outside the EU, confirmation of the prohibition on the use of the described stunning processes may be supported by the veterinary certificate which accompanied the bovine ingredients into the UK or EU.

Paragraph II.5. – Processing parameters
This paragraph must be completed as appropriate to reflect the principal processing applied to the ingredients of animal origin during the production of the exported product.

Those options which do not apply should be struck through and the deletion signed and stamped in the usual manner.

In case of milk and milk products, these ingredients must have been:

either
1. obtained from countries recognised by CFIA as being free of Foot and Mouth disease, as published at **http://www.inspection.gc.ca/** (search for "**foot and mouth**");

or
2. subjected to initial pasteurisation involving:
   either
   (a) Ultra-High temperature (UHT) pasteurization (a sterilisation process applying a minimum temperature of 140°C for at least 5 seconds);

   followed by one of the following treatments:
   (i) a second HTST or UHT heat treatment;
   or

(ii) a treatment whereby the pH is lowered below 5.0 and held there for at least two (2) hours.

or

(b) High Temperature Short Time (HTST) pasteurization (a process applying a minimum temperature of 72°C for at least 15 seconds);

followed by one of the following treatments:
(i) a second HTST or UHT heat treatment;
or
(ii) a treatment whereby the pH is lowered below 5.0 and held there for at least two (2) hours.

II.6. – Microbiological standards for non-canned pet food

For the purposes of this paragraph:

n = number of units comprising the sample;
m = threshold value for the number of bacteria; the result is satisfactory if the number of bacteria in all the sample units does not exceed **m**;
M = maximum value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered unsatisfactory if the number of bacteria in one or more sample units is **M** or more;
c = number of sample units the bacterial count of which may be between **m** and **M**, the sample still being considered acceptable if the bacterial count of the other sample units is **m** or less.

lot = an identifiable quantity of feed determined to have common characteristics, such as origin, variety, type of packaging, packer, consignor or labelling, and, in the case of a production process, a unit of production from a single plant using uniform production parameters or a number of such units, when produced in continuous order and stored together.

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that:

either

(a) **in the case of non-canned pet food manufactured within the UK or the EU**

the pet food manufacturer is approved in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), which has been retained in Great Britain as retained EU law as defined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

Regular bacteriological testing of the pet food against the above standards is a condition of this approval.

In England, this is enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement)(England) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The approval status of the pet food manufacturer under Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), which has been retained in Great Britain as retained EU law as defined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the relevant EU Member State's list of approved animal by-product establishments, as published at:

Approved establishments - ABP (europa.eu)

or

(b) **in the case of non-canned pet food imported into the UK or the EU**

the pet food was accompanied by official veterinary certification confirming compliance with the abovementioned

microbiological standards;

or

(c) relevant laboratory test results from an ISO 17025 accredited laboratory confirm that the pet food for export complies with the abovementioned microbiological standards.

II.7.2. – Processing effectiveness testing for canned pet food
This may be supported on sight of relevant diagnostic data relating to the satisfactory operation of the processing equipment and/or microbiological sampling and/or processing records.

II.9. – Labelling of packaging
The exporter should confirm that their product is labelled to CFIA's satisfaction.

6. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

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.

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