

No:

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 5587EHC titled:
EXPORT OF SCOURED WOOL AND/OR PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM SCOURING WOOL TO AUSTRALIA

Associated Documents: 5587EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 5587EHC. 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 may be used for the export to Australia of scoured wool and/or products derived from the scouring of wool. Exporters should note that only wool which was sourced, manufactured and exported from a country recognised by Australia as being free from capripox disease may be exported under this certificate. See paragraph IV 2 of the certificate and **paragraphs 3(b) and 3(c) below** for further information.

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. Paragraph IV - Health information

The health information may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

(a) Paragraph IV 1 - Processing requirements

One of the two options must be certified to correctly represent the treatment applied to the products in the consignment.

The option which is not being certified must be deleted in the usual manner.

Note that processing option **IV 1(a)** requires the treatment to have been applied at least 4 weeks before importation into Australia and that this text makes an allowance for the anticipated storage and transit time prior to arrival.

This may be supported by, for example, sight of a scouring certificate issued by a third-party scouring company.

(b) Paragraph IV 2 - Capripox disease

This paragraph requires the wool to have been sourced, manufactured and exported from a country recognised by Australia as being free from capripox disease.

At the time of writing, the following countries are considered by Australia to be free of capripox disease:

Austria	Italy
Belgium	Lithuania
Chile	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Netherlands
Denmark	Poland
Estonia	Portugal
Finland	Spain
France	Switzerland
Germany	United Kingdom
Ireland - republic of	United States of America

Note: The above list is provided for information only, and it is the responsibility of the exporter to obtain confirmation from the importing authorities that this list is up to date at the time of export. Confirmation of the currently listed countries may be obtained via importers or by searching for 'wool' on Australia's Biosecurity Import Conditions (BICON) website:

<https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ImportConditions/Search/>

Similarly, if a case of sheep pox, goat pox or lumpy skin disease is confirmed in the UK or in any other country involved in the sourcing or production of the consignment, the exporter must also obtain confirmation from the importing authorities that their consignment would still be permitted entry.

The certifying OV should make due enquiry to confirm where the wool was sheared and processed.

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that:

- the countries in which the wool was sheared and processed is currently recognised by Australia as being free of capripox disease; **and**
- the UK is currently recognised by Australia as being free of capripox disease.

4. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

Where 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 and/or declared intended use. 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.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

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