EXPORT OF COMPOSITE PRODUCT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION CONTAINING POULTRY MEAT AS THE ONLY ANIMAL BASED INGREDIENT TO THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE - 8816EHC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8816EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8816EHC. 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.

Testing note: Please be aware of the additional testing for Newcastle Disease required on the flock of origin, as detailed in 4.5 below.

1. **Scope of the certificate.**

This certificate is for the export of composite products for human consumption containing poultry meat as the only animal based ingredient to the Republic of Türkiye.

The conditions in the certificate are similar to the conditions in older EU model certificates for the import of poultry meat from Third Countries into the EU. However, the certificate cannot be used for the import of poultry meat to Türkiye, other than as part of a product.

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 should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK.**

Certified Copy Requirements

Certifiers are only required to return a certified copy of EHCs for the following EHC types:

- If the commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids
- EHC's where the certifier cannot submit certifier feedback

If you are required to return a certified copy to CITC, email a scanned copy to certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

Retain a copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified for two years.

Certifiers 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. **PART I: Details of despatched consignment**

Box 1.2. This number will be supplied and filled in by the issuing office of APHA/DAERA.

Box 1.3. DEFRA.

Box 1.4. APHA for Great Britain or DAERA for Northern Ireland.

Box 1.7. The ISO code for the whole of the United Kingdom is GB.

Box 1.8. Region of origin: This paragraph may usually be struck through.

However, if the UK and the product fall within the scope of emergency disease control legislation laid down by the importing authorities then this paragraph should be completed with the appropriate region names and codes if these are specified under such emergency legislation.

In these cases, Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade (CIT) in Carlisle or DAERA in Northern Ireland should be consulted for further specific guidance.

Box 1.9. The ISO code for Türkiye is TR.

Box 1.11. Give details of the final production plant or cold store.

Box 1.15. 'Documentary references' may be left blank.

Box 1.16. The OV must obtain the name of the proposed entry point from the Exporter.

Box 1.19. Insert the appropriate commodity code.

Box 1.23. Seal/container No.: Exporters are advised to check with the competent authority of the importing country if there are seal number requirements for their consignment. If applicable, please indicate all the identification numbers of the seals and containers.

Box 1.25 Tick the box

Box 1.28. For the abattoir, cutting plant and cold store it is not necessary to provide the addresses, but only the approval numbers. Details can be contained on a separate schedule document if necessary, ensuring the document contains the corresponding certificate reference number and is signed, stamped and dated by the certifier. Use of a schedule should be indicated in I.28 of the EHC by writing 'see attached schedule'.

4. PART II.

4.1 Section II.1 Conformity with EU Regulations

The specified EU regulations are all applicable to the production of poultry meat within the EU, and in the UK under retained legislation. Therefore if the meat has been marked with the official oval identification mark the entire section II.1 may be certified.

4.2. Section II.2.1. and Section II.2.4. and Section II.2.6(a) Notifiable Disease Clearance

Freedom from highly pathogenic avian influenza and Newcastle disease, and absence of any animal health restrictions, may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the issuing office [in GB, APHA Specialist Service Centre – Exports in Carlisle; or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland].
Note that the 'absence of any animal health restrictions' applies only to notifiable poultry diseases; therefore only notifiable avian influenza and Newcastle disease.

For meat imported from outside the UK, these paragraphs may be certified on the basis of the certificate used for import into the UK.

The ISO code for the country of origin entered in Section II.2.1 will be applicable to the whole territory of the country of origin except when areas are under restriction due to an outbreak of highly pathogenic Avian Influenza or Newcastle disease.

In this case, the appropriate code should be entered under the principle of Regionalisation/Zoning at the time of signature of the certificate or at the time of slaughter of the birds from which the meat was produced, as applicable and further detailed in the below criteria. Enter the code e.g. "GB-1" for the zone as listed in Annex XIV of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 (as amended). The OV can enter "GB-1" as the zone of origin if the product is entirely produced and packaged in GB-1 zone and is solely stored in a GB-2 zone cold store as a fully packaged product.

To apply zoning, the following criteria must be met:

II.2.1: At time of certification, slaughterhouses and processing plants must be in an area free of restrictions for exports to the EU due to an HPAI/ND outbreak. Therefore premises within 10km of an infected premises cannot be certified following an outbreak until the restrictions around that outbreak are lifted for EU exports. The minimum duration that the GB-2 restricted area (also known as an enhanced surveillance zone) applies for exports to the EU now aligns with the minimum duration of the 10km surveillance zones that apply in domestically in Great Britain.

II.2.3: At the time of slaughter, the poultry holding must not have been under HPAI/ND restrictions, with no outbreak of HPAI/ND confirmed in the past 30 days.

II.2.5.(a): At the time of slaughter, meat from slaughterhouses within 10km of an infected premises cannot be certified for at least 30 days following an outbreak.

4.3. Section II.2.2 Flock Residency

In the line titled 'territory of code' the OV must write 'GB' for UK flocks of origin.

If the OV has any doubts on the location of flocks of origin he/she should make enquiries and may ask for a written statement from the owner of the slaughtered poultry.

4.4. **Section II.2.4. and Section II.2.5(b) Slaughter Conditions**

The OV must certify these sections on the basis of his/her personal observations and any further enquiries that appear necessary. The presence of the official oval identification mark may be taken as confirmation that the meat has not been slaughtered under any official disease control programme [sub-paragraph II.2.4(a)]

4.5. **Section II.2.6. Further Newcastle Disease Conditions**

Paragraph (a) can be certified on the basis that for all the currently authorised live attenuated Newcastle disease vaccines in the UK, and those imported as controlled by the VMD under special import scheme, must have Intracerebral Pathogenicity Index (ICPI) lower than lentogenic strains of the ND virus.

To certify paragraph (b), at least 60 birds from the flock from which the poultry meat in the product was obtained must have been tested for ND by a virus isolation test on swabs taken at or around the time of slaughter, showing that no avian paramyxoviruses with an ICPI of more than 0.4 were found. Swabs can be taken while at the slaughterhouse or farm of origin, and do not necessarily need to be from birds whose meat will form part of the product, or indeed even from those being slaughtered at the same time.

The certifying OV should be provided with evidence of this testing, and subsequent results, via supporting declarations from the person responsible at the premises along with a copy of the laboratory reports stating the necessary result.

Paragraph (c) can be certified on the same basis as (a), and provided the required testing of (b) has been carried out.

5. **Section II.3. Welfare at Slaughter**

If the birds were slaughtered at an approved slaughterhouse within the UK and the meat bears the official oval identification mark the OV may assume that the welfare provisions of the EU legislation have been met. The section may be certified on this basis.

6. **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 processes and/or declared intended use. The veterinary person responsible, or managing director (or equivalent) of the company as appropriate, 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.