NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

EXPORT TO TURKEY OF BLOOD AND BLOOD PRODUCTS FOR TECHNICAL USE ONLY

Associated Documents: 8136EHC

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 8136EHC.
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

Export health certificate 8136EHC may be used for the export of animal blood and blood products to Turkey for uses other than human or animal consumption.

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. Paragraphs II(a) and (b) – UK registration number

The appropriate registration or approval number(s) of the UK exporter and/or processor should be entered in these paragraphs.

Establishments handling raw blood or processing raw blood into blood products that are not intended for human or animal consumption must be **approved** in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended). However, a **registration** under this Regulation may be sufficient if the establishment is only handling blood and blood products produced elsewhere. In England, this Regulation is enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Certifying Official Veterinarians are advised that, in accordance with Articles 54 and 55 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), references to Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) shall be construed as references to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) and that establishments, plants and users approved or registered in accordance with regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (as amended) before 4 March 2011 shall be deemed to be approved or registered, as required, in accordance with regulation (EC) 1069/2009.

The approved or registered status of the UK establishment(s) may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document, or by reference to the enforcement authority (APHA or DAERA) responsible for the approval or registration of the establishment.

4. Paragraph IV – Health information

Paragraph IV 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 – No clinical signs of disease**

This may be certified on the basis that either:

i. the blood was collected from slaughtered animals which were considered fit for slaughter for human consumption following ante-mortem inspection in a slaughterhouse;

or

ii. the blood was collected from live animals that had been subjected to a satisfactory clinical examination within 48 hours of collection.

This may be supported by suitably worded statements from the slaughterhouses or animal facility, as appropriate.

(b) **Paragraph IV 2 – Approved plant under official supervision**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the approval or registration of the premises involved in the processing, manufacturing, handling and storage of the product, in line with the guidance provided in paragraph 3 above.

(c) **Paragraph IV 4 – In-vitro use only**
This paragraph may be supported by a declaration of intended use from the exporter or the processor, and/or by the labelling on the product.

(d) **Paragraph IV 5 – Certificate of analysis**
This paragraph may be certified on sight of a certificate of analysis corresponding to the batches/lots of product in the consignment and confirming that the results are within the acceptable ranges for the testing methodology used.

The serial number of the certificate of analysis should be entered into the space provided.

The exporter is responsible for ensuring that the range of tests carried out and their results satisfy the requirements of the Turkish authorities.

(e) **Paragraph IV 6 – Bovine blood**
If bovine blood is not present in the consignment, this paragraph must be deleted in its entirety and the deletion initialled and stamped in the usual manner.

If the consignment contains bovine blood or blood products, paragraph IV 6(a)(i) or IV 6(a)(ii) and paragraph IV 6(b) must be certified in line with the following guidance:

(i) **Paragraph IV 6(a)(i) – Negligible BSE risk status**
This paragraph should be certified if the bovine animals were resident in a country or region that has been granted negligible BSE risk status by the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE).

Confirmation of the BSE risk status of the country or region of origin can be obtained by reference to the OIE website at:
http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/official-disease-status/bse/list-of-bse-risk-status/

If the bovine animals were **not** resident in a country or region that has been granted negligible BSE risk status, this paragraph must be deleted in its entirety. In such cases, paragraph IV 6(a)(ii) must be certified instead, in line with the guidance below.

(ii) **Paragraph IV 6(a)(ii) – No cranial gas injection/pithing**
This paragraph must be certified if the bovine animals were **not** resident in a country or region granted negligible BSE risk status by the World Organisation for Animal Health (still known by its historical acronym, OIE).

Confirmation of the BSE risk status of the country or region of origin can be obtained by reference to the OIE website at:
http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/official-disease-status/bse/list-of-bse-risk-status/

For blood and blood products originating from bovine animals resident in the UK or EU member states, or regions thereof, with either a controlled or undetermined BSE risk status, this paragraph may be certified on the basis that Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) 999/2001 (as amended) prohibits the "laceration, after stunning, of central nervous tissue by means of an elongated rod-shaped instrument introduced into the cranial cavity, or by means of gas injection into the cranial cavity in connection with stunning" of bovine animals slaughtered in those countries or regions.

For blood and blood products originating from bovine animals resident in countries outside the EU, this may be certified on the basis that Article 16(2) of Regulation (EC) 999/2001 (as amended) extends the abovementioned prohibition under Article 8(3) to bovine products imported into the EU.

This may be supported by sight of relevant veterinary statements, veterinary import certificates or relevant declarations.

If the bovine animals were resident in a country or region with a negligible BSE risk status, this paragraph must be deleted in its entirety. In such cases, paragraph IV 6(a)(i) must be certified instead, in line with the guidance above.

(iii) **Paragraph IV 6(b) – Certificate of analysis**

This paragraph may be certified on sight of a certificate of analysis corresponding to the batches/lots of product in the consignment and confirming that the results, particularly those for the presence of causative agent of bovine viral diarrhoea, are within the acceptable ranges of the testing methodology used.

The serial number of the certificate of analysis should be entered into the space provided, even if it has already been entered at paragraph IV 5.

The exporter is responsible for ensuring that the range of tests carried out and their results satisfy the requirements of the Turkish authorities.

5. 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.

6. 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