

No:

**EXPORT OF MEAT / MEAT PRODUCTS OF BOVINE ORIGIN TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO -
7274EHC**

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT NOTE

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7274EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7274EHC.

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

Export health certificate 7274EHC may be used for the export of chilled or frozen meat of bovine origin and meat products derived from such meat to Trinidad and Tobago.

The bovine animals from which the consignment is derived must have been born in the United Kingdom on or after 1 August 2001, reared in the United Kingdom and slaughtered in the United Kingdom.

2. 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.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

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

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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.

4. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)

Paragraph 9.1 refers: OVs may certify this paragraph on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade - Exports - at Carlisle, or issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

5. DATE OF BIRTH OF THE ANIMALS FROM WHICH THE MEAT / MEAT PRODUCTS ARE DERIVED

Paragraph 9.3 refers: Official Veterinarians must carry out suitable checks to ensure that the requirements of this paragraph have been met.

6. TRANSMISSIBLE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHIES (TSEs)

Paragraphs 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6 and 9.7 refer: these paragraphs may be certified on the basis that these are requirements of the TSE legislation (Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001, as transposed into national legislation) and that the UK competent authorities (Defra, the Devolved Administrations and the Food Standards Agency) ensure compliance with the legislation.

7. **COMPLIANCE WITH EU HYGIENE REGULATIONS AND FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

Paragraphs 9.8 and 9.9 refer: these paragraphs may be certified on the basis of the EU oval mark and evidence that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with Regulations (EC) Nos. 852/2004, 853/2004 and 854/2004, as transposed into national legislation.

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