

No:

EXPORT OF UNPROCESSED HIDES AND SKINS TO TOGO

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

Associated Documents: 7441EHC and 618NDC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7441EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7441EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 7441EHC may be used for the export of salted and other unprocessed hides and skins to Togo.

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 I(a) refers. The consignment description should include reference to the species of origin of the product.
4. Paragraph IV refers. The health information may be certified on the basis of the following guidance in conjunction with the necessary evidence resulting from the OV's familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and examination of relevant documentation and/or records including veterinary import certification.

In addition, the certifying OV should be familiar with the requirements of Regulations (EC) 1069/2009 and 142/2011 (as amended).

5. Paragraph IV 2 refers. At least one of the three options presented must be certified. Any options which are not to be certified should be struck through in the usual manner.
6. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

If Paragraph IV 2(a) refers. The UK's foot and mouth disease free status may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade - Exports in Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland on form 618NDC.

If the UK does not currently satisfy this criterion or if this paragraph is not to be certified, then it should be struck through in the usual manner.

Certifying OVs and exporters should be aware that if the UK is unable to satisfy this criterion, the importing authorities may impose animal health restrictions which could lead to consignments being rejected regardless of whether the remaining conditions of this certificate have been met.

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