

EXPORT OF RABBITS FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO JAPAN

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

1. **SCOPE**

Export health certificate 2942EHC may be used to accompany rabbit exported to Japan. Exporters are advised to contact the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1-Kasumigaseki 1-Chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo (tel. 00813 3591 6584) to obtain an import permit/import conditions as necessary. If there is any discrepancy between the import permit/conditions and certificate 2942EHC, International Trade Unit, Page Street (Tel 020 7904 6343) should be consulted.

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 or Welsh Government, 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.

3. **IDENTIFICATION**

In the case of animals which cannot be individually identified e.g. by microchip or tattoo, the transport container should be sealed with a uniquely numbered tamper proof seal and the seal number entered at

paragraph 1 under the heading "identification".

4. **TRANSPORT CONTAINERS**

If transported by air, animals should be transported in containers which meet International Air Transport Association (IATA). Details of IATA standards may be obtained by contacting International Air Transport Association directly or by consulting the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle.

5. **POST QUARANTINE**

Upon arrival in Japan the animals will be detained for one day at the Animal Quarantine Station of arrival. Further information can be found at the following link:

<http://www.maff-aqs.go.jp/english/ryoko/ba.htm>

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, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

7. **WELFARE**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team

Centre for International Trade

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E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk