

## **EXPORT OF CATS AND DOGS FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO ST VINCENT (WINWARD ISLANDS AND THE GRENADINE ISLANDS)**

### **NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

These notes provide guidance for the exporter. We cannot guarantee that they are correct. 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.

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS: (Refer below for more detailed information)**

- Import permit from the Veterinary Authorities in St Vincent.
- Export health certificate issued by DEFRA.
- An owner's declaration stating that the animal has not been imported into Great Britain during the past 6 months must be provided to the Official Veterinarian.
- Dogs only- Vaccination against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and parvovirus at least 4 weeks prior to export.
- Cats only- Vaccination against enteritis (feline panleukopaenia), rhinotracheitis and calicivirus at least four weeks prior to export.
- Treatments against internal and external parasites.
- Examination within 48 hours of export.

#### **1. IMPORT PERMIT**

No dog or cat may be imported into St Vincent except in accordance with the conditions of an import permit issued by the Department of Agriculture and Labour, St Vincent, West Indies. These conditions normally require that the animal must travel on a direct flight and be confined to a kennel during the voyage or flight and no dog or cat from a rabies-infected country may be carried on the same ship or aircraft. The animal must not be allowed to come into contact with other dogs or cats.

#### **2. TREATMENT AGAINST INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARASITES**

Dogs and cats must be treated, prior to export, for internal and external parasites within 21 days of export. Only licensed products may be used according to the manufacturer's instructions.

#### **3. NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL**

It is the exporter's responsibility to inform the veterinary authorities on St Vincent, at least 48 hours in advance of their intended arrival, by telephoning 456 1111 ext 326.

Animals landed in St Vincent and the Grenadines after 4.30pm, Monday-Friday are subjected to an inspection fee.

#### **4. TRAVELLING THROUGH OTHER COUNTRIES**

It is the responsibility of the exporter/agent to apply to the relevant authorities of any countries being transited for permission to transport the animals through these countries. Additional health certificate(s) may be necessary.

#### **5. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Official Veterinarians may certify paragraphs III (e) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from APHA on form 618NDC.

7. **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](mailto: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.

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, via the link below:

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

9. **WELFARE DURING TRAVEL**

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  
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necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant  
Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team  
Centre for International Trade  
Eden Bridge House  
Lowther Street, Carlisle  
CA3 8DX  
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301  
E-mail: [WIT@apha.gov.uk](mailto:WIT@apha.gov.uk)