

**EXPORT OF DAY OLD CHICKS OF DOMESTIC FOWL TO MAURITIUS**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER**

**Scope of the certificate.**

1. This certificate is for the export of day old chicks of domestic chicken species to Mauritius.

**Official Signature**

2. 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.

**Import Permit**

3. Exporters should be aware that the consignment must be accompanied by an import permit from the government of the Republic of Mauritius, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Fisheries, Division of Veterinary Services, Reduit, Mauritius.  
Note that the permit number AND its date must be inserted in paragraph III.

**Notifiable Disease Clearance**

4. Paragraphs IV(a), (c) (i), and (h) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV on behalf of the Department provided he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent by the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle.

To certify paragraph IV (h), APHA can provide this assurance without restriction at any time when the whole of the UK is free from area restrictions for avian influenza or Newcastle disease. In cases when certain area restrictions do apply, the OV must obtain a route plan from the exporter, and check with APHA that it does not cross any restricted areas.

#### **Flock Disease Clearance**

5. At paragraphs IV (b) and (c)(iii) 'evidence' should be interpreted as including clinical signs, information from flock production and mortality records, laboratory test reports and pathological examinations.

#### **Vaccination**

6. Paragraph (c)(ii):

The vaccination of poultry for avian influenza in the UK is forbidden under EU regulations, except with special dispensation at times of particular risk (EU Directive 2005/94/EC). Under the same Directive, and the subsequent EU Decision 2006/474/EC, AI vaccination may be permitted in zoo birds under a specific licence, and subject to strict controls. The OV must certify this paragraph on the basis of his/her personal knowledge of the premises of origin, supported by whatever written statements may be considered necessary from the owner and other veterinarians.

Paragraph IV (d):

Where the size of the table is insufficient to accommodate details of all the vaccines used in the flock, a separate schedule may be used. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph IV (d), which should be annotated "see attached schedule". The certifying OV must draw a line under the last entry of the schedule and sign, date and stamp it in a colour other than black. The schedule must be firmly stapled to the export health certificate and referenced with the reference number of the particular export health certificate at the top right-hand corner. The corners of each sheet should be turned over, 'fanned', and stamped with the OV stamp.

Paragraph IV (e):

The vaccine choices which do not apply must be deleted.

#### **Poultry Health Scheme Membership (PHS)**

7. Paragraph IV (f) refers. Membership of the PHS may be certified on behalf of the Department provided the OV has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her within 10 days before despatch. Note that the 618NDC form will confirm solely that the premises is a current PHS member. With respect to the conditions of incubation, the OV should certify this on the basis of his/her own observations in the hatchery.

#### **Flock additions**

8. Paragraph IV (g) refers. The OV must certify this statement on the basis of his/her knowledge of the flock(s) of origin, supported by any necessary checks on the flock movement records. The OV at the hatchery may need to use a support statement from the veterinarian at the flock of origin, as below.

#### **Support certification**

9. Paragraphs IV (b), (c)(ii) and (iii), (d), and (g) refer. In cases where the OV is not personally responsible for the flock(s) of origin, he/she may certify the statements referring to those flocks

on the basis of a support certificate (317SUP) provided by the veterinarian who is regularly responsible for those flocks. The support health certificate will be issued by the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle at the same time as the export health certificate.

**Clinical inspection**

10. Paragraph IV (j) refers. The inspection must be dated within 24 hours of the intended time of departure.

**No paragraph (i)**

11. Note that the paragraph notation in the certificate reads IV (h) to IV (j) with paragraph IV (i) omitted. This is intentional to avoid confusion, as roman numeral 'i' may be used to number indented sub-paragraphs.

**Disclaimer**

12. 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>

**Welfare in Transport**

13. 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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