

**EXPORT OF POULTRY MEAT AND POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTS TO QATAR**

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

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6681EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6681EHC. 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 OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 6681EHC may be used for the export of poultry meat and poultry meat products to Qatar.

**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](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.

**3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

The Official Veterinarian may certify paragraph IV(1) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle on Form 618NDC.

**4. OVAL MARKING OF POULTRY MEAT**

Paragraphs IV(2) - IV(5) refer. These paragraphs may be certified on the basis of oval-marks from approved slaughterhouse/s or meat products establishments which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004, and in the case of poultry meat / products produced before 01/01/2006, the requirements of the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene) Regulations 1995 (for poultry meat) or the Meat Products (Hygiene) Regulations 1994 as amended (for poultry meat products).

**5. RESIDUES TESTING**

Paragraphs IV(6) - IV(8) refer. All member states of the EU are required to operate a monitoring programme for residues in meat in accordance with Directives 96/22/EC and 96/23/EC. The UK national testing plan covers all licensed slaughterhouses in Great Britain and implements the Animals & Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 1997, which implement European Council Regulations 2377/90/EEC and 426/98/EEC, and Council Directives 96/22/EEC and 96/23/EEC in Great Britain. On the basis of this testing plan, it can be considered that the meat does not contain levels exceeding the limits permitted in the European Community by Regulation 2377/90 of any veterinary medicinal product, antiparasitic agent, or heavy metal contaminant nor any beta-agonist or any substances having a thyrostatic, oestrogenic, androgenic or gestogenic action, which do not occur naturally in the meat.

**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>