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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8154EHC titled:
VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR EXPORT OF FEED ADDITIVES, PREMIXTURES AND COMPOUND FEED (OTHER THAN PETFOOD) CONTAINING PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN TO THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY – 8154EHC

Associated Documents: 8154EHC.

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8154EHC.
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

This certificate may be used for the export of feed additives, feed premixtures and compound feeds containing ingredients of animal origin to the Republic of Turkey.

Whilst this certificate may be used for the export of feed additives and feed premixtures intended for feeding to pet animals, it **must not be used** for the export of compound feeds which are intended for feeding to pet animals. In such cases, alternative certification specifically for pet food should be used instead.

For the purposes of this certificate, ingredients of animal origin may include fish products, milk products, egg products, gelatine, collagen, hydrolysed proteins, dicalcium phosphate and tricalcium phosphate.

However, this certificate must not be used for the export of consignments containing processed animal protein derived from poultry or any other terrestrial animals.

For the purposes of this certificate, the following definition of 'processed animal protein', taken from Annex I of Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended), shall apply:

"*animal protein derived entirely from Category 3 material, which have been treated in accordance with Section 1 of Chapter II of Annex X (including blood meal and fishmeal) so as to render them suitable for direct use as feed material or for any other use in feedingstuffs, including petfood, or for use in organic fertilisers or soil improvers; however, it does not include blood products, milk, milk-based products, milk-derived products, colostrum, colostrum products, centrifuge or separator sludge, gelatine, hydrolysed proteins and dicalcium phosphate, eggs and egg-products, including eggshells, tricalcium phosphate and collagen*".

Category 3 material is defined under Article 10 of Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended).

See also the guidance for **paragraph II.3** below for more information regarding the use of processed animal protein.

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.

Foreign text: The Official Veterinarian should note that the foreign text in this certificate is an official translation of the English text and the Official Veterinarian is accordingly authorized to complete the export health certificate, even if they are unable to read and understand the meaning of the foreign text. Any spaces in the foreign text must be left blank and English wording must not be entered. However, if the Official Veterinarian is able to read and write the foreign text and if facilities are available to enter the foreign text in type, the Official Veterinarian can enter the information where appropriate.

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. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

The format and paragraph numbering of this certificate is based on the model 'Veterinary Certificate to EU' for products of animal origin as published in **Commission Decision 2007/240/EC** (as amended). As a result, some of the text may not directly apply to exports from the UK and some paragraphs may appear out of sequence whilst others may be intentionally left blank or struck through.

Annex I of this Decision includes **Explanatory Notes** which offer general guidance on how veterinary certificates based on these models may be completed, particularly with respect to Part I of the certificate.

These and other pieces of EU legislation are published in the Official Journal of the European Union and can be accessed via the online search feature available at:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html

More specific guidance on completing this certificate has been provided in these notes.

4. COMPLETION OF PART I – DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.2a – intentionally struck through.

I.3 – Central Competent Authority
This should be completed with "**Defra**".

I.4 – Local Competent Authority
The certifying OV should enter the name of the local office of APHA responsible for the exporting establishment. Where the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "**DAERA**" should be entered.

I.6 – intentionally struck through.

I.7 and I.9 – Country ISO Codes
ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the **United Kingdom** is "**GB**" and this should be entered at **Box I.7.**

The ISO Code for **Turkey** is "**TR**" and should be entered at **Box I.9.**

I.8 – Region of Origin
In line with the Explanatory Notes referred to in **paragraph 3** above, this paragraph may usually be struck through.

However, if the UK and the product fall within the scope of emergency disease control legislation laid down by the importing authorities then this paragraph should be completed with the appropriate region names and ISO codes if these are specified under such emergency legislation. In these cases, the APHA Specialist Service Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle or DAERA in Northern Ireland should be consulted for further specific guidance.

I.10 – intentionally struck through.

I.11 – Approval Number
Establishments producing animal feedingstuffs in the EU must be approved or registered in accordance with Regulation (EC) 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene. In England, this is enforced by the Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland;

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the manufacturing establishment.

I.12 – intentionally struck through.

I.13 – Place of loading
The place of loading or the port of embarkation must be entered.

I.14 - Date of departure
The date of departure must be entered.

I.15 – Means of transport
The means of transport i.e. aeroplane, ship, railway wagon, road vehicle must be indicated. The option 'Other' is not applicable to the movement of products and should not be selected. The flight number, name of the vessel, the train number and rail car or the number plate of the road vehicle should be entered as the means of identification as appropriate.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry.

Optionally, the number of the airway bill, bill of loading, or the commercial number of the train or road vehicle may be entered as the documentary reference.

I.16 – Entry BIP in Turkey
The exporter must advise the OV of the point of entry into the destination country and this must be entered in the space provided.

I.17 – intentionally struck through

I.18 - Description of commodity
A veterinary description of the goods or a description based on the applicable HS Code (see below) must be entered. The use of brand names or trade names should be avoided.

I.19 – HS Code
The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics.

Further information on HS Codes can be found online at:

https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff/sections

and

http://madb.europa.eu/madb/euTariffs.htm

The appropriate HS Code should be entered in **Box I.19:**

The OV should confirm with the exporter that the HS Code used correctly describes the products being consigned.

I.20 – Quantity of Product

Insert the total gross and net weights in Kg.

I.21 – Temperature of product
Indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled or frozen.

I.22 - Number of packages
Insert the number of packages in the consignment.

I.23 - Seal/container no.
The seal or container number of consignment may be entered here.

I.24 – Type of packaging
Enter the type of packaging in the space provided.

I.25 – Commodities certified for
Indicate the intended use of the product, taking into account any guidance which may be offered in the footnote of the certificate.

I.26 – intentionally struck through.

I.27 – For import or admission
The box should be ticked to confirm that this is an import or admission as opposed to transhipment.

I.28 - Official Identification
Further to the guidance for **Box I.11** above, the relevant approval number of the manufacturing plant should be entered in addition to the other required information.

If the consignment consists of several different types of products then it may be necessary to use a separate schedule to identify the full consignment. The schedule must, as a minimum, contain the same information as that required in **Box I.28** of the certificate and this box must be annotated "See Attached Schedule".

Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian.

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the Official Veterinarian should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also.

Any blank spaces in the schedule or in **Box I.28** should be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. **PART II – HEALTH INFORMATION**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

Paragraph II.1 (i) – Supervision by competent authority
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of approval or registration of the manufacturing establishment in accordance with Regulation (EC) 183/2005 as described in the guidance for **Box I.11** above.

Paragraph II.1 (ii) – Compliance with undesirable substances legislation

The presence of undesirable substances in feed is controlled by European Parliament and Council Directive 2002/32/EC of 7 May 2002 (as amended), which sets maximum permitted levels (MPLs) for these substances. This Directive is implemented and enforced in England by the Animal Feed (Composition, Marketing and Use) (England) Regulations 2015 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This UK legislation makes it an offence for any person to use or place on the market any feedingstuffs that contain an undesirable substance at a level above the relevant MPL.

This paragraph may therefore be certified on the basis that the animal feedingstuffs in the consignment are eligible for placing on the market and use within the UK.

Paragraph II.2 – Absence of specified risk material

For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "specified risk material" means the following tissues:

- the skull excluding the mandible and including the brain and eyes, and the spinal cord of **bovine animals aged over 12 months** and originating in a third country having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk or originating from any EU Member State;

- the vertebral column excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the spinous and transverse processes of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar vertebrae and the median sacral crest and wings of the sacrum, but including the dorsal root ganglia, of **bovine animals aged over 30 months** and originating in a third country or EU Member State having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk;

- the tonsils, the last four meters of the small intestine, the caecum and the mesentery of **bovine animals of all ages** and originating in a third country or EU Member State having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk;

- the skull including the brain and eyes, the tonsils and the spinal cord of **ovine and caprine animals aged over 12 months or which have a permanent incisor erupted through the gum** and originating in a third country having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk or originating from any EU Member State;

- the spleen and ileum of **ovine and caprine animals of all ages** and originating in a third country having a controlled or an undetermined BSE risk or originating from any EU Member State.

Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 (as amended) prohibits the use of the stunning and slaughtering methods described in this paragraph in EU member states with a controlled BSE risk and also imposes these restrictions in relation to imports into the EU.

This Regulation also controls the use of specified risk material by requiring the removal and safe destruction of specified risk material from ruminant animals slaughtered in slaughterhouses approved in accordance with the EU Hygiene package which includes Regulations (EC) 852/2004, 853/2004 and 854/2004.

In England, this is enforced by the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2018 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In accordance with Article 8(b) of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended), specified risk material and bodies or parts of animals containing it are classified as Category 1 material. This paragraph

may therefore be certified on the basis that the ingredients of animal origin used in the manufacture of the product were Category 3 material or were derived from Category 3 material, as defined under Article 10 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended). In England, Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 (as amended) is enforced by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Paragraph II.3 – Absence of certain processed animal proteins

This paragraph relates to meat meal, bone meal, blood meal and other types of processed animal proteins derived from terrestrial animals.

Therefore, further to paragraph 1 above, the only type of processed animal protein which may be present in the consignment is fishmeal.

Fishmeal is defined in Annex I of Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended) as meaning:

"processed animal protein derived from aquatic animals, except sea mammals"

Note also that the definition of 'processed animal protein' referred to in paragraph 1 above specifically excludes 'blood products'.

The term 'blood products' is defined under Annex I of Regulation (EC) 142/2011 (as amended) as meaning:

"derived products from blood or fractions of blood, excluding blood meal; they include dried/frozen/liquid plasma, dried whole blood, dried/frozen/liquid red cells or fractions thereof and mixtures"

Therefore, the use of blood products derived from terrestrial animals is not specifically excluded. However, given the potential sensitivities in relation to the general feeding of animal proteins to animals, exporters are strongly advised to obtain confirmation from the importing authorities that their specific product formulation will be accepted.

Paragraph II.4 – Notifiable status of BSE

This paragraph may be certified as written on the basis of the rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies laid down under Regulation (EC) 999/2001 (as amended). In England, this is enforced by the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (England) Regulations 2018 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland;

6. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

If declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

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