

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

1. **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to the Official Veterinarian (OV) and the exporter. The NFG should have been issued to you together with its related export health certificate. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the health certificate. 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.

EXPORTERS MAY USE THIS CERTIFICATE, BUT AT THEIR OWN RISK WHICH CAN BE REDUCED BY ENSURING THE IMPORTER CHECKS THAT IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE BORDER INSPECTORS/MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES.

Please note that this Department will assume, unless informed otherwise by an exporter or by the veterinary authorities in the country of destination, that certificate 7849EHC meets Malaysian import requirements and, therefore, that it is acceptable to the importing country's authorities, however this cannot be guaranteed. Destination countries may change their requirements at short notice; not inform the Department until after a change has been made; or, in some cases, not inform the Department at all.

It is therefore strongly advised that exporters check with their customers that certificates are acceptable to the authorities in the country of destination in advance of each consignment. This Department will not accept liability should it turn out that certification supplied by us does not meet an importing country's requirement.

2. **Scope of the certificate**

This certificate is for the export of poultry hatching eggs of domestic chickens (*Gallus gallus*), turkeys, quail, ducks and geese to Malaysia.

3. **Official Signature**

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.

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 EHC 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.

4. **Means of Transportation**

Paragraph III (b) refers. The OV should write 'Air' or 'Sea' and give the flight number or ship name.

5. **Clinical inspection**

The inspection in paragraph IV (a) must be carried out within 28 days prior to the date of export. In most cases this inspection will be the same as the monthly inspection carried out routinely by an official veterinarian for the purposes of EU exports.

6. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV (b) and (c) may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her within 10 days before shipment.

7. **Farm Disease History**

Paragraph IV (d) and (e) refer. 'Case' should be interpreted as clinical disease, information derived from farm production and mortality records, laboratory test reports and pathological examinations.

8. **Registration of premises**

Paragraph IV (f) refers. This paragraph may be certified on the basis of membership of a poultry health scheme. This means either the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS) within Great Britain, or the Northern

Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS) within Northern Ireland. Both schemes fully implement the conditions of the EU poultry trade Directive 2009/158/EC, including the requirement for regular inspections by an official veterinarian.

The certifying OV (or the flock veterinarian) will receive written confirmation (form 618NDC) that the flocks are currently members of one of these schemes from the APHA CIT office which issued the certificate, or the equivalent in Northern Ireland, within 10 days prior to export.

9. **Salmonella Monitoring -National Control Plan for Salmonella**

Paragraph IV (d) refers. This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the farm(s) of origin have been routinely monitored as required under the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Order 2007 (or the equivalent in Northern Ireland) and implemented under the National Control Plan for Salmonella. If the OV signing the certificate does not have personal knowledge of all the farm(s) of origin, he/she should obtain the necessary support statements from the veterinarian responsible for the farm(s) of origin.

10. **Sanitisation of Hatching Eggs**

Paragraph IV (g) refers. The eggs must be disinfected promptly after collection in accordance with the standards laid down in the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code. The Code lays down 3 possible procedures:

- (a) fumigation with formaldehyde; or
- (b) spraying with or immersion in an egg shell disinfectant in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions; or
- (c) made hygienic by another method approved by the veterinary authorities. With respect to this option, note that the UK authorities do not have a procedure or a legal requirement for approval of commercial products for egg disinfection.

In the absence of any such official administrative approval procedure, the OV may use his/her own clinical judgement about the approval of the method.

11. **Vaccination**

Paragraph IV (j) refers. The Malaysian official import conditions do not stipulate that the eggs must be vaccinated. If, however, they are vaccinated it is necessary to provide the details of the vaccine(s) used along with the date(s) of application.

12. **Packing Conditions**

Paragraph IV (g) refers. The OV must personally observe the packing materials in order to certify their condition.

13. **No paragraph (i)**

The omission of paragraph IV (i) is deliberate to avoid confusion, as the symbol 'i' may be used to number indented paragraphs.

14. **Support certification**

When the farm(s) of origin is/are inspected by a veterinarian other than the certifying veterinarian, he/she should complete form 7849SUP (Support Health Certificate), certifying that the requirements on the farms of origin are complied with.

15. **Disclaimer**

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available 7849NFG (Cleared 12/07/2016) (Revised 10/01/2024)

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