

EXPORT OF PIG MEAT AND PIG MEAT PRODUCTS TO VIET NAM - 8716EHC
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued together with export certificate 8716EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but should be read in conjunction with certificate 8716EHC.

Exporters are further advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 8716EHC may be used for the export from the United Kingdom to Viet Nam of chilled or frozen pig meat and meat products.

For the purposes of this certificate, 'meat' refers to any edible products (except stomachs and intestines) obtained from slaughter of pigs, and any products produced from them, including raw meat preparations and mechanically separated meat.

All slaughter, processing and storage of exported meat must take place in '**designated establishments**', i.e., those that are included on a list of establishments approved to export to Viet Nam. Please refer to paragraph * of these notes for further information.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Exporters are advised to contact the veterinary authorities of Viet Nam prior to export for the latest information on requirements for any import documentation.

3. SCHEDULES

Section I refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the commodities certified. In this case, Section I must be annotated 'See attached schedule'. Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the OV.

The schedule must be stapled to the health certificate and the OV 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 certificate must be deleted with diagonal lines.

4. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

In England, Scotland and Wales, this certificate must be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government as

such and holding the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ (V)) authorisation.

In Northern Ireland (NI), this certificate must be signed by a Veterinary Officer/Inspector (VO/VI) of the Department or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). For the purposes of these notes VOs, VIs and AVIs shall be referred to as OVs unless a specific reference is required.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

In England, Scotland and Wales, a certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the APHA Centre for International Trade (CIT) at Carlisle within seven days of signing.

The OV should also keep a copy of the signed certificate and any supporting documents for at least three years after signature or receipt/dispatch of the consignment, whichever is later.

5. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE - 618NDC

Paragraph IV(b) refers- notifiable disease clearances in this paragraph apply to the following diseases which are both notifiable in the whole of the UK and obligatory reporting to World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH): Foot and Mouth disease, African Swine Fever, Classical Swine Fever, Aujeszky's Disease, Swine Vesicular disease, Teschen disease, Vesicular Stomatitis, Rabies and Anthrax.

The OV may certify this paragraph on the basis of the UK's freedom from all of these diseases.

In the case of occurrence of any of these diseases in the UK this guidance notes will be amended to provide further guidance on how any zoning arrangements will be implemented in line with WOA standards.

For meat derived from animals that were born and raised in the UK and resident in the UK at the time of slaughter, OVs may certify paragraph IV(b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

For meat derived from animals legally imported into the UK, OVs must make appropriate checks of import documents to ensure that the animals were legally imported, from which country or zone they originated and that the animal health conditions laid down in paragraph IV(b) can be certified. It is the responsibility of the exporter to provide the OV with any additional evidence that the health conditions for diseases not covered in the import certificate are satisfied.

NOTE: OVs must exercise the utmost caution in verifying details of traceability and origin for imported animals. Paragraph IV(b) of the certificate may be certified only if OVs have all the required information and are fully confident to do so. Any supporting documentary evidence should be retained with the certified copy of the certificate in the OVs own records.

6. LEGAL STATEMENT - RETAINED EU LAW

Existing EU legislation, with which the UK already complies, is incorporated into UK domestic law as 'retained EU law' under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

Any references in guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this retained EU law. Under the Withdrawal Act, the UK ensures that current EU standards remain in force, without amendment, as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

7. FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Paragraphs IV(a), IV(c), IV(e) and IV(g) may be certified on the basis of the health mark or identification mark and evidence that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with retained Regulations Nos. 852/2004, 853/2004 and 2017/625 (The EU Hygiene Regulations).

In the UK, the primary food legislation providing the framework for all food legislation in England, Wales and Scotland is The Food Safety Act 1990 (as amended). Similar legislation applies in Northern Ireland.

Enforcement of retained General Food Law Regulation (EC) 178/2002 and implementation and enforcement of the retained EU Hygiene Regulations is provided through secondary legislation in England by The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) and parallel legislation in Wales and Scotland. In Northern Ireland it is provided by The Food Hygiene Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 (as amended).

These Regulations are enforced in the UK by the Food Standards Agency and Food Standards Scotland.

8. DESIGNATED ESTABLISHMENTS - PREMISES APPROVAL PROCEDURES

Paragraph IV(d) refers. In order to become eligible to export goods to Viet Nam, all UK slaughter, cutting, processing and storage establishments must first be registered with the Vietnamese authorities as designated establishments. Certifying OVs must ensure that all establishment names, addresses and approval numbers as given on the certificate match the details listed on the Vietnamese Department of Animal Health website, which is accessible via this link:

[List of UK designated establishments approved for export to Viet Nam](#)

Further details on the Viet Nam establishment approvals procedure can be requested by contacting the APHA Centre for International Trade in Carlisle (for GB) or DAERA (for NI).

9. RESIDUES AND OTHER UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES

With regard to veterinary residues, paragraph IV(f) may be certified on the basis of the results of the National Surveillance Scheme (NSS) for residues, to which all UK approved meat establishments are subject.

The NSS implements retained Council Directive 96/22/EC and retained Regulation (EU) 2017/625, which are transposed into national legislation by The Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) (England and Scotland) Regulations 2015 and parallel legislation in the other devolved administrations.

With regard to compliance with microbiological criteria, paragraph IV(f) may be certified on the basis of the microbiological monitoring required by retained Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005 which forms part of the retained EU Hygiene Regulations.

10. 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 responsibility of the exporter to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country, if these are available. If the permit or advice do not match the assurances provided on 7184EHC, in the case of export from Great Britain, the exporter should contact the APHA CIT at Carlisle at product.exports@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301.

For export from Northern Ireland, exporters should contact the DAERA Trade Administration Team for meat and dairy exports by e-mail at: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk or by telephone at 028 77442 060.