

HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS OF POULTRY AND DAY-OLD POULTRY TO BRAZIL

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTERS

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.

Brazilian import authorities **do not allow manual strikethroughs or alterations to final certificates**. OVs / FCCOs must cross out electronically any sections not applicable before printing EHCs for Brazil. For exports from Great Britain, this functionality will be added to the certificates produced by EHC Online. The editable certificate must be downloaded from EHC Online and opened in Adobe Reader to ensure the correct sections of the certificate are properly struck through. For exports from Northern Ireland, guidance is available on the DAERA website at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/apvp-notes-guidance> Consignments arriving in Brazil with an EHC containing manual strikethroughs or alterations may be detained or refused entry into Brazil.

2. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate (8825EHC) may be used for the export of hatching eggs of poultry and day-old poultry to Brazil.

3. 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.

OVs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified Copy Requirements

Certifiers are only required to return a certified copy of EHCs for the following EHC types:

- If the commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids
- EHCs where the certifier cannot submit certifier feedback

If you are required to return a certified copy to CITA, email a scanned copy to certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

Retain a copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified for two years.

Certifiers are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however, CITA 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. IDENTIFICATION

The non-applicable option from 'day-old birds' or 'hatching eggs' should be deleted, and the table completed to show further details of the consignment.

Purpose and generation non-applicable options should be deleted, and quantities should be entered as applicable, including the total quantity.

5. IMPORT PERMIT

Exporters are responsible for ascertaining whether an import permit is a compulsory requirement in the importing country, and if so, for ensuring that the importer has obtained the necessary permit.

6. AUTHORISATION TO EXPORT TO BRAZIL

Paragraph IV 1.1 refers. In addition to origin establishments being required to be PHS/NIPHAS members (see section 7 below), Defra is required to provide a list of potential exporting establishments to Brazil. Certifying OVs must ensure that the establishments of origin as listed in part II are currently approved by MAPA for import into Brazil. The list of approved establishments can be seen at <https://www.gov.br/agricultura/pt-br/assuntos/sanidade-animal-e-vegetal/saude-animal/cgtqa/t-inter/importacao/listas>.

If the OV has any doubts they should seek confirmation from the APHA Centre for International Trade (CIT), Tel: 03000 200 301. Email: LiveAnimalExports.Carlisle@apha.gov.uk

7. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

Paragraphs IV 1.1, 3.1, 4.1 and 12 refer. The paragraphs may be certified provided the OV has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to the OV before shipment, on the basis of information received at the time of application.

1.1 requires that the establishment(s) of origin (farm, hatchery, egg reception/distribution centre) of the day-old birds or hatching eggs are members of the Poultry Health Scheme, or NIPHAS in Northern Ireland. This will be confirmed as part of notifiable disease clearance.

3.1 requires establishments of origin to be outside of any restricted zone in place for the control of an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) for at least 28 days prior to the collection of the eggs for export, or hatching in the case of day-old poultry. If the whole of the UK has been officially free of HPAI for the 28 days

prior to egg collection, the country option can be certified. There is no current recognition by MAPA of disease-free compartments in the UK, so this option should be deleted.

4.1 can be certified similarly to 3.1, though the time required for the zone/country to be free from Newcastle Disease (ND) is 21 days.

Paragraph 12 (statement on transiting through zones only) can be certified if, on the basis of a route plan provided, the consignment after leaving the place of origin does not transit through any zone with official restrictions for the control of HPAI or ND on route to the place of departure from the UK. This must be applied even in the case of travelling in a sealed container.

8. **FLOCK HEALTH HISTORY**

Paragraphs IV 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 3.3, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2 refer. This can be certified based on information derived from clinical observation, production and mortality data, laboratory reports and pathological examinations. The statement refers to outbreaks of clinical disease and is not intended to refer to conditions which are routinely and effectively controlled by surveillance programmes.

In cases where the certifying 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 (8825SUP) provided by the veterinarian who is regularly responsible for those flocks. The support health certificate will be issued by APHA/DAERA at the same time as the export health certificate.

9. **TESTING FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA AND NEWCASTLE DISEASE**

Paragraphs IV 3.2 and 4.2 refer.

PCR samples must be tested at the avian virology laboratory, APHA Weybridge. Serology samples may be tested either at APHA Weybridge, or at a laboratory which has been approved for these tests under ISO 17025 and consequently authorised by Defra.

The number of samples required is 34 samples per flock (airspace). Up to 5 samples can be pooled if taken from the same anatomical site.

Testing referred to in the above paragraphs must be carried out before commencement of egg collection for the purpose of export, unless flocks are subject to routine testing every 6 months (i.e. Compartment Scheme).

There is currently no equivalent diagnostic protocol agreement between Defra and MAPA; if that agreement is revised, these guidance notes will be revised accordingly.

10. **VACCINATION HISTORY**

Paragraphs IV 2.2, 3.4, 4.4, 4.5, 5.3, 5.4 refer. If the veterinarian responsible for the flock of origin cannot certify this statement based on his/her personal knowledge he/she should obtain a written declaration from the flock owner/manager.

Paragraph 2.2 should be deleted in the case of hatching eggs, or if the day-old poultry was not vaccinated against avian infectious bronchitis using live vaccines. Otherwise, strains used for the live vaccines must be authorized by MAPA, currently this is only those made from *Massachusetts-type* strains. This restriction only refers to the vaccination of day-old chicks that will be exported to Brazil, there are no restrictions on vaccination of the original flock with different strains.

Paragraph 3.4 concerning vaccination against avian influenza; the vaccination of poultry for avian influenza in the UK is forbidden, except with special dispensation at times of particular risk.

Paragraphs IV 4.5, 5.4: If the birds for export are vaccinated, details should be entered here. A schedule should be used if necessary.

11. **DUCK VIRAL HEPATITIS**

Paragraph IV 5 refers to exports of duck hatching eggs and day-old ducklings only, and should be deleted for any other species.

Paragraph IV 5.1: Disease monitoring programme is laid down in Directive 90/539/EEC, and exactly repeated in the PHS or NIPHAS.

The OV may certify this paragraph provided that all the test results have been negative (or in the case of doubtful results, have proved negative on further investigation). The OV should check the laboratory reports.

12. **OFFICIAL DISEASE MONITORING PROGRAMMES**

Paragraph IV 6 refers. Freedom from *Salmonella pullorum*, *S.gallinarum*, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* and *M.meleagridis* (in turkeys only) can be certified on the basis of routine monitoring of flocks under membership of the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS) or the Northern Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS).

Freedom from *Salmonella enteritidis* and *S.typhimurium* in chickens and turkeys can be certified on the basis of regular sampling under the *Salmonella* National Control Plan (NCP).

Note that *Mycoplasma synoviae* is not covered by an official flock monitoring programme. The OV must confirm that the exporting company has conducted regular monitoring for this disease on a private basis with negative results. Monitoring should be on a similar frequency as monitoring of the diseases which are within the PHS scheme. Testing must be carried out by UKAS accredited/approved laboratories, by method as recommended by that laboratory.

In the case of ducks, *Mycoplasma* is not a recognised disease of significance and is not monitored under any official programme and so not applicable. With reference to *Salmonella enteritidis* and *S.typhimurium* ducks are not included in the NCP. In order that the OV can certify this statement the flocks of origin must have been regularly tested under a voluntary, private programme organised by the flock management following a protocol similar to the NCP, and the OV must check that this programme has been carried out with consistently negative results.

13. **LABORATORY TESTING**

Paragraph IV 7 refers. The diagnostic tests must be carried out in accordance with the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals of the WOA, in official laboratories accredited or recognised by the competent authority for the test being carried out.

14. **VACCINATION APPROVAL**

Paragraph IV 8 refers. Any vaccines must be produced in accordance with the WOA Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and are approved by the competent authority of the United Kingdom. Vaccination details should be entered accordingly into the table(s) on page 7 of the certificate. The second table should be deleted in the case of hatching eggs. A schedule can be used if necessary.

15. **ANTI-MICROBIAL TREATMENT**

Paragraph IV 9 refers. The statement that hatching eggs or day-old poultry for export have not received treatment with antimicrobial substances should be certified by the OV on the basis of his/her personal observations at and knowledge of the farms of origin/hatchery, supported by any written assurances that they feel may be necessary.

16. **DISINFECTION/SANITISATION OF THE EGGS**

Paragraph IV 10 refers. The eggs must be disinfected or sanitized as soon as possible with a UK licensed sanitizing agent, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

The paragraph should be deleted for the export of day-old poultry.

17. **TRANSPORT CONDITIONS**

Paragraphs 11 and 12 refer. Containers/boxes holding the day-old poultry or hatching eggs must be either new, or if re-used, cleaned and disinfected. Transport vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected, and then sealed prior to loading. Any disinfectant used must be officially approved.

Disinfectants are approved under the Disease of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) (England) Order 2007, and its equivalent in the devolved administrations (as amended). The list is held at <http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList SI>. Officially approved disinfectants carry a statement on the container, and other references to their approval may be found in their data sheets or label instructions.

The air intake filter does not need to meet any particular specifications. The main criterion is that it should preclude the entry of wild birds to the cargo compartment.

The seal on the cargo compartment must be of a type that would be destroyed when the compartment is opened.

18. **INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS OF DAY OLD CHICKS/EGGS**

Paragraph IV 13 refers. Examination by Official Veterinarian must take place not more than 48 hours before export.

19. **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

20. **WELFARE OF ANIMALS**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards. Further information about the necessary requirements may be

obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

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