

EXPORT OF OVINE/CAPRINE SEMEN TO THE ISLE OF MAN

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

Associated Documents: 6984EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6984EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6984EHC. 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

Export health certificate 6984EHC may be used for the export of ovine/caprine semen collected at Approved Semen Collection Centres from the United Kingdom to Isle of Man.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (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 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. Import license conditions

Exporters should be aware of the following conditions as required by the competent authority of Isle of Man:

- i. The consignment of semen must be accompanied by Export Health Certification 6984EHC during transport.
- ii. The official Export Health Certification must be presented to, and approved by an Officer of the Department before removal of the semen from DEFA Headquarters, St Johns.
- iii. The semen referred to must be conveyed direct to DEFA Headquarters, St John's and not removed from there except by an Authorised Officer of the Department.
- iv. The consignment of semen must be accompanied by the import licence during the entirety of the transport to DEFA Headquarters, St Johns.
- v. An import licence is required which is valid for 28 days from the date of issue unless previously revoked on animal health grounds (enter import licence number at Part I of the export health certificate).

4. Regulation 999/2001 and Directive 92/65

The certifying veterinarians must be conversant with the provisions in Annex VIII of Regulation 999/2001 and of Directive 92/65 (and any subsequent amendments), which the Directive lays down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into Great Britain of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements.

5. Bluetongue - Notifiable disease clearance

Paragraph 13.2(a) refers: OV's may certify this paragraph on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

6. Maedi visna and Caprine arthritis encephalitis (MV/CAE)

Paragraph 13.3(a) refers: OV's may certify this paragraph on the basis

that the flock is part of the SRUC Maedi Visna (MV) Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE) Accreditation Scheme.

Paragraph 13.3(b) refers: OV's must have an owner and private vet attestation in order to be able to certify this paragraph. The donor animals must also be subject to MV/CAE testing within 30 days prior to semen collection, which can be certified based on evidence and/or support certification from the centre vet.

7. Laboratory tests

The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

If tests for bluetongue are required, samples must be sent to the Pirbright Institute. Guidance on submission of samples, including the submission forms to use, can be found at:

[http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf](http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick%20media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf)

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

8. 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 at Carlisle, via the link below:

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

or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.