

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO BRAZIL - 1604EHC

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 to you together with export certificate 1604EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but should be read in conjunction with certificate 1604EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 1604EHC may be used for the export of breeding pigs from the United Kingdom to Brazil.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Exporters are advised to contact the Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (MAPA) of Brazil for advice regarding the provision of Import Permits for the export of breeding pigs from the UK 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 must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

Only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (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

Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification On-Line (DECOL) produced EHCs must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within one 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 two 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.

The OV should keep a copy for his/her own records.

4. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Section I refers. In Great Britain, all pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (England) Order 2011 and parallel legislation in the devolved administrations of Wales and Scotland. In Northern Ireland, all pigs must be identified in accordance The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012.

Animals intended for export from the United Kingdom must be marked with an identification mark. The identification mark must include the letters 'UK', followed by the officially authorised herd mark and a unique identification number allotted to the pig by the keeper (e.g. UK AB1234 0001).

OVs must be satisfied that each animal is individually identified in accordance with the schedule to the health certificate. The OV may wish to read the identification marks personally, or they may be read by a responsible person under the direction of the certifying veterinarian. The terms 'direction' and 'supervision' are defined in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

5. SCHEDULES

Section I refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. This schedule must contain the same information

as that required in the table at Section I. Section I of the certificate 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 must '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 Section I must be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES

Paragraph IV(3) refers. The pigs must be held in approved isolation premises for a minimum period of 30 days immediately preceding export and must be transported only with animals of equal health status. The following conditions must be met by the isolation premises before approval is given by the Official Veterinarian. The Official Veterinarian must consult APHA at Carlisle or DAERA in case of any problems:

- The isolation accommodation must comprise of an airspace separate from any airspace in which any other livestock are present and be as remote as practicable from any other livestock accommodation.
- The interior of the isolation building must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using a Defra / DAERA approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.
- No drainage or effluent produced by or derived from other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.
- Any person who requires to enter the isolation accommodation must first put on overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation.
- A footbath containing an approved disinfectant, diluted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, must be located at the entrance to the isolation premises. Any person entering must first wash and disinfect their footwear.
- The isolation premises, if different to the premises of origin, must also comply with the requirements regarding freedom from the diseases referred to in paragraph IV(8), IV(11) and IV(12) of 1604EHC.

7. SCREENING OF PREMISES OF ORIGIN FOR PORCINE REPRODUCTIVE AND RESPIRATORY SYNDROME (PRRS)

Paragraph IV(8) (b) refers. The Brazilian authorities require premises of origin to be screened for PRRS by multivalent ELISA to provide 99% confidence to detect at least one infected animal at an expected PRRS prevalence of 10%.

A suggested sampling protocol to meet the above criteria is as follows. Two sets of samples are taken at a six-month interval from stock of a variety of ages:

Herd Size	<29	<50	50-75	75-100	100-297	297-450	450-601	601-840	>840
No. of Samples required	All stock	29	32	36	41	42	43	44	44

8. TESTING/TREATMENTS IN APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES

The tests/treatments described at paragraphs IV (5) (b) (if required by Brazil), IV(8) (b) (i) & (ii), IV(9) (b) & (c), IV(10) (b) (i), IV(11) (b) (i), IV(13) (a) & (b) and IV(14) must not be carried out until the animals have commenced the period of pre-export isolation.

9. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

The certifying OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing the pigs 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 357335).

Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) Stormont Veterinary Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (Tel: 028 9052 5791 (General Enquiries)).

For operational reasons, the laboratories involved may vary periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or AFBI to determine the correct laboratories to which 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, packaging and dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

10. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCES

Background Information

The World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) Interface of the WOAHS website indicates the last occurrence of these diseases in the United Kingdom as follows:

- Foot and mouth disease - last occurred in 2007
- African swine fever - never occurred
- Brucellosis (*B abortus*) - last occurred in 2012 in NI
- Swine vesicular disease - last occurred in 1982

- Aujeszky's Disease - last occurred in 1989
- Transmissible Gastroenteritis - last occurred in 1999
- Porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED) - not recorded in England since 2015, not recorded in Scotland since 2016.

OVs may wish to check the WOAHA website to verify these statements via the following link: <https://wahis.woah.org/#/home>

OVs may also wish to check the following links to confirm current UK disease status with regard to these diseases:

[UK Status for Non-Notifiable Disease Relevant to Export Certification \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk)

[Notifiable Disease Occurrence List for Great Britain and Northern Ireland \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk)

The certifying veterinarian may also wish to contact the APHA CIT in Carlisle for the latest situation regarding any of these diseases in the UK prior to signing the certificate.

Specific Disease Clearances

In the case of the animals to be exported have remained since birth or for at least the last ninety (90) days in the United Kingdom, OVs may certify paragraphs IV(5) subparagraph (a) - for FMD freedom, IV(6) - for ASF freedom, and IV(7) - for CSF freedom 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.

In addition, OVs may certify paragraph IV(9) subparagraph (a) - for freedom from brucellosis, IV(10) subparagraph (a) - for freedom from Aujeszky's Disease 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.

In the case of pigs that have been **born and raised in Northern Ireland only** OVs may also certify paragraph IV(11) subparagraph (a) via disease clearance procedures in DAERA. Transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE) is a notifiable disease in Northern Ireland but not in England, Scotland and Wales.

11. ESTABLISHMENT FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES

Paragraph IV(8) - for PRRS, IV(11) - for TGE in England, Scotland and Wales, IV(12) - for PED and IV(13) - for leptospirosis refers. OVs should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin (and isolation premises if different), if necessary with the support of an owner's declaration confirming freedom from the said diseases for the specified periods of time.

OVs should also carry out appropriate checks of the farm records including use of medicines, fertility and birth records to verify freedom from the named diseases.

12. TRANSPORT TO PORT / AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE

The certifying Official Veterinarian must obtain the written declaration referred to in paragraph IV(15). For convenience these

have been printed at **Annex A** to these notes.

The design of the containers, the recommended species requirements, and preparation for transport must be in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE International Animal Health Code and International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.

For further information on OIE recommendations, exporters and Official Veterinarians should contact the APHA at Carlisle, or in the case of Northern, DAERA at the addresses stated below.

13. WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT

Welfare conditions during transport are 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 British 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. Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland and Wales: the APHA CIT at Carlisle at Livestockexports@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301.

Northern Ireland: the local DAERA Direct Regional office.

14. 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 the permit or advice do not match the assurances provided on 1604EHC, in the case of export from Great Britain, the exporter should contact the APHA CIT at Carlisle at Livestockexports@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301.

For export from Northern Ireland, exporters should contact in the first instance their local DAERA Direct Regional office.

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TRANSPORT DECLARATIONS TO BE MADE BY THE OWNER / AGENT OF THE OWNER / EXPORTER OF THE ANIMALS

Health Certificate Reference No:.....

1. I, (name in block capitals)
of

.....
..... (address)

am the *owner / *agent of the owner / *exporter of the breeding pigs to be exported to Brazil accompanied by export health certificate 1604EHC, the reference number of which appears above.

2. I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the following statements are correct and true with regard to the above consignment:

The following arrangements have been made regarding the transportation of the animals from the isolation premises to their destination:

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
IV(15)	The pigs intended for export to Brazil will be transported directly from the establishment where they remained in pre-export isolation to the point of exit in the United Kingdom, without contact with animals of a lower health status, in a clean vehicle disinfected with products approved by the UK Competent Authority, without passing through areas under health restrictions.	

Signature

Date