

EXPORT OF DAY OLD CHICKS (*Gallus gallus*) TO MADAGASCAR

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTERS

Associated Documents: 7949EHC, 7949NFG (this document), 618NDC.

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.

2. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate (7949EHC) may be used for the export of day-old chicks of domestic fowl (*Gallus gallus*), hatched from eggs produced from UK flocks only, from the United Kingdom to Madagascar.

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 CITC, 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, 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. **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.

5. **IDENTIFICATION OF THE BIRDS**

Paragraph I refers. Where the space on the certificate is not sufficient, the OV may write 'see attached schedule' in this space, and firmly attach a schedule by stapling it to the certificate.

6. **MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION**

Paragraph III (b) refers. The OV should insert 'airfreight' and preferably include the flight number if known.

7. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Paragraphs IV (a) and (g) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority from the issuing office (in GB, APHA, Centre for International Trade - Exports, Carlisle CA3 8DX; or the equivalent issuing office in N. Ireland) before shipment.

For IV. (a), the written authority is based on information provided to the issuing office by the applicant, and will specify which paragraph should be certified:

Part i. can be certified if the UK is officially free from HPAI according to the criteria of World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

Part ii. can be certified in cases where UK is not officially free of HPAI, provided that the farms of origin, and hatchery if applicable, are not located within or adjacent to an area that has had a confirmed case of HPAI in poultry, until 12 months after the lifting of any disease control zone put in place due to that outbreak. An "area" in this case is defined as a '2nd administrative division' as reported in the WOA-H-WAHIS animal disease event. This generally corresponds to the county or equivalent throughout the UK.

Part iii. cannot be certified at this time, as the Madagascan authorities have not recognised the UK poultry compartment scheme.

8. **MEMBERSHIP OF A POULTRY HEALTH SCHEME**

Paragraph IV (b) refers. Membership of a poultry health scheme may be certified in GB if the flocks of origin are members of the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), and in Northern Ireland if they are members of the Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS). The schemes fully implement and exceed the WOA-H Code chapters on Biosecurity Procedures in Poultry Production. The certifying OV will receive written confirmation that the flocks are currently members of one of the schemes from the issuing office (APHA, CIT - Exports, Carlisle, or the equivalent in Northern Ireland) prior to export.

9. **HEALTH STATUS AND EXAMINATION OF THE FLOCKS OF ORIGIN**

Paragraph IV (c) and (e) (with regards to clinical inspection of the flock) refers. In cases where the 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 (7949SUP) provided by the veterinarian who is regularly responsible for those flocks. The support health certificate will be issued by APHA or DAERA at the same time as the export health certificate.

10. **VACCINATION OF THE PARENT FLOCK**

Paragraphs IV (d) refers. The vaccination of domestic poultry for avian influenza in the UK is forbidden in poultry by legislation, and the paragraph can be certified on this basis.

11. **VACCINATION OF THE DAY-OLD BIRDS**

Paragraphs IV (f) refers. The day-old chicks must not be vaccinated against the stated diseases. The OV must certify this paragraph on the basis of his/her personal knowledge of the hatchery, supported by whatever written statements may be considered necessary from the manager and other veterinarians.

12. **TESTING FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA**

Paragraph IV (e) refers (with regards to testing). Testing must be carried out by the APHA avian virology laboratory, Weybridge or the AFBI Stormont laboratory in N. Ireland.

Note that the Madagascar import conditions require that the flocks of origin must be tested by serology to provide assurances of freedom from HPAI (H5; H7 notifiable types only) at flock level with sampling dates being within 30 days of export. The AGID and the HIT serological test are the recommended tests for international trade. The AGID test is non-specific and will detect all serotypes of avian influenza virus. The HI test is specific for each serotype, and it is necessary to test only for serotypes H5 and H7. The number of samples required to give 95% confidence of detecting infection at a prevalence of at least 5% is given in the table below. It is advisable to contact the avian virology laboratory at APHA Weybridge or AFBI Stormont in N. Ireland well in advance of the submission of samples to ensure that the relevant specimens are taken and handled correctly, and that there is plenty of time to complete the tests prior to the intended date of export.

The total number of samples to be taken from each flock should be based on the total number of birds in the flock and calculated according to the table below:

| <u>Number of birds in flock</u> | <u>Number of samples to be taken</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| under 25 | all |
| 25-29 | 20 |
| 30-49 | 30 |
| 50-89 | 40 |
| 90-199 | 50 |
| 200-499 | 55 |
| 500 or more | 60 |

13. **NEW PACKING MATERIALS**

Paragraph IV (h) refers. The OV must certify this paragraph on the basis of personal observation.

14. **INSPECTION OF THE DAY OLD BIRDS**

Paragraph IV (i) refers. The OV should carry out the inspection on the same day as he/she signs the certificate, which should be not more than 24 hours before the time of despatch.

15. **WELFARE IN TRANSPORT**

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 Northern Ireland, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

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

DAERA Textphone 028 9052 4420

16. **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 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>