

**EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS OF DOMESTIC DUCKS (*Anas platyrhynchos*) TO AUSTRALIA
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER**

**Associated Documents: 3622EHC1A, 3622EHC1B, 3622EHC1C, 3622EHC1D, 3622EHC2A,
3622EHC2B, 3622NFG, 618NDC**

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Scope of the certificate

This set of certificates is for the export of hatching eggs of domestic ducks to Australia.

The certificate can now be used for both Newcastle disease (NDV) vaccinated and unvaccinated flocks. The complete certification package consists of a number of separate certificates as below. Certificates 1A/B/C/D are completed pre-dispatch and must accompany the consignment along with all necessary attachments. Certificates 2A/2B and their attachments are sent by mail following completion of all post-collection testing and certification.

No.	Title	To be signed by
1A	Owner / Manager's declaration	Owner and OV
1B	Flock status and testing	OV
1C	Country disease status	OV
1D	Airport check	OV
2A	Flock status and post-export testing	OV
2B	Country disease status	OV

The certificates 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D together with a copy of the first page of the import permit, the disease clearance form provided by CIT Carlisle to the OV (in GB) or by DAERA to the OV (in NI), schedules of test results and of vaccinations, and any certificates of equivalence, must accompany the consignment to Australia. All documents must be provided to an officer of the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) at the port of entry. Certificates 2A and 2B together with the schedules of test results for Newcastle disease and PMV3, plus a further copy of the disease clearance form, must be sent by airmail to the DAFF officer at the post-arrival quarantine station in Australia as soon as possible after the post-dispatch test results are available.

In any case of doubt the exporter should contact the DAFF Live Animal Import section (tel. 0061 02 6272 4454).

2. Obtaining Import permit

A "Permit to Import" must be obtained from the Director of Quarantine at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) (tel. 0061 02 6272 4454).

3. Official Signatories

The owner or the responsible manager of the source flock(s) must sign certificate 3622EHC1A. This must then be endorsed by the Official Veterinarian (as detailed below) by signing and stamping each page.

The other 5 certificates must be signed where indicated by an Official Veterinarian 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 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. Deviation from agreed conditions

If the exporter is not able to meet certain conditions in the health certificate, the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) may consider alternative, equivalent conditions. The exporter must apply to the Director of Quarantine at DAFF giving the reasons why they consider the alternative conditions to provide equivalent assurances. If DAFF agrees they will confirm via the import permit or otherwise in writing.

The OV **must** contact the issuing office (in GB the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or DAERA in Northern Ireland) with written confirmation by DAFF of permitted amendments. APHA/DAERA will give instructions on how to proceed with any permitted amendment to the conditions in accordance with DAFF instructions. The OV must not make amendments to the 3622EHC, other than entries/deletions allowed in the 3622EHC/NFG as provided, without explicit permission from APHA/DAERA.

The OV must enclose any documentation from DAFF to confirm alternative assurances are permitted, and sign, stamp and date each page **in ink of any colour other than black** to confirm that the alternative conditions have been met. Any endorsed documentation must be stapled to the health certificate to which it relates.

5. OFFICIAL STAMP ON EVERY PAGE

Each separate page of each certificate, and each page on any other attachments such as vaccination schedules or laboratory reports must be SIGNED, STAMPED and DATED by the OV, using ink of any colour other than black.

6. Definition of 'Flock of Origin'

In the context of this export, a 'flock' may be interpreted as 'a group of poultry of the same health and vaccination status kept on the same premises and constituting a single epidemiological unit'. This would normally mean that a 'farm' can be regarded as a single 'flock'.

7. Transport

Certificate 1D paragraph 2.a) refers. Unless written authority is received from DAFF prior to export, the consignment must travel on a direct flight to Australia or via the airports specified in the certificate.

The eggs may not be accompanied in transit by other eggs or birds except with the written approval of DAFF.

The airport OV may certify paragraph 2.a) and b) either by receiving the required information in writing from the handling agent at the airport or by receiving a veterinary declaration from the exporting company who will have received this information from the handling agent prior to the date of export.

INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATE INSTRUCTIONS

Health Certificate 1, Part A [3622EHC 1A]

8. Vaccination History

Paragraph IV 5) refers. If preferred, a schedule may be attached. The signatory should write 'see attached schedule' in the table. The schedule must contain the same information as listed on the table. It must be stamped, signed and dated by the OV on each separate page, and firmly stapled to the certificate.

Health Certificate 1, Part B [3622EHC 1B]

9. Biosecurity Programme

Paragraphs IV 4) and 5) refer.

'Dedicated staff' means that staff routinely working with the source flock must not also work with any other flocks during the prescribed pre-export isolation period (90 days). Company staff that normally work elsewhere, such as the company veterinarian or specialised blood sampling teams, may enter the source flock premises provided that they observe the company's prescribed interval since visiting any other premises, and undergo the full showering and clothing change procedures before entry.

'Movement control and disinfection of vehicles.' It is acceptable for essential vehicle movements onto the premises, such as feed delivery or egg collection, provided that the wheels are disinfected at the point of entry, and drivers disinfect their footwear and do not go further from their vehicles than is strictly necessary for their delivery/collection function.

'Epidemiological contact'. The biosecurity programme is intended "to minimise the introduction of disease". Hence the statement is intended to cover only realistic and controllable risks, and theoretical risks that are beyond human control such as visiting wild birds should not preclude certification.

If the OV is satisfied that the above controls on personnel and vehicle movements have been scrupulously observed, and that feed and other fomites which may carry the relevant pathogens have been

suitably treated and controlled, he/she may certify this statement. If the OV has knowledge of any premises on which the named diseases have been present in the past 6 months he/she must make sufficient enquiries to be satisfied that no direct contact has taken place.

10. Premises disease clearance

Paragraph IV 6) refers. Evidence of disease should be interpreted as clinical signs as well as information from production and mortality records, laboratory reports and pathological examinations. Note that the statement refers only to frank outbreaks of clinical disease, and not to agents which are routinely or effectively controlled by vaccination.

11. Laboratory Samples

Paragraphs IV 7), 8), 9) and 10) refer. These laboratory tests must be conducted at APHA laboratories. These tests carried out by APHA conform to the guidelines laid down in the WOH Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines, and therefore are 'WOAH approved' as required in paragraph 9).

Veterinary surgeons wishing to submit large numbers of samples for testing should contact the laboratory well in advance to enable appropriate arrangements to be made for such numbers. Advice on the submission of samples may be sought from the laboratory. Samples must be submitted in time for results to be reported before the date of export, taking into account the maximum test turnaround times as described by APHA here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879503/ExportPriceList.pdf.

The number of samples necessary to achieve a 99% confidence of detecting the disease if there was a 5% or a 0.5% disease prevalence is given in the following table:

Population Size	Sample Size to detect 0.5% prevalence	Sample Size to detect 5% prevalence
10	10	10
20	20	20
30	30	30
40	40	36
50	50	42
60	60	47
70	70	51
80	80	54
90	90	57
100	100	59
120	120	63
140	140	67
160	160	69
180	179	71
200	198	73
250	244	76
300	286	78
350	325	80
400	360	81
450	392	82
500	421	83
600	470	84
700	512	85
800	546	85

900	576	86
1000	601	86
1200	642	87
1400	674	87
1600	699	88
1800	720	88
2000	737	88
3000	792	89
4000	821	89
5000	840	89
6000	852	90
7000	861	90
8000	868	90
9000	874	90
10000	878	90
μ	919	90

In the case of Newcastle disease serology, most birds should show a positive titre because they have been vaccinated. When the same birds are re-tested approximately 21 days later a rising titre would indicate the presence of active virus transmission within the flock. Consequently it is essential that the birds are individually marked at the time of the first blood sampling, and that each sample bears the bird's identification, so that the titres for each individual bird can be compared between the first and second sampling. A result would be considered significant if there were greater than a two fold dilution increase (greater than 1:1024 [\log_2^{10}]).

Most vaccinated birds should show a titre below 1:1024 [\log_2^{10}]. However an occasional bird may show a titre higher than this, and some birds may show no titre at all. A result would be considered significant if there were greater than a twofold dilution increase in titre at the second sampling.

The results in paragraph 9) should be presented by attaching laboratory reports.

Concerning Salmonella enteritidis, the alternative section in paragraph 9) of the certificate can be certified, and the earlier list entry deleted where indicated, where surveillance has been carried out according to an approved scheme as listed in <https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ViewElement/Element/Index?elementPk=2179172&caseElementPk=2181151>

The name of the scheme under which this was carried out, as stated in the above link, the accreditation number of the premises and the last 2 sampling dates should be entered accordingly. For UK source flocks using the EU Regulations, there may be no EU accreditation number associated, and "n/a" may be inserted.

12. **Individual Identification of 100 birds**

Paragraph IV 8)a)ii) refers. In the case of birds that have been vaccinated, DAFF requires the same 100 birds to be re-tested at least 14 days after the collection of eggs for this consignment (whilst the eggs or chicks are still in quarantine in Australia). Repeat serology testing applies only to Newcastle disease and avian pneumovirus testing of vaccinated flocks.

13. **Approval of Laboratories**

Paragraphs IV 7), 8), 9) and 10) refer. Pre-export tests must be carried out in laboratories officially approved/accredited for the specific pathogen/test for the purposes of the poultry health schemes

under Directive 2009/158/EC (PHS/NIPHAS).

DAFF has confirmed that any laboratory in the UK which has been officially approved by the UK authorities to carry out testing for poultry health scheme or National Control Programme purposes can be considered ipso facto to have approval by DAFF.

14. Disinfection and packing of the eggs

Paragraph IV 14) refers. The list of disinfectants approved by DAFF for hatching eggs of poultry can be viewed at:

<https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ViewElement/Element/Index?elementPk=1585354&caseElementPk=2181151>

Paragraph IV 15) refers. The eggs must be packed according to the instructions within the certificate, in such a way there will be no leakage in the event of the eggs breaking during transport.

Health Certificate 1, Part C [3622EHC 1C]

15. Notifiable Disease Clearance

Paragraphs IV. 1) and 2) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the official veterinarian on the basis of the written notifiable disease clearance received from APHA CIT Carlisle or DAERA in NI.

Please note that the written notifiable disease clearance form must be attached to the EHC. (The same requirement applies for 3622EHC 2B, as per part 19 below.)

Health Certificate 1, Part D [3622EHC 1D]

16. This part of the EHC has to be certified by the Official Veterinarian at the airport of dispatch. Please refer to part 7 above.

Paragraph IV 3): This condition should be discussed between the OV and the exporter, with both parties in full knowledge of the requirement.

Health Certificate 2, Part A [3622EHC 2A]

17. Laboratory Samples

Paragraphs IV 2) and 3) refer. As part 11 above.

18. Premises disease clearance

Paragraph IV 5) refers. As part 10 above, also taking into account the requirement to follow up a weekly mortality over 0.5% or a drop in quantity, quality or fertility/hatchability of the eggs produced by the source flocks by a veterinary investigation and a report.

Health Certificate 2, Part B [3622EHC 2B]

19. Notifiable Disease Clearance

Part A, Paragraphs IV. 1) and 2), as part 15 above. **Please note that the written notifiable disease clearance form (or a copy of) must be attached to the EHC.**

20. Premises disease clearance

Paragraph IV 3) refers. As part 10 above.

21. 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