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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8703EHC titled:
VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT OF FEED AND FEED ADDITIVES OF ANIMAL ORIGIN FOR NON-PRODUCTIVE ANIMALS FROM UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO UKRAINE

Associated Documents: 7160EHC and 618NDC

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 7160EHC.**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**

This certificate can only be used for the export to Ukraine of **processed fishing baits** containing ingredients of animal origin. Therefore, references to 'feed' or 'feed additives' or 'animal feed' in this certificate should be interpreted as meaning 'fishing bait'.

For the purposes of this certificate, "non-productive animals" means fish and other aquatic animals which were not caught for the ultimate purpose of human consumption.

This certificate **cannot** be used for the export of consignments containing any **ruminant protein** (other than milk protein) or for intermediate products such as processed animal proteins intended for use in the manufacture of a finished product upon arrival in Ukraine.

2. **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 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 (Authorised private veterinary practitioners) 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.

References to EU legislation

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) is no longer a member of the European Union (EU). EU legislation, including legislation on animal health, food safety and feed controls, as it applied to the UK on 31 December 2020, became part of UK legislation under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (legislation.gov.uk).

The Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 (legislation.gov.uk) means that retained EU law which had not been revoked by the end of 2023 then became "assimilated law".

The UK domestic legislation, including assimilated law, can be found at the following link: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/. References to EU derived instruments are references to the assimilated law versions of those instruments which apply in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales).

In accordance with the Northern Ireland Protocol, Northern Ireland continues to directly apply European Union law on animal health and public health controls.

This means that robust operational feed safety, hygiene standards, and controls for animal by-products and derived products continue to apply across the whole of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

3. **Paragraph IV 1** refers
Manufacturing establishments may be considered to be 'approved on delivery of goods for export' on the basis of approval or registration in accordance with the **Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013** (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments currently enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under the **assimilated Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** and the **assimilated Regulation (EC) 142/2011**.

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the responsible local APHA or DAERA office.

Alternatively, the fishing bait manufacturer may be approved or registered in accordance with the **Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015** (as amended) or with parallel legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

These statutory instruments currently enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under the **assimilated Regulation (EC) 183/2005.**

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval or registration document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the manufacturing establishment.

4. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**
Paragraph IV. 2. refers.
This requires the product to:
"*originate from processing establishments which have not been placed under animal health restrictions*".

The BSE and scrapie-related requirement should be interpreted as referring to current, rather than past restrictions.

The animal health restrictions referred to, relate to notifiable or reportable diseases to which the species from which the product was sourced are susceptible, at the time of their dispatch/certification from the establishment.

The 'premises' referred to in the fourth indent are the premises of the processing establishment.

The Official Veterinarian may certify paragraph IV. 2., regarding the non-restricted status of the processing establishment, on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the Specialist Service Centre – Exports, Carlisle, on form 618NDC.

5. **Paragraph IV. 3.** may be certified on the basis of familiarity with the sourcing, processing and handling procedures in place at the processing establishment and examination of relevant records including relevant commercial documentation and veterinary certification as appropriate.

6. **Paragraph IV. 4**. refers.
This may be supported on the basis that the ingredients of animal origin were Category 3 material as defined under the **assimilated Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** and were originally obtained from slaughterhouses and/or other food businesses approved in accordance with the **Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013** (as amended) or equivalent legislation in force in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The abovementioned Food Safety and Hygiene statutory instruments continue to enforce and implement the principles and controls laid down under **assimilated Regulations (EC) 852/2004, 853/2004** and **2017/625**.

The approval number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the local authority responsible for the slaughterhouse or food business establishment.

In addition, the certifying OV must make due enquiry to verify that the ingredients derived from slaughtered animals have been subjected to post-mortem inspection at the slaughterhouse because this is not a requirement for all Category 3 materials eligible for use in the manufacture of the product.

7. **Paragraph IV. 5**. refers.
The ingredients of animal origin must have been subjected to the treatment specified (or a variation that provides a higher temperature and/or longer time and/or higher pressure) or a heat treatment authorised under the **assimilated Regulation (EC) 142/2011** which ensures that the microbiological standard required of the end product is met.

Thus, this paragraph can be certified if it can be demonstrated that these ingredients were obtained from plants approved under the **Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013** (as amended) where a heat treatment authorised under **assimilated Regulation (EC) 142/2011** has been applied.

8. **Paragraph IV. 6**. refers.
This requires the finished product intended for export to be specifically tested to ensure that salmonella, botulinum toxin, enteropathogenic and anaerobic microflora are not present on the finished product, and the total bacterial contamination does not exceed the value specified in this section.

This may be certified on the basis of OV inspection of Reports relating to a batch of the specific consignment being exported, issued by a laboratory assessed and accredited to ISO 17025 for the conducted tests. The date when said tests were conducted should be written on the provided field.

9. **Paragraph IV. 8**. refers.
This may be certified on the basis that the preparation of the means of transport complies with the ABP Regulations. The OV may require a declaration to this effect from the manager of the plant involved.

10. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

Where declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process and/or declared intended use. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

11. DISCLAIMER

This certificate and these notes are 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 (CIT) – Carlisle, via the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#customer-service-centres-csc

In Northern Ireland, please contact the DAERA trade administration team:

- e-mail - tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk
- Phone – 02877442146