

EXPORT OF FRESH POULTRY MEAT TO ANTIGUA - 1805EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 1805EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1805EHC. 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 of the certificate.

This certificate is for the export of fresh poultry meat to Antigua and Barbuda.

"Fresh poultry meat" means poultry meat, including meat which is vacuum-wrapped or wrapped in a controlled atmosphere, which has not undergone any preserving process other than chilling or freezing.

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 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 CITA, 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, CITA 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. **Identification**

Paragraph I (e) (i) and (ii) - The certifying veterinarian should insert both container and seal numbers.

4. **Fitness for human consumption**

Paragraph IV (a), (b), (d) and (e) may be certified on the basis of oval identification marks from approved slaughterhouse/s or meat production establishments which demonstrate compliance with UK food hygiene legislation.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraph IV (c) refers. This paragraph may be certified by the OV provided that they have received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to them by APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle before shipment. In Northern Ireland the local equivalent arrangements will apply.

Authority will be given with reference to details of premises provided at the time of application, and allow certification for any premises outside any zone currently under restrictions in place due to an outbreak of HPAI and Newcastle disease. [N.B. areas with diameter 20km have radius of 10km, indicating the requirement for minimum distance of 10km from an outbreak]

6. **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>