

VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR CASINGS INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION,
INTENDED FOR DISPATCH TO THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE (TURKEY) - 8878EHC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued together with export health certificate 8878EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8878EHC.

OVs AND EXPORTERS ARE ADVISED THAT CERTIFICATE 8878EHC HAS NOT BEEN FORMALLY AGREED WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN THE IMPORTING COUNTRY.

Exporters are therefore strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment. They should attempt to obtain an import permit and check this certificate against the requirements of the import permit.

If the health requirements do not match or no import permit is available, the exporter may choose to proceed with the export using certificate 8878EHC, however this decision and any consequences thereof are taken strictly at the exporter's own risk.

1. **SCOPE**

Export health certificate 8878EHC may be used to accompany exports to Turkey of casings intended for human consumption that have been derived from domestic bovine, ovine, caprine or porcine animals.

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 ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

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 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.

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

3. COMPLETION OF SECTION I OF THE CERTIFICATE

I.7 & 1.8 - Country/Regional ISO Codes

ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the United Kingdom is 'GB' and this should be entered at Box I.7. Box I.8 should be marked as N/A (not applicable).

The ISO Code for Turkey is 'TR'. This should have been pre-entered at Box I.9.

I.16 - Entry BIP in Turkey

The certifying OV should check with the exporter the route of the consignment and enter the intended arrival point in Turkey in Box I.16

I.19 - Commodity (HS) Code

The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system in which articles are grouped into various categories. It is used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics.

The HS Code for casings to be entered in Box I.19 is 0504 - (Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked)

4. LEGAL STATEMENT - ASSIMILATED EU LAW

The existing EU legislation that the UK complied with prior to the end of the Transition Period has been incorporated into our domestic law as 'assimilated EU law' under the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023.

References in guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this assimilated EU law. The EU standards that this legislation includes continue to remain in force, without substantive amendment, as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

5. HACCP PRINCIPLES, INSPECTION UNDER OFFICIAL VETERINARY SUPERVISION, HEALTH MARKING AND TRANSPORT

Paragraphs II.1.1., II.1.2., II.1.4. and II.1.6 may be certified on the basis of the health mark or identification mark and evidence that the manufacturing establishments referred to in Part I of the certificate is/are officially approved and operating in accordance with assimilated Regulations Nos. 852/2004, 853/2004 and 2017/625 (The EU Hygiene Regulations).

In the UK, the primary food legislation providing the framework for all food legislation in England, Wales and Scotland is The Food Safety Act 1990 (as amended). Similar legislation applies in Northern Ireland.

Enforcement of assimilated General Food Law Regulation (EC) 178/2002 and implementation and enforcement of the assimilated EU Hygiene Regulations is provided through secondary legislation in England by The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) and parallel legislation in Wales and Scotland. In Northern Ireland it is provided by The Food Hygiene Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 (as amended).

These Regulations are enforced in the UK by the Food Standards Agency and Food Standards Scotland.

6. PRODUCTION OF CASINGS

Paragraph II.1.3 refers. Section XIII of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 - regarding treated stomachs, bladders and intestines - states the following:

Food business operators treating stomachs, bladders and intestines must ensure compliance with the following requirements.

1. Animal intestines, bladders and stomachs may be placed on the market only if:

(a) they derive from animals which have been slaughtered in a slaughterhouse, and which have been found fit for human consumption following ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection;

(b) they are salted, heated or dried; and

(c) after the treatment referred to in (b), effective measures are taken to prevent re-contamination.

2. Treated stomachs, bladders and intestines that cannot be kept at ambient temperature must be stored chilled using facilities intended for that purpose until their dispatch. In particular, products that are not salted or dried must be kept at a temperature of not more than 3°C.

7. **RESIDUES AND OTHER UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES**

With regard to veterinary residues, paragraph II.1.5. may be certified on the basis of the results of the National Surveillance Scheme (NSS) for residues, to which all UK approved meat establishments are subject.

The NSS implements assimilated Council Directive 96/22/EC and assimilated Regulation (EU) 2017/625, which are transposed into national legislation by The Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) (England and Scotland) Regulations 2015 and parallel legislation in the other devolved administrations.

8. **EXPORT OF CASINGS DERIVED FROM BOVINE ANIMALS - BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (BSE)**

Paragraph II.1.7. refers. Certifying OVs should note that Scotland, and England and Wales currently have BSE controlled risk status as two separate World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) zones. Northern Ireland has negligible risk status.

The sub-paragraphs applicable to the country/ies of origin may be certified on the basis of compliance with assimilated Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001 (as amended). The Regulation sets out UK-wide the requirements for TSE monitoring, animal feeding and the removal of specified risk material.

In the UK, enforcement of the above Regulation takes place through the following national legislation:

- **England:** The TSEs (England) Regulations 2018;
- **Wales:** The TSEs (Wales) Regulations 2018;
- **Scotland:** The TSEs Regulations (Scotland) 2010;
- **Northern Ireland:** The TSEs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018.

The UK competent authorities (Defra, the Devolved Administrations, the Food Standards Agency and Food Standards Scotland) ensure compliance with the legislation.

9. **DISCLAIMER**

Whereas 8878EHC takes into account certain recommendations by the WOAH for trade in this commodity, exporters and certifying OVs are advised that the certificate has not been drafted in accordance with any official import requirements of the importing country and has not

been officially agreed with the authorities of Turkey.

Accordingly, use of 8878EHC for export of casings for human consumption to Turkey is at the exporter's risk.

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 these are available. If the permit or advice do not match the assurances provided on 8878EHC, in the case of export from Great Britain, the exporter should contact the CITC via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha#animal-exports>

or by phone - 03000 200 301

For export from Northern Ireland, exporters should contact the DAERA trade administration team: e-mail - tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk
or by phone - 0289 0520989