

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

EXPORT OF CHICKEN GELATINE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION - 8857NFG

Associated Documents: 8857EHC and Import Permit

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Veterinary Officers (VO), Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8857EHC.

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 may be used for the export of chicken gelatine to the United States of America for human consumption.

2. **Import Permit**

It is the responsibility of the exporter to check in advance from USDA/APHIS/VS to see if an import permit is required for the consignment.

If an import permit is required, the original must accompany the consignment along with 8857EHC to the United States of America.

Also, the Certifying Officer must ensure that all requirements of the Import Permit are met (on the basis of verifiable evidence) prior to signing and stamping the EHC.

3. **Certification by a Full-Time Veterinary Officer (VO)**

This **certificate** must be signed by a full-time salaried Veterinary Officer (VO) of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), or Scottish Government, or Welsh Government or Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA).

This may be done based on a pre-certificate provided by the authorised Official Veterinarian (OV) who will undertake the physical inspection of the consignment and validation of the declarations.

A copy of all signed EHCs and supporting documentation must be retained for two years.

4. **Paragraph I(a) - Description of the products**

This should include the species (avian), and type of material used to make the gelatine.

5. **Paragraph II(a) - UK approval number**

This relates to the UK establishment producing/preparing the product to be exported, and not necessarily the establishment which manufactured the gelatine from the raw materials of animal origin.

The gelatine must be manufactured in a food business premises approved in accordance with

Regulations 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs, **853/2004** laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin

and **2017/625** laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption.

In England, the regulations are implemented and enforced by the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended).

Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The UK establishment's approved status may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document, or by reference to the enforcement authority (FSA/FSS, DAERA or Local Authority) responsible for the establishment.

6. Paragraph IV - Health Information

Paragraph IV may be certified on the basis of a relevant written declaration from an authorised signatory of the manufacturing establishment identified at paragraph II(a) of the certificate, taking into account the following specific guidance and the RCVS Principles of Certification.

Paragraph IV(a)

The certifying OV producing the pre-certificate must ensure that the product contains avian gelatine powder sourced **from chickens only**. This may include examination/verification of relevant documentation.

Paragraph IV(b)

The gelatine was cooked throughout to reach a minimum internal temperature of 74°C prior to exportation to the United States. The certifying OV must inspect the relevant production records to ensure that the product reached an internal temperature of at least 74°C during manufacture.

Paragraph IV(c)

Certifies that the consignment contains gelatine derived from materials of chicken origin and has not been co-mingled with any other materials of animal origin.

This may be based on visual evidence and/or familiarity with the production process of the manufacturing establishment.

7. MANUFACTURER'S DECLARATION

Where a declaration is relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, it must be signed by someone who has knowledge of, and responsibility for, the relevant parts of the production process.

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.

8. **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) - in 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