

EXPORT OF DOGS/CATS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO SINT MAARTEN

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8102EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8102EHC. 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

Export health certificate 8102EHC may be used for the export of cats and dogs from United Kingdom to Sint Maarten.

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 or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by, or an OV of, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland (DAERA).

OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

In GB a certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Centre for International Trade, Carlisle within seven days of signing. In the case an AVI in Northern Ireland, a certified copy must be sent to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

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

3. IMPORT PERMIT

An import permit is required from the Veterinary Authorities in Sint Maarten and its number entered at Section I of the certificate. A copy of the import permit should accompany the animal at the time of export to Sint Maarten.

4. MICROCHIP

Paragraph I. refers. Dogs/cats must be permanently identified by a microchip prior to vaccination/treatment/certification for export to Sint Maarten. Microchips should normally comply with ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO Standard 11785. Prior notification must be obtained if an alternative type of microchip is to be used. In such cases, if permission is granted, the owner/agent will be responsible for ensuring that a suitable reader is available at the point of entry.

5. CLINICAL EXAMINATION

Paragraph IV e) refers. The clinical examination should be carried out no more than 7 days prior to export.

6. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

Official Veterinarians may certify paragraph IV. b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the issuing office on form 618NDC.

7. **VACCINATIONS**

Paragraph IV. (d) refers. The dog/cat must be permanently identified by means of a microchip prior to rabies vaccination or treatment. In case of primary vaccination a full course, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, should be given. Following primary vaccination the animal should be revaccinated at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer. However, for export to Sint Maarten, the most recent vaccination should have been within 12 months of export. Initial rabies vaccination must be carried out more than 21 days prior to export.

The vaccination certificates should accompany the animal entering the Sint Maarten. Only licensed products may be used.

8. **TREATMENT FOR EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL PARASITES**

Paragraph IV. e) and d) refers. The treatments must be licensed in the UK and the dates of treatments must be stated on the export health certificate.

9. **WELFARE**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Customer Service Centre - 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>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852

10. **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 Customer Service Centre - Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#specialist-service-centres-ssc>