

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 6652EHC titled:

EXPORT OF GREASY WOOL TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Associated Documents: **6652EHC, 618NDC, and 6652CKL.**

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 6652EHC. 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 only be used for the export from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of China of greasy wool which was:

(a) **Either**
sheared in the UK from animals born and raised in the UK;

Or
sheared in the UK from animals which were legally imported into the UK;

AND

(b) graded, baled, and stored in UK establishments which, at the time of grading and baling, are specially registered by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) - see **paragraph 3** below.

AND

(c) exported from a UK establishment which, at the time of export, is specially registered by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) - see **paragraph 3** below.

2. Import Permit

Prior to making arrangements to export greasy wool to the People's Republic of China, exporters are advised to ensure that the necessary import permit and any other import documentation is available.

Applications for import permits are usually made by the Chinese customer or the local import company in China and tend to be specific to the UK exporter.

3. GACC Registration of Greasy Wool Establishments

Establishments involved in grading, baling and storing greasy wool for export to the People's Republic of China, and the premise of despatch from where the baled greasy wool is exported to the People's Republic of China **must all be specifically registered by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC)**

This GACC-registration requirement is in addition to compliance with the domestic requirements applicable to greasy wool in the UK.

The current registration process requires that each establishment complies with specific criteria laid down in the Protocol agreed between Defra and GACC.

Compliance is assessed by the business operator's nominated Official Veterinarian (OV), who will be responsible for completing the physical assessment and submitting their recommendation for GACC-registration to Defra via either APHA or DAERA. The assessing OV will also ultimately be responsible for periodic checks of compliance and certification for export.

The following form should be used to facilitate the OV's assessment of the establishment:

- o **6652CLK** - Checklist for recommendation of establishments for GACC-registration to export greasy wool to China

Form **6652CKL** may be obtained from APHA's Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or from DAERA.

If the assessing OV is satisfied that an establishment meets the required standards, they should e-mail a scan of a duly stamped and signed **6652CKL** to APHA's Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or to DAERA, as appropriate, together with a recommendation that the establishment be submitted for registration by GACC.

On the basis of the completed **6652CKL** checklist and OV recommendation, Defra will submit the details of the establishment to GACC for their consideration.

Once registered by GACC, establishments should be subject to periodic audits by the certifying/assessing OV to ensure ongoing compliance against domestic and Chinese requirements. The OVs may decide at their discretion on the frequency of such audits, depending on the throughput for export. **However, it is suggested that audits are carried out at least quarterly.**

The OV should keep records of any such follow-up audits for inspection by the authorities of the UK or China.

The UK greasy wool establishments eligible for export to China are only those included in the current list of registered establishments maintained by GACC. At the time of writing, this list is published at: <https://scintl.chinaport.gov.cn/aprwebserver/pages/apr/public/html/companyList.html>

Details of the UK establishments successfully registered to export greasy wool to China can be viewed by choosing the following options at the above website, and then clicking the "Query" button:

Option	Value
国家或地区 Country/Region	[GBR]英国 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the)
产品类型 Product type (English)	非食用动物产品 (含肥料等) Non-edible animal products (including fertilizers)
产品种类 Product category (English)	毛类 Hair

A greasy wool establishment **cannot be considered to be registered for export to China until it appears in this list**, even if Defra has submitted its details to GACC.

Note that GACC's list includes a "**产品名称 Product name**" column for each establishment, and for registered UK greasy wool establishments this is typically completed with the phrase "**原羊毛 (RAW WOOL)**", but other similar terms may also be used.

GACC registration renewal:

Note: In line with the Protocol agreed between Defra and GACC, establishment registrations are valid for a period of five years, and **applications to renew registrations must be submitted to GACC at least 6 months before the expiry date.**

An establishment's expiry date can be confirmed by scrolling across to the "**注册失效日期 End time of registration**" column of their entry at the abovementioned website.

Exporters are therefore responsible for engaging with their OV some 8 months before their establishment's expiry date to arrange for a physical assessment and the completion of a new **6652CKL** form, for submission to APHA's Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or to DAERA, as appropriate.

4. 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.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with 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

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.

5. NOTES ON COMPLETION OF 6652EHC

Important note to certifying OVs

Certificate entries must be fully typed/printed.

Certifying OVs must note that unauthorised deletions or manuscript amendments to 6652EHC are not permitted.

The only permitted handwritten entry is the signature of the OV.

The OV stamp to be inserted ONLY on the space provided (next to the OV signature).

If the final date of certification cannot be typed in, this may be entered with a rubber stamp using ink of any colour OTHER THAN BLACK.

Consistency in recording details:

Both the OV and the exporter should note that it is imperative that the details on the EHC, and on all documents accompanying the consignment, match the details displayed on GACC's list of registered overseas establishments referred to in **paragraph 3** above, and published at: <https://scintl.chinaport.gov.cn/aprwebserver/pages/apr/public/html/companyList.html>

And that consistency is maintained across all accompanying documentation.

OVs and exporters should note that they have the final responsibility to ensure that the details on the completed certificates are correct. Due to the complexity of the conditions, it is recommended that such checks should be carried out sufficiently in advance of the date of export to enable any changes that may be required. The Chinese authorities will expect that the details of the establishments entered onto the certificate are correct and consistent.

6. **PARAGRAPH I (g) - DATE OF PRODUCTION**

For the purposes of this certificate, the date of production means the date on which the sheared wool was gathered, which is anticipated to be the day of shearing.

However, this information may not be known by the exporter if the wool was obtained via **British Wool** auctions.

Therefore, the certifying OV may need to obtain supporting documentation from **British Wool** to confirm the dates of shearing/gathering of the wool in the consignment.

Only wool gathered before 8 July 2007 or after 7 August 2008 is eligible for export to China. These dates correspond to the period covered by the trade ban imposed by China on the UK following the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in August 2007. China recognised the UK's FMD-free status on 7 August 2008.

As a result of this restriction, the "date of production" must be before 8 July 2007 or after 7 August 2008, at the very least.

If it is not possible to offer an exact date for when the wool in the consignment was gathered, a date range may be entered.

Alternatively, the wording "before 8 July 2007" or "after 7 August 2008" may be inserted in the space provided as applicable - **but note**, using such an ambiguous entry is more likely to result in a detained or rejected consignment if the Chinese authorities were to impose an import ban on greasy wool from the UK due to a future disease outbreak.

7. **PARAGRAPH II (b) - Premises of despatch**

The premises of despatch is the premises of loading and, further to **paragraph 3** above, must be specifically registered by GACC.

The establishment's UK registration number, as it appears in GACC's online list of registered establishments, must be entered at **paragraph II (b)** in addition to its name and address.

8. **PART IV - HEALTH INFORMATION**

OVs may certify this section on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

PARAGRAPH IV 1 - UK notifiable disease freedom

UK freedom from **foot and mouth disease, peste des petits ruminants (PPR), sheep pox, and goat pox** may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form **618NDC** from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

PARAGRAPH IV 1 - GACC confirmation of UK notifiable disease freedom

Confirmation that GACC considers the UK to be free from **foot and mouth disease, peste des petits ruminants (PPR), sheep pox, and goat pox** may be supported by reference to GACC's "**List of animals and their products prohibited from importing from countries and regions where animal diseases are endemic**" which can be downloaded via: <http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/dzs/2746776/2753557/index.html>

This list sets out GACC's animal disease-related import prohibitions currently in force.

At the time of writing, the entry for the United Kingdom (英国) appears at rows 301-306 of the list and does not include restrictions due to foot and mouth disease, peste des petits ruminants (PPR), sheep pox, or goat pox. **However, this list must be checked each time this certificate is issued.**

This part of the paragraph may therefore be certified on the basis that GACC does NOT have any animal disease-related import prohibitions in force on the UK with respect to the above-named diseases.

Because this list is only published in Chinese it may be necessary to either make use of widely available machine translation tools or to seek assistance from a trusted interpreter.

Note: GACC currently has a prohibition on the importation of "sheep and their related products" from the UK with respect to **scrapie**.
However, **the import of greasy wool from the UK is outside the scope of their scrapie-related prohibition.**

PARAGRAPH IV 2 - Area notifiable disease freedom

Freedom from **anthrax, Brucella melitensis, Rift Valley fever and scrapie** in an area of **50km radius** from the **farms of origin** during the **6 months prior to shearing** may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form **618NDC** from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

Note: For the purposes of this certificate, references "scrapie" are references to classical scrapie, and NOT atypical scrapie.

AT the time of writing this NFG, UK is free from the above diseases. The last confirmed case of Scrapie in GB was in 2019 and the last one in Northern Ireland was in 2009, so clearance for Scrapie will be given based on that for wool obtained after those years.

However, in case of a new confirmed case of the diseases referred in this paragraph, to issue the disease clearance both the **dates of shearing** and postcodes or addresses of the **farms of origin** will be required.

However, dates of shearing and farms of origin may not be known by the exporter if the wool was obtained via **British Wool** auctions.

Therefore, the certifying OV may need to obtain supporting documentation from **British Wool** to confirm the dates of shearing and the postcodes or addresses of the farms of origin of the wool in the consignment.

PARAGRAPH IV 3 - Date of gathering

For the purposes of this certificate, gathering is anticipated to have taken place on the day of shearing.

However, this information may not be known by the exporter if the wool was obtained via **British Wool** auctions.

Therefore, the certifying OV may need to obtain supporting documentation from **British Wool** to confirm the dates of shearing/gathering of the wool in the consignment.

Only wool gathered before 8 July 2007 or after 7 August 2008 is eligible for export to China. These dates correspond to the period covered by the trade ban imposed by China on the UK following the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in August 2007. China recognised the UK's FMD-free status on 7 August 2008.

As a result of this restriction, the date of gathering must be before 8 July 2007 or after 7 August 2008, at the very least.

If it is not possible to offer an exact date for when the wool in the consignment was gathered, a date range may be entered.

Alternatively, the wording "before 8 July 2007" or "after 7 August 2008" may be inserted in the space provided as applicable - **but note**, using such an ambiguous entry is more likely to result in a detained or rejected consignment if the Chinese authorities were to impose an import ban on greasy wool from the UK due to a future disease outbreak.

PARAGRAPH IV 4(a) - Origin of live animals

This paragraph requires the sheared animals to have been either born in the UK or legally imported into the UK.

This paragraph may be supported by relevant declarations from the wool producers (or from **British Wool**); commercial documentation; veterinary export certificates from the country of origin; and/or any other evidence which the OV considers appropriate.

PARAGRAPH IV 4(b) - Live animals not under disease restrictions

This requires that the animals were not, at the time of shearing, under movement restrictions due to a confirmed case of a notifiable animal disease which is transmissible through greasy wool and may pose a risk to animal and human health.

This may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form **618NDC** from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

AT the time of writing this NFG, GB has been free from Anthrax since 2015 and NI since 1990 and from Brucella Mellitensis since 1956 in GB and it has never occurred in NI.

However, in case of a new confirmed case of the diseases referred in this paragraph, to issue the disease clearance, both the **dates of shearing** and postcodes or addresses of the **farms of origin** will be required.

However, dates of shearing and farms of origin may not be known by the exporter if the wool was obtained via **British Wool** auctions.

Therefore, the certifying OV may need to obtain supporting documentation from **British Wool** to confirm the dates of shearing and the postcodes or addresses of the farms of origin of the wool in the consignment.

PARAGRAPH IV 5(a) and (b) - Establishment approval and supervision

This relates to the establishments involved in grading, baling and storage of the greasy wool, as well as the premises of despatch identified at **paragraph II (b)** of the certificate.

The establishment's approval by the relevant competent authority of the UK may be certified on the basis that the establishment is registered or approved 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.

That the establishment is under effective supervision of the relevant competent authority of the exporting country may be certified partly on the basis of the abovementioned registration or approval, and partly on the basis that the designated OVs responsible for final certification of product exported from the establishment undertake regular checks for compliance with the requirements of the **6652CKL** checklist (**note paragraph 3 above**) and those of the certificate.

PARAGRAPH IV 5(c) - GACC establishment registration

This may be certified on the basis that the establishments involved in grading, baling and storage of the greasy wool, as well as the premises of dispatch identified at **paragraph II (b)** of the certificate are specifically registered by GACC. Further to paragraph 3 above, GACC publishes a list of registered establishments at:

<https://scintl.chinaport.gov.cn/aprwebserver/pages/apr/public/html/companyList.html>

PARAGRAPH IV 6 - Picking and grading

This may be certified on the basis that the greasy wool has been picked and successfully graded for placing on the UK market in accordance with industry standards, such as **British Wool's** grading system.

PARAGRAPHS IV 7, 8 and 9 - Packaging, shipping containers and sanitary measures

These paragraphs may be certified on the basis of the certifying OV's familiarity with the procedures in place at the establishment, supported as necessary by relevant documentation or declarations.

9. **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