

EXPORT OF BIRDS TO SULTANATE OF OMAN

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND THE EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 831EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 831EHC. 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 831EHC may be used for the export of live birds from the United Kingdom to the Sultanate of Oman.

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.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with OV stamp in any 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.

3. **Import permit**

The import permit issued by the Sultanate of Oman authorities should accompany the consignment with this certificate.

4. **Certificate validity**

The validity for this certificate is altered from 7 days to 21 days if the consignment travels by sea.

5. **Notifiable avian disease in the UK**

Though not specifically mentioned within the conditions of the certificate, exporters and OV's should ensure that all requirements are met regarding the movement of birds in relation to any control zones in place due to outbreaks of notifiable avian disease.

Restriction zones can be seen on the [APHA Interactive Avian Influenza Disease Map](#), or for Northern Ireland the [DAERA Avian Influenza Map Viewer](#).

Further detail is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu>.

6. **Owner/exporter declarations**

Where certification is on the basis of owner/exporter's written declaration, this should not be attached to the certificate, but should be retained by the OV for their personal records.

7. **Residency requirements**

Paragraph IV a) i. refers. The birds must have been resident in the UK for at least 28 days prior to the date of shipment. The OV should receive a written declaration from the owner/exporter attesting to this.

8. **Vaccination**

Paragraph IV a) ii. refers. The birds must not be vaccinated with any live vaccine UK for at least 28 days prior to the date of shipment. The OV can verify this through clinical records of the birds.

9. **Freedom from disease**

Paragraph IV c) and d) refers. The birds for export and any cohort in the premises of origin should be examined to ensure no clinical symptoms of the mentioned diseases are showing.

OVs should confirm with the owner, based on records or a written declaration if necessary, that the premises of origin has not been subject to the notifiable disease Equine viral encephalomyelitis.

10. **Captive wild birds**

Paragraph IV e) refers. This paragraph must be certified if exporting captive wild birds, but can be deleted in other cases.

The certifying OV must ensure that the required isolation and testing is carried out. The facility for origin/isolation can be considered as approved if on the Defra list of [Confined establishments approved to export captive-bred birds to the EU](#).

The birds must be tested twice for avian influenza according to the stated timings, and dates of testing must be entered. Testing is to be done at APHA Weybridge, or for Northern Ireland at an authorised AFBI laboratory. Due to the short prescribed turnaround time, the laboratory should be consulted beforehand to ensure the required testing can be carried out and results obtained.

11. **Welfare**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency:

Welfare in Transport Team
Centre for International Trade
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street, Carlisle
CA3 8DX
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

12. **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 APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>
DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk