

EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS/DAY OLD CHICKENS, TURKEYS AND DUCKS TO THAILAND

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

Associated Documents 1073EHC, 1073SUP, 618NDC

1. Scope

This certificate is for the export of hatching eggs or day-old birds of the domestic fowl, turkey and duck species to Thailand.

2. Official Signature

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 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.

3. **Import Permit**

Every consignment must be authorised by an import permit issued by the Department of Livestock Development, Phaya Thai Road, Bangkok 10400. Tel (66) 2 501 0473 ext: 105 fax. (66) 2 535 1210. Email: aqi3@dld.go.th

The certifying OV should confirm that an import permit has been issued for the consignment before completing the certification.

4. **Pedigree Certificate**

The Thai import conditions state that, if the consignment is intended for breeding purposes in Thailand, it must be accompanied by a pedigree certificate. If the exporter is not certain what is required, or is unsure if their proposed documents would be suitable, they should seek clarification directly from the Thai import authorities.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV a) and b) and m) (ii) refer. These paragraphs may be certified provided the Official Veterinarian has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the issuing office (in GB, APHA Exports in Carlisle). In the case of Northern Ireland, a similar written authority must be obtained from the issuing office in Northern Ireland.

In paragraphs a) and b) the OV must delete lines which do not apply.

The free county option specified in (ii) would be used at times when the United Kingdom has experienced cases of HPAI in poultry and has not yet made a self-declaration of freedom from disease.

A county is not considered free from HPAI if it contains, or at any point during the current outbreak has contained, a premises with a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in poultry (according to the WOA definition). Restrictions on disease affected counties last until WOA freedom is declared or Thailand confirms that import restrictions have been lifted.

With regards to the extent of the zone around the hatchery mentioned in paragraph m) (ii), this should be considered 10km.

6. **Poultry Health Scheme membership**

Paragraphs IV d), f), and h) refer. Paragraphs IV j) and m) (i) are also relevant.

Membership to the poultry health scheme may be certified provided the Official Veterinarian has received written authority (Form 618NDC), which will be sent to them by the issuing office (in GB, APHA - Exports in Carlisle).

Note that the 618NDC will certify only that the flocks and hatchery are members of the PHS. A similar written authority must be obtained from the issuing office in Northern Ireland with regards to membership of the Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS).

The OV must verify that the standards for membership have been maintained and that all relevant visits and testing has been carried out and that all the relevant test results have been negative.

The paragraphs above and relevant statements can be certified on the basis of compliance with the following requirements associated with

membership to a Government supervised poultry health scheme:

Regular official veterinary inspection: it is a requirement that premises approved under Directive 2009/158/EC (PHS/NIPHAS) are subject to a minimum of a monthly official inspection by an Official Veterinarian.

Movements onto PHS/NIPHAS approved premises and disease monitoring for the purposes of the poultry health scheme: movements onto poultry health scheme premises are only allowed from other approved premises. Membership requires surveillance for certain avian diseases, including Salmonella pullorum. Membership is suspended/revoked if any of these diseases are disclosed or if any movement of eggs/poultry onto the premises from non-poultry health scheme premises takes place.

Compliance with WOAHA criteria – Paragraphs IV c) and h) refer.

Management and hygiene

Chapter 6.4 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the WOAHA (formerly OIE) deals with Hygiene and disease security procedures in poultry breeding flocks and hatcheries. Compliance with the recommendations included in this chapter can be certified on the basis of membership and compliance of the flock(s)/premises of origin and the hatchery with the Poultry Health Scheme standards.

Disease security

Chapter 6.5 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the WOAHA deals with Prevention, detection and control of Salmonella in poultry. Compliance with the recommendations included in this chapter can be certified on the basis of routine testing carried out under the National Control Plan for Salmonella in poultry. This control plan lays down procedures for the routine monitoring of chicken and turkey flocks for zoonotic Salmonellas, in accordance with EU Regulation 2160/2003. The Regulation does not apply to ducks, and duck breeding companies must carry out a voluntary testing programme on a similar basis to that laid down for breeding flocks of chickens/turkeys.

7. **Flock Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV g) refers. In these paragraphs 'evidence' should be interpreted as including clinical signs, information derived from flock production and mortality records, laboratory test records, and pathological reports on post mortem examinations.

8. **Clinical examination**

The examination in paragraph IV e) must be carried out within 24 hours of the intended day of export.

9. **Disinfection of Incubators**

Paragraph IV j) refers. The OV may certify the disinfection of both the incubators and the eggs in one of two ways. Either the OV must have been present during the process to personally observe it. Or else the OV must **(i)** visit the premises on a frequent and routine basis during which these processes are regularly observed and confirmed to be satisfactory, **and (ii)** have received a written record from a responsible person confirming that they have been carried out in the normal way in respect of this particular export consignment, **and (iii)** have sufficient familiarity with the establishment and confidence in its management practices to have no reasonable doubt about the processes in this particular case.

With regard to the statement that the flocks of origin in the incubators are all Salmonella free, the OV must be satisfied that if

more than one flock is represented in the incubators and hatchers, they all meet the same poultry health scheme standards, including disease clearances for Salmonella pullorum, i.e. any eggs allowed into the PHS/NIPHAS hatchery must have come from an approved PHS/NIPHAS premises.

10. **Origin and residence requirements of the parent flocks**

The certifying OV is responsible to ascertain that the parent flocks were hatched the time at premises which are approved by the Thai authorities for exports and that had been continuously resident in the UK since hatching or imported as day-old birds. The exporter is responsible to make this evidence available to the OV as necessary. This paragraph is meant to apply also to hatching eggs so it should also be certified and not deleted in the case of hatching eggs.

11. **Owner's Declaration: Packing materials**

Paragraph IV l) refers. The written declaration should not be attached to the health certificate but should be retained by the OV for record purposes.

12. **Flock Vaccination for Newcastle disease**

Paragraph IV m) (iii) and n) refer. The veterinarian responsible for the flock(s) of origin must provide this statement on the basis of his/her personal knowledge, which may be supported if necessary by a written statement from the flock owner/manager.

All vaccines with a marketing authorisation for use in the UK conform to the standards of the WOA (formerly OIE) Manual, including the use of a lentogenic strain as the seed stock.

13. **Testing for Avian Influenza**

Paragraph IV o) refers. The exporter can choose either option, and the OV should delete whichever does not apply. Ideally all the samples should be collected from the flock providing the eggs or day old birds for export. However if there are several separate flocks at the same site, which may be housed in separate sheds, then samples may be collected from the separate sheds to make up a total of 60 samples for the entire site.

The samples must be submitted to VLA Weybridge/Lasswade or the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute for testing.

The serology samples must be tested individually. Cloacal samples for virus isolation testing will be pooled **by the laboratory** at 5 to 1 in the interests of economy. **The redundant test MUST be deleted** in the certificate. It is recommended that the OV should telephone the chosen laboratory well in advance in order to advise them of the number and date of arrival of the samples, and to confirm any other arrangements for the test.

14. **No paragraph i)**

Note that the paragraph notation in the certificate reads IV h) to IV j) with paragraph IV i) omitted. This is intentional to avoid confusion, as roman numeral 'i' may be used to number indented sub- paragraphs.

15. **Support Certification**

Paragraphs IV d), f), g), k), n), o) refer. When the flock of origin is attended by a different veterinarian from the certifying OV, the flock veterinarian should complete form 1073SUP certifying that the requirements in these paragraphs or relevant statements within them are complied with.

16. Please note that the day old poultry are subjected to quarantine at approved premises for a period of at least 30 (thirty) days upon arrival, during which they shall be submitted to tests and/or treatments deemed necessary. The importer/owner shall be fully charged for the incurred expenses.
17. Failure to follow the import procedures may result in returning the hatching eggs/day old poultry to the country of origin or destroying without compensation.

18. **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

19. **Welfare of Animals**

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.