

## **EXPORT OF BIRDS (EXCEPT POULTRY) TO JAPAN**

### **NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

#### **1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 5322EHC may be used for the export of birds of prey and other captive birds apart from poultry from the United Kingdom to Japan.

#### **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.

#### **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](mailto: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. **CLINICAL INSPECTION**

Paragraph IV. a) refers. The clinical inspection is to be carried out on the day of certification. It is recommended that the final inspection should be no more than 48 hours prior to the intended departure flight time.

### 4. **PRE-EXPORT RESIDENCY AND MOSQUITO PROOFING**

Paragraphs IV. b) refers. The birds must remain within the pre-export premises in the 21 days prior to export. Option (i) should be certified for birds raised in captivity since hatching, whereas option (ii) is for use for birds that have not been fully raised in captivity. The unused option should be deleted.

The content of each paragraph is identical except for the type of facility required, (i) being a 'storage facility' and (ii) being a 'quarantine facility'. Notification from the exporting country to Japan is not necessary, except to include the premises on the certificate as the premises of origin in Part II. b). The following definitions apply:

- Storage facility: Facility where the animals are kept. This can be any premises which can meet the requirements as stated within the certificate.
- Quarantine facility: Facility where any required observations, examinations and processes are conducted for quarantined population of animals without direct or indirect contact with other animals under the control of the government authorities of the exporting country. This can be met by inclusion on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/confined-establishments-in-great-britain-guernsey-jersey-and-the-isle-of-man-approved-to-export-captive-bred-birds-to-the-eu>

For either option, protection against mosquitoes is required by Japan because of concerns about West Nile fever. All entrances and exits to the area where the birds are kept must be protected by fly screens, and traps and other knock down agents for flying insects must be in use.

Concerning the pre-export residency for the 21 days prior to export, the Official Veterinarian should liaise with the owner/exporter before the start of the period in order to make sure that the owner/exporter understands what is required. Before or at the start of the 21-day period, the facility must be inspected by the OV, particularly with respect to the mosquito proofing provisions. The OV should use their discretion to apply normal biosecurity procedures. As a minimum, one more inspection visit must be made at the end of the residency period, and this may be the visit at which the export health certificate is completed. The OV may also make one or more additional, unannounced visits during the period at their discretion, if they feels this is necessary in order to certify paragraph IV b).

### 5. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Paragraphs IV. c) refers. Official Veterinarians may certify this paragraph provided written authority to do so has been obtained from APHA Centre for International Trade in Carlisle on form 618NDC, or equivalent arrangements from DAERA.

Authority is based on details of premises given at the time of application for the residency of the birds in the 21 days prior to export.

Premises on which the birds will reside in the 21 days prior to export must not during those 21 days be within any restricted zone in place due to disease control of an outbreak of avian influenza.

Additionally, during the 21 days prior to export, premises must be located in regions that the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (MHLW) has designated as regions where HPAI or LPAI has not been confirmed. MHLW designations are based on any county of the UK which has been subject to disease control restrictions due to an outbreak of notifiable avian influenza in or within 10km of that county. Current designated regions can be seen at

<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000134696.html>

#### 6. **NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

Animals arriving into Japan are subject to the MHLW Notification System for the Importation of Animals, as detailed at <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/topics/importanimal/>

Exporters should note the requirements as detailed on this page, which require written notification showing details of the animals such as their species, name and quantity to be submitted to the destination quarantine station of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

#### 7. **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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)

#### 8. **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.