

EXPORT OF TURKEY HATCHING EGGS AND DAY-OLD POULTS TO ALGERIA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

1. Scope of the certificate.

This certificate is for the export of hatching eggs or day-old birds of the turkey species (*Meleagris meleagris*) to Algeria.

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 should sign and stamp the health certificate 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. **Consignment Labelling**

VERY IMPORTANT: The Algerian authorities insist that each box or carton in the consignment must carry a label carrying at least the following details:

- Country of origin
- Name and address of exporter
- Name and address of importer
- Description of product
- Approval number of establishment of origin (flock of origin for hatching eggs, or hatchery for day-old chicks)
- Batch number
- Strain identification details of parent birds
- Age of parent birds
- Date of lay

The official veterinarian should ensure that the exporter understands these requirements.

4. **Approval numbers**

Paragraphs II c) and e) refer. The number required is the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS) or Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS) membership number. If the flock or hatchery managers cannot supply this number the OV should apply to the issuing office (in GB, APHA, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) who will confirm on form 618NDC that the hatchery is currently a member of the Scheme (see paragraph 7 below).

5. **Clinical inspections**

The inspection at paragraph IV a) must be carried out within 24 hours prior to export. In the case of hatching eggs no inspection is required, and this paragraph may be deleted.

6. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

The certification contained in paragraphs IV b), c) and o) may be signed on behalf of the Department provided the Official Veterinarian has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to them by the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or by DAERA in Northern Ireland, before shipment.

For paragraph IV c), the flocks of origin/ the hatchery must be located outside the area of any 10km avian influenza disease control zone for at least 3 months from the day domestic zone restrictions are lifted.

Similarly, IV b) requires at least 6 months from the day domestic zone restrictions are lifted.

Paragraph IV o) refers to any restrictions imposed by the competent authorities because of the presence of an animal disease for which an official control policy exists, or because of a suspicion that the animal feed or the birds on the premises might be contaminated with any substance harmful to human or animal health.

With respect to harmful substances in animal feed referred to in paragraph IV o), the controlling legislation is Directive 2002/32/EC, implemented in GB legislation by the Feeding Stuffs Regulations 2000 (as amended). These regulations prohibit the administration to farm

animals including poultry of feed material and feeding stuffs which contain levels of undesirable contaminants above the specified limits. To control the effectiveness of these measures testing programmes are laid down under the Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 1997 (as amended), requiring meat to be tested for antibiotic residues, antiparasitic agents, hormones and chemical contaminants including dioxins.

7. **Poultry Health Scheme Membership**

Paragraphs IV d), f) and j) refer. The statement concerning membership of a Poultry Health Scheme may be certified on behalf of the Department provided the Official Veterinarian has received written confirmation of PHS membership (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to them by the APHA Centre for International Trade, or NIPHAS membership by DAERA in Northern Ireland, before shipment.

The additional comment in paragraph IV d) concerning regular veterinary inspections at least every 3 months must be verified by the OV, in discussion if necessary with the veterinarian routinely responsible for the flock(s) of origin. The diseases in paragraphs IV f) and j) are covered by the routine monitoring programme required under the Poultry Health Scheme or Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme membership number, and the OV must check the laboratory reports to confirm that all the test results for the past 6 months have been negative.

EU Directive 2009/158/EC revoked and replaced Directive 90/539/EEC from 1st January 2010. References to Directive 90/539/EEC in the main certificate are still legally valid and should be read as equivalent to references to Directive 2009/158/EC for certification purposes. 6400SUP has been updated and already contains references to the new EU regulatory instrument. The OV should therefore certify paragraph IV j) on the basis of the assurances given in the 6400SUP under 2009/158/EC.

8. **Flock Disease Clearance**

Paragraph IV e), g), h), j), k), l), and m) refer.

'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.

9. **Newcastle disease Vaccination**

Paragraph IV g) refers. It is obligatory for the flocks of origin to have been vaccinated for Newcastle disease, but the type of vaccine is not prescribed. However full details of the type of vaccine must be recorded as shown.

10. **Marek's Disease Vaccination**

Paragraph h) refers. Marek's disease is not a disease that would normally affect turkeys and vaccination against this disease is therefore not common practice in commercial flocks. The Algerian authorities have agreed that paragraph IV h) (i), exempting day-old pouts from being vaccinated for Marek's disease, can be certified provided the OV/flock veterinarian can certify that the flock(s) of origin are considered free from Marek's disease. The OV/flock veterinarian must obtain the relevant guarantees that there has not been any evidence of this disease in the flock(s) of origin in the 12 months prior to export. If this assurance cannot be given, paragraph IV h) (ii) must be certified and day-old poults must be vaccinated for Marek's disease prior to export to Algeria.

11. **Salmonella Monitoring**

Paragraph IV k) refers. Breeding flocks of turkeys must undergo a testing regime for salmonellas of human significance under the National Control Plan for the Control of Salmonella in Poultry (England) Order 2007 and equivalent legislation in Scotland, Wales and N. Ireland (NCP). This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the testing regime under the NCP. Assurances for S. Arizona can be given on the basis of the testing carried out in turkeys under the testing required by the PHS/NIPHAS. The OV/flock veterinarian is responsible for checking that the relevant testing has been done and that all the results have been negative for the 6 months prior to export.

12. **Mycoplasma Monitoring**

The testing specified at paragraph IV l) requires blood samples to be taken from a representative number of birds selected at random from each flock of origin. The number of samples per flock must be sufficient to give a probability of 95% that infection will be detected if the prevalence is at least 5%. The number of samples necessary to achieve this is given in the following table:

Number of birds in flock	Number of samples to be taken
up to 20	all
20-29	20
30-39	25
40-49	30
50-59	35
60-89	40
90-199	50
200-499	55
500 or more	60

Samples must be submitted to a laboratory approved for Mycoplasma testing by serology under the Poultry Health Scheme.

13. **Contact with infectious disease**

Paragraph IV m) refers. The OV must certify this paragraph on the basis of their knowledge of conditions in the hatchery.

In the case of hatching eggs the statement does not apply and the paragraph should be deleted.

14. **Egg Marks**

Paragraph IV n) refers. Exporters must be aware of this requirement by the Algerian authorities. The frequently used method of marking hatching eggs by an indelible stripe, and provision of full recording details on the outer packing, is not accepted as sufficient by the Algerian authorities. In the case of day-old birds this paragraph should be deleted.

15. **Packing and Transport**

Paragraphs IV p) and q) refer. The OV must personally verify the condition of the packing materials and transport. The Algerian authorities do not accept certification on the basis of a written declaration from the owner/exporter.

Vehicles must be disinfected before the crates are loaded for transport, using a Defra approved disinfectant. Disinfectants are approved by Defra under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) (England) Order 2007 (as amended). The lists contain over 200 brands of disinfectant approved for use with poultry, on the basis of their efficacy against Newcastle disease and avian influenza

viruses. Approved disinfectants carry a statement on the container, and other references to their approval may be found in their data sheets or label instructions.

16. **Shipping conditions**

Paragraph IV r) refers. In order to certify this paragraph the OV must make enquiries of the exporter, and ask to see any relevant supporting documentation. The OV may ask the exporter to provide a signed statement to confirm that the relevant arrangements have been made.

17. **No paragraph i)**

The omission of paragraph i) is deliberate to avoid confusion, as roman numeral 'i' may be used to number indented paragraphs.

18. **Support certification**

Paragraphs IV d), e), f), g), h), i)- flock freedom from Marek's disease, j), k) and l) refer. If the OV is not personally responsible for the flock(s) of origin, they may certify these paragraphs based on the support certification provided by the flock veterinarian under the 6400SUP certificate.

19. **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

20. **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.