

EXPORT OF DAY-OLD CHICKS, TURKEY POULTS AND DUCKLINGS TO MALAWI

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

1. Scope of the certificate.

This certificate is for the export of day-old birds of the domestic fowl species (*Gallus gallus*), turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*), or ducks (*Anas platyrhynchos*) from UK flocks of origin to Malawi.

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.

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. **Support certification**

In situations where the flock of origin is attended by a different veterinarian from the certifying OV, the latter may complete the export health certificate on the basis of appropriate support statements covering the flock(s) of origin.

The appropriate support statement is form 314SUP which must be completed by the flock veterinarian in respect of paragraphs IV c), d), e), j) and k)- the latter relating to flocks of origin only.

4. **Means of transportation**

Paragraph III c) refers. The OV should write 'air', 'sea' or 'road' as appropriate, and provide the flight number, ship name, or truck registration.

5. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV a) and b) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV on the basis of written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to them by APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

The free region/compartiment option would be used at times when the United Kingdom has experienced cases of ND/HPAI in poultry and has not yet made a self-declaration of freedom from disease.

A free region refers to any location outside a restriction zone put in place for the control of HPAI/ND. All flock farms (at time of egg collection) and hatchery (at time of hatching) must therefore not be within a restriction zone. The zone is considered to regain the status of officially free once the restriction zone has been lifted.

The compartment option may be used if all flock farms and hatchery are within an official compartment.

6. **Disease Surveillance under Directive 2009/158/EC**

Paragraphs IV c) and e) refer. Directive 2009/158/EC is the European Poultry Trade Directive, which applies to any poultry traded between member states of the EU. All of the conditions in the Directive are fully implemented in GB by the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), and in Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS). Therefore membership of either of these schemes means that the premises are officially approved and tested for these diseases and inspected in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC.

The OV is personally responsible for obtaining confirmation that all the tests have been carried out and that all results have been negative and that veterinary inspections have taken place. The OV must check the laboratory reports, or receive written confirmation from the veterinarian who is normally responsible for the flocks of origin.

7. **National Surveillance Programme for Salmonellas of Human Concern**

Paragraph IV d) refers. This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the flock(s) of origin have been routinely monitored bacteriologically as required under EU Regulation 2160/2003. The EU Regulation requires a compulsory monitoring programme for chicken and

turkey breeding flocks, and is implemented for chickens and turkeys by the National Control Plan for Salmonella (NCP). In the case of ducks, the breeding flocks must have been monitored according to a similar protocol on a voluntary basis.

The OV is personally responsible for obtaining confirmation that all the tests have been carried out and that all results have been negative. The OV must check the laboratory reports, or receive written confirmation from the veterinarian who is normally responsible for the flocks of origin.

8. **Routine Inspection of Flocks of Origin**

Paragraph IV e) refers. Directive 2009/158/EC requires that flocks of origin must either be examined by an OV at the time of export to another member state, or they must be subject to routine monthly examinations. Certifying OVs should ensure that monthly veterinary examinations are carried out by reviewing documentation or on the flock veterinarian support certificate.

9. **Packing and Transport Conditions**

Paragraphs IV f) and g) refer. In order to certify these paragraphs, the OV has to either personally observe the packing materials and the internal compartment of the vehicles used for transport or receive a written declaration from the exporter that these requirements are complied with.

Under EU Council Regulation EC/1/2005, implemented in England by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and its equivalent in the devolved regions, vehicles carrying live poultry must be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading. Other instructions about disinfection of the vehicle is given in Directive 2009/158/EC which states that disinfection must be "in accordance with the instructions of the competent authority". The OV may certify the paragraph if, in their personal judgement, the methods used are adequate and effective.

A Defra/DAERA approved disinfectant must be used for disinfecting the internal cargo compartment of the vehicle. Disinfectants are approved under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) (England) Order 2007 (as amended) or equivalent legislation in the devolved regions.

10. **Hatchery Monitoring for Aspergillosis**

Paragraph IV h) refers. This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the OV's personal knowledge and observations at the hatchery, supported by an inspection of any documents or other evidence that they may feel necessary. Routine bacteriological swabbing or other detection methods that are used must be adequate to detect aspergillosis.

11. **Marek's vaccination**

Paragraph IV i) refers. This paragraph must be completed if exporting day-old chickens, and should be deleted in the case of turkey poults or ducklings.

12. **Flock Statements: IBD and Vaccines**

Paragraphs IV j) and k) refer. Paragraph IV j) must be certified for the export of chickens, and should be deleted in the case of turkey poults or ducklings. Where necessary the OV should receive support statements from the veterinarian(s) regularly responsible for origin flocks. The statement concerning IBD in the hatchery must be made on the basis of the OV's personal knowledge and observations.

13. **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

14. **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.