

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

Scope of the certificate

1. This certificate covers the export of frozen ovine/caprine semen to Canada.

1528EHC PART A & 1528CON PART B

2. Please note that the export health certificate 1528EHC for export of frozen ovine semen to Canada is in two parts, 1528EHC PART A and 1528CON PART B.

There is also a supplementary certificate 1528SPT covering assurances for Schmallenberg virus. There is a scrapie internal support certificate 1528SUP to facilitate final export certification. All relevant parts must be signed, dated and stamped.

Council Directives 91/68/EEC & 92/65/EEC

3. The certifying veterinarians must be conversant with the provisions of Annex D to Council Directive 92/65 (and any subsequent amendments), which lay down the approval and supervision requirements applicable to EU trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the ovine and caprine species.

Imported donor animals

4. Paragraphs V a) i, ii; and V b) refer - In the case of an imported donor ram, the owner of the donor ram shall need to obtain information from the breeder and EU OV in the country of origin in order to provide the declaration.

If necessary, details in the Livestock Information Service or equivalent system in devolved administrations:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sheep-and-goat-keepers-how-to-report-animal-movements>

may be checked to establish whether paragraph V.a i) can be signed.

For imported animals, the relevant import certificate may be checked to verify animals were imported legally from the European Union or Canada. If further information and assurances are required, form 1528 SUP-SPT Ovine/Caprine semen (imported animals) can be sent to the importer of the donors in the United Kingdom to arrange completion by the initial EU owner/exporter/OV.

Maedi-visna/Caprine arthritis-encephalitis

5. Paragraph V d) refers - There are two options: either flock/herd freedom through accreditation to a health scheme or testing the donor animals before and after semen collection.

Accreditation: Before signing Paragraph d) i) of the export health certificate, the Authorised Veterinary Surgeon must obtain written confirmation from the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) that the status of the flock/herd is current. Faxed confirmation is acceptable.

For SAC Scheme flocks/herds: details of name, address of owner including post code and if known, Scheme registration number of the animal(s), should be sent to:

SAC Premium Sheep And Goat Health
Schemes PO Box 5557,
Invernes
s IV2
4YT

<https://www.sruc.ac.uk/business-services/veterinary-laboratory-services/premium-sheep-goat-health-scheme/>

SAC will send confirmation of current status to the AVS. AVSs and exporters should note that checks on status can only be carried out during normal office hours.

Avian tuberculin test for Mycobacterium paratuberculosis

6. Paragraph V, 1 iv) refers - Using Defra's standard comparative intradermal tuberculin test, the test results with reference to the avian reaction can be used as a diagnostic skin test for Mycobacterium paratuberculosis. Based on WOAAH standards, negative results means an increase in skin thickness at the avian PPD injection site of less than 2 mm after 72 hours. If such animals are subsequently tested negative using a serological or a culture test as given at paragraphs V, 1) i, ii, or iii, the animal may be considered to be eligible for export on the basis that the avian reaction could be caused by non specific reaction.

Test results should be recorded and be made available on request. Any positive reaction (2 mm or more) on the bovine PPD injection site should be reported to the APHA for further investigation if necessary.

Bluetongue

7. Paragraph V m) refers - The certifying OV must ensure the ovine/caprine semen complies with retained EU Regulation 1266/2007 which is applicable to both options in Paragraph V m) and is in line with the Bluetongue virus (BTV) WOAAH Code standards:

[https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre bluetongue.htm](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre%20bluetongue.htm)

Therefore, the semen must have been collected from donor animals complying with at least one of the following options:

- (a) the donor animals were kept in a Bluetongue free country or zone for a period of at least 60 days before commencement of, and during, collection of the semen;

Note: This may be recognised provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form **618NDC** from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland. Then **Paragraph V m) i)** may be certified.

OR if BTV freedom (Paragraph V m) i)) cannot be certified, then **Paragraph V m) ii)** must be certified if one of the following options has been met:

- (b) the donor animals were subjected to a serological test according to the WOAAH Terrestrial Manual to detect antibodies to the BTV group, with negative results, at least every 60 days during the collection

period and between 28 and 60 days after the final collection for this consignment; **OR**

Note: This option shall be recognised based on supporting centre vet certification and/or evidence. Then Paragraph V m ii) maybe certified.

- (c) the donor animals were subjected, with negative results, to an agent identification test for Bluetongue virus according to the WOAHP Terrestrial Manual carried out on blood samples collected:

(i) at commencement and final collection of the semen for this consignment, and

(ii) during the period of semen collection for this consignment:

i. at least every 7 days, in the case of a virus isolation test, or

ii. at least every 28 days, in the case of a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test; **OR**

Note: This option shall be recognised based on supporting centre vet certification and/or evidence. Then Paragraph V m ii) maybe certified.

- (d) the donor animals have been protected against attacks by vectors for a period of at least 60 days before commencement of, and during, collection of the semen in accordance with WOAHP standards;

Note: Chapter 8.3 to the WOAHP Code describes the vector protection requirements and the facility must be approved and inspected by APHA or DAERA. This option can be used if it is possible to construct a facility and manage it in such a way that vector attack can be mitigated according to WOAHP standards. The certifying official veterinarian may obtain a declaration from APHA CIT / DAERA that the vector protected facility is approved - and any relevant declaration(s)/undertaking(s) that s/he considers necessary and recognise this option on such a basis and/or spot checks. Then the Paragraph V m ii) maybe certified.

Laboratory tests

8. The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

If tests for bluetongue are required, samples must be sent to the Pirbright Institute. Guidance on submission of samples, including the submission forms to use, can be found at:

http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick_media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

Notifiable disease freedom of holding of origin

9. If necessary, clearance for the holding of origin of the ram can be requested from the APHA Centre for International Trade in Carlisle or DAERA to verify the position before the certification contained in paragraphs V h) and i) is signed. This request should be submitted using the 1528SUP, ideally immediately prior to entry into the SCC, and in any case, prior to application for the export health certificate

Support Certification

10. Paragraphs V d) and j) refer - When the flock of origin is under the care of a different veterinary surgeon from the AVS signing paragraph V in Part A and B, the AVS should obtain written confirmation from the other veterinary surgeon that these paragraphs have been complied with.

Countersignature Requirements

11. This certificate must be countersigned by an APHA Veterinarian.

All requests for countersignature must be submitted to the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (CITC) at least two working days in advance of the requested date/time of countersignature using Request for APHA Veterinarian Countersignature of an Export Health Certificate (ET145) application.

The ET145 application can be submitted to CITC:

- as an attachment, at the same time you complete an online application for certification, on the Export Health Certificates (EHC) Online service, or
- by email to procesingteam@apha.gov.uk

Upon receipt of your ET145 application CITC will liaise with an APHA Veterinarian at your preferred countersigning office/area to make arrangements for countersignature to take place and notify you of the arrangements made.

Route of transport

12. The germplasm described on this certificate must be shipped by the most direct and appropriate route from the point of export to the address of destination in Canada. Transshipment through another country requires written authorisation from the Canadian Food inspection Agency. The carrier must be instructed to ensure the integrity of the sealed semen transport/shipping container(s) throughout the journey.

Written approval for routing of the shipment of germplasm through

another country must be attached to the permit and accompany the shipment. With the exception of changing planes, germplasm must not be off loaded at any port of call en route.

Disclaimer

13. 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 at Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>

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