

## EXPORT OF CAPTIVE/PET BIRDS TO BERMUDA

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

#### **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8893EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8893EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

#### **1. Scope of the certificate**

This certificate covers the export of captive and pet birds to Bermuda.

#### **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 with the 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](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. Import Licence**

Exporters are responsible for ascertaining whether an import permit is a compulsory requirement in the importing country, and if so, for ensuring that they, or the importer in case of transfer of ownership, have obtained the necessary permit.

### **4. Clinical inspection**

Paragraphs IV a) and b) refer. The inspection at paragraphs IV a) must be carried out within 10 days of the intended date of arrival into Bermuda and must not show evidence of infectious, contagious or communicable avian disease in the birds to be exported.

To satisfy IV b), the OV should also ensure that other birds kept on the premises are also free from communicable avian disease. This can be carried out by examination of the birds for signs of disease or by consulting the veterinary records of the birds.

### **5. Test & Treatment of Psittacosis**

Paragraph c) refers. Various treatment or testing options are permitted to ensure the birds are free from psittacosis. Testing can be carried out according to one of the testing methods in i, ii or iii, or alternatively treatment can be carried out according to one of iv or v. Alternatively, if permitted in writing by the importing authorities, an alternative method can be used which should be entered in vi. Unused options should be deleted.

Testing according to i, ii or iii can be carried out at any laboratory approved by UK government to perform that testing. A copy of the test results should be attached to the 8894EHC.

### **6. Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraph IV d) and e) may be certified by the OV on the basis of written authority (form 618NDC) which will be sent to them by the issuing office (in GB, APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or the relevant issuing office in Northern Ireland, before shipment.

The premises of origin must not be within a disease control zone in place due to an outbreak of avian influenza or Newcastle disease.

Restriction zones can be seen on the [APHA Interactive Avian Influenza Disease Map](#), or for Northern Ireland the [DAERA Avian Influenza Map Viewer](#).

Additionally, in the case of Newcastle disease, the premises of origin must not be within 50km of a confirmed outbreak, until at least 90 days following the lifting of any disease control zone around the outbreak.

In addition, the Bermudan authorities have stated that importation of animals may be denied on the basis of disease prevalence or outbreaks in the region of origin. Exporters and OVs should ensure that any

requirements are being met regarding travel restrictions due to disease imposed by the authorities in Bermuda.

**7. Exposure to wild birds**

Paragraph IV f) may be certified by the OV on the basis of written declaration from the owner/keeper of the birds that the birds to be exported have not commingled with wild birds in the 45 days prior to export.

**8. C.I.T.E.S**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g., the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora (CITES).

For birds which are subject to the provisions of CITES, relevant CITES certificates/permits must accompany the birds on their travel, in addition to the health certificate.

Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cites-imports-and-exports>

**9. 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.

**9. 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:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>  
DAERA - Email: [vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)