EXPORT OF OVINE AND CAPRINE EMBRYOS TO MONGOLIA

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8041EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificates 8041EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. **Scope of the Certificate**

Export health certificate 8041EHC may be used for the export of ovine and caprine embryos from the United Kingdom to Mongolia.

2. **Official Signature**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (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 must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink 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

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates 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. Schedules

Paragraph I refers: Separate schedules may be used to identify the animals certified. These schedules must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I and paragraph I must be annotated "See attached schedules". Each page of the schedules must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV).

The schedules must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedules and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedules or in paragraph I must be deleted with diagonal lines.

4. Import permit

Paragraph III.(e) refers: The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit. The import permit number should be given in the health certificate at paragraph III.(e).

5. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

Paragraphs IV.6.i) and IV.8) refers: OVs may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre of International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

6. Additional Support Assurances required to enable certain paragraphs to be signed by the Official Veterinarian

Paragraphs IV.1), IV.2), IV.3), IV.4), IV.6)(relevant options) and IV.7) refer: OVs may certify these paragraphs based on personal knowledge of the flock(s)/herd(s) of origin of the animals or supporting certification from a private veterinarian with knowledge of the flock(s)/herd(s) of origin; or in the case of the embryo donors and the embryo collection, processing and storage methods, supporting evidence from the ET team veterinarian.

Paragraphs IV.1) and IV.3) refer: To compliance with requirements as set out in UK legislation concerning collection, processing and storage of ovine/caprine germinal products. UK legislation refers to Directive 92/65 in GB and Regulation (EU) 2020/686 in NI. The embryo team and donor females must comply with relevant legislation for the paragraphs to be certified.

Please note, the semen used for embryo production must have been produced and processed in accordance with chapters 4.6 and 4.7 of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly known as OIE) Code. This means the semen must be at least compliant to the requirements in Directive 92/65 and/or in Regulations (EU) 2020/686 and 2020/692 (for EU trade).

7. Scrapie

Paragraph IV.5.a) refers: To compliance with Annex VIII to assimilated Regulation (EU) 999/2001. The donor females have to originate from holdings which have a classical scrapie negligible or controlled risk status (i.e. have undergone active monitoring for at least 7 years in the case of negligible risk flocks of at least 3 years in the case of controlled risk flocks) as listed in the Scottish Rural College (SRUC) Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) (or equivalent in NI) – http://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120113/premium_sheep_and_goat_health_schemes/511/diseases_covered/5.

Paragraph IV.5.b) refers: This may be certified if the donor females are ARR/ARR genotype. Testing should be performed at official laboratories,

such as SRUC and APHA laboratories.

8. Laboratory tests

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, Penicuick, 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 VLA 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.

9. Sealing of the transport container

Paragraph III.c) refers: The embryos/ova must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal and the date of sealing must be entered at paragraph III.c) on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container with additional liquid nitrogen, topping up should be done in the presence of an Official Veterinarian (OV) who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The OV must endorse paragraph III.c) on the health certificate with the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating and stamping the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black.**

10. 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 at Carlisle, via the link below:

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

ANNEX

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVING ON FARM ISOLATION UNITS

1) Management of the unit

a) Buildings used for the on farm isolation premises must be dedicated for the on farm isolation and be physically separate from any buildings used for other livestock.

b) Pastures used for on-farm isolation premises must be dedicated for on farm isolation and be physically separate from any pastures or buildings used for other livestock on the premises. A minimum distance of 5 metres is required between the perimeter of the isolation fields and any other livestock. This 5 metre separation would be satisfied with stockproof double fencing.

c) Animals may only be moved between isolation premises on the same farm.

2) Construction for buildings

a) Any buildings used in the isolation unit must be designed such that contact with other livestock is prevented.

b) A dedicated loading/off-loading facility must be provided for each isolation unit. This facility shall be fully cleansed and disinfected after each use.

3) Operating Procedures

a) Dedicated protective clothing for staff must be provided for the isolation unit.

b) Protective clothing to be provided for visitors.

c) Disinfectant footbaths to be provided and used at the entrance(s) to the isolation units.

d) Any person entering the isolation unit must wear protective clothing and footwear and use the disinfectant footbaths at the entrance(s).

e) Any unused feedingstuffs, fodder, bedding etc. intended for animals in the isolation unit must remain there while animals are present.

f) All equipment, pens, hurdles, etc in the isolation premises must remain there until the 30 day period has been satisfactorily completed.