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## EXPORT OF DOGS AND CATS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO MEXICO

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

#### **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 3915EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3915EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 3915EHC may be used for the export of dogs and cats from the United Kingdom to Mexico.

#### 2. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

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 must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

#### **Certified Copy Requirements**

Certifiers are only required to return a certified copy of EHCs for the following EHC types:

- if the commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids
- EHC's where the certifier cannot submit certifier feedback

If you are required to return a certified copy to CITC, email a scanned copy to [certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk](mailto:certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk).

Retain a copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified for two years.

Certifiers 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. **CLINICAL EXAMINATION**

Paragraph IV. a) of the certificate refers. The clinical examination should be carried out within 48 hours prior to export.

4. **RABIES VACCINATION**

Paragraph IV. b) refers. The Mexican veterinary authorities require rabies vaccination not less than 15 days and not more than 12 months prior to export. The vaccination certificate should be attached to the export health certificate.

5. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Official Veterinarians may certify paragraph IV. c) provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the Animal and Plant Health Agency - Centre for International Trade (APHA -CIT) in Carlisle or issuing office of DAERA on form 618NDC.

6. **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](mailto:WIT@apha.gov.uk)

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

7. **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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)