

EXPORT OF MEAT/MEAT PRODUCTS OF BOVINE ORIGIN TO THAILAND - 7092EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7092EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7092EHC.

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 7092EHC may be used for the export from the United Kingdom (UK) to Thailand of boneless fresh/frozen meat or meat products of bovine origin derived from animals born and raised in the UK and/or the Republic of Ireland (ROI), or which were resident in the UK and/or ROI for not less than four months prior to the date of slaughter. Offal of any form is not included in the scope and should not be exported.

NB: Thailand does not accept bone-in beef from countries that have BSE Controlled Risk Status. It was not established if bone-in beef can be accepted from BSE Negligible Risk status countries / zones. Therefore, this certificate can only be used for the export of boneless beef from the UK to Thailand.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an authorised Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

In Northern Ireland, this certificate may be signed by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

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

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Animal Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

The OV should keep a copy for his/her own records.

3. OBTAINING AN IMPORT PERMIT

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit. Current information indicates that an import permit is required for import of bovine meat into Thailand.

Exporters are therefore advised to contact the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast for further advice on obtaining an import permit

Details of the Import Permit must be entered onto the certificate where indicated (immediately above Part I - Identification of Consignment).

4. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)

Paragraphs IV(a) and IV(b) refer. OVs may certify these paragraphs for bovine meat or meat products of UK origin on behalf of the Department 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.

For fresh bovine meat originating from the ROI, OVs must ensure that they have carried out sufficient research into the current disease situation in the ROI, for example via the websites of the WOA and the ROI competent veterinary authority, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, to enable them to certify these paragraphs.

5. BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (BSE) DECLARATIONS

Paragraphs IV(c) (i) and (ii) regarding BSE may be certified on the basis that all zones of the UK are recognised as Negligible Risk for BSE, and that these are requirements of the TSE legislation (Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001, as transposed into national legislation), and that the UK competent authorities (Defra, the Devolved Administrations and the Food Standards Agency) ensure compliance with the legislation.

Requirements related to BSE controls and the removal of SRM (Specified Risk Material)

Section IV (c) (iii) refers.

The prohibited tissues mentioned/referenced in the EHC must not be included in the exported consignment, nor contaminate or be in contact with it after removal. This is a requirement of the importing country but does not affect the categorisation or subsequent use of those tissues under UK domestic rules (e.g. as SRM or not). Once removed and segregated from product for export, the FBO can process or dispose the export-prohibited tissues according to the prevailing domestic requirements."

If the certifying OV is unable to personally verify the required measures were taken during dressing and processing, additional

support documentation may be required and additional checks on product (to verify that prohibited tissues are not present) should be taken.

Some FBOs may choose to continue to remove SRM in line with previous "Controlled Risk" processes. Where this is the case and the SHA/ veterinary declarations make that clear, OV's may continue to certify the relevant sections of the EHC based on that assurance. If FBOs have chosen to reduce the scope of SRM removal in line with "Negligible Risk" definitions, additional export-specific measures for removal of prohibited tissues / segregation will be required to enable OV's to certify that the conditions were met during the processing of the export consignment.

6. ORIGIN AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Sub-paragraphs IV(d) (i) and (ii) refer. Certifying OV's should use their own knowledge of the operation and buying patterns of the exporting establishment(s) to certify these sub-paragraphs. OV's should also request support documents from the owner/exporter/agent of the exporter confirming that the animals from which the exported meat is derived meet the specified origin and/or residency requirements.

7. REGISTRATION OF FARMS OF ORIGIN

Sub-paragraph IV(d) (iii) may be certified on the condition that all farms of origin in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the ROI have been registered with the competent authority and have a registration number.

In Great Britain, the nine-digit County Parish Holding (CPH) number is issued by the Rural Payments Agency; in Northern Ireland the Herd/Flock Keeper ID is issued by DAERA and in the ROI the Herd/Flock number is issued by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

OV's must ensure that all farms of origin are properly registered with the appropriate competent authority and may wish to obtain written evidence of farm registration prior to certifying this paragraph.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH HYGIENE REGULATIONS/FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Paragraphs IV(e), IV(f), IV(j) and IV(k) may be certified on the basis of the official oval mark and evidence that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with the Food Safety and Hygiene Regulations 2013, which make provisions for the execution and enforcement of the retained EU Food Hygiene Regulations 852/2004, 853/2004 and 2019/627 and, in the case of microbiological criteria, retained Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005.

9. APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENTS TO EXPORT TO THAILAND

Paragraph IV(f) refers. Other than approval under current Hygiene Regulations, there are no additional approval conditions or checklists required for establishments wishing to export to Thailand. However such establishments must first be notified to the Thai authorities and then included on an approved list prior to exports taking place.

Potential exporters should therefore contact the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast for further advice regarding inclusion on the list of establishments approved to export to Thailand.

The authorities of Thailand will expect that the details of the establishments entered onto the certificate are both correct, consistent and in accordance with their own records of approved establishments. Approval codes, and other details, should exactly match the details as listed on the DLD website:

<https://aqi.dld.go.th/webnew/index.php/th/service-menu/office-service-menu>

10. RESIDUES AND OTHER UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES

Paragraphs IV(g) and IV(h) may be certified on the basis of the results of the national surveillance scheme for residues to which approved meat establishments are subjected.

The national surveillance scheme implements Council Directives 96/22/EC and 96/23/EC and the HACCP requirements in retained Regulation (EC) 852/2004 also places an obligation on all approved meat establishments to ensure compliance with these Directives. These Directives are transposed into national legislation by The Animals and Animal Products (Examinations for Residues and Maximum Limits) Regulations 1997 and parallel legislation in the devolved administrations.

11.

11. 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#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

or, in the case of Northern Ireland, the DAERA Trade Administration Team for meat and dairy exports by e-mail at: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk or by telephone at 028 77442 060.