

EXPORT OF GERMPLASM FOR RESEARCH FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO NEW ZEALAND - 8908EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING VETERINARIANS

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8908EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8908EHC.

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

This certificate covers the export of germplasm, ie embryos, ova and semen, from the United Kingdom to New Zealand for research purposes.

2. Signing of the certificate

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 ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

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

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 Permit (Paragraph I (b) 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 must be stated here. The certificate should not be signed and the consignment must not be exported unless an import permit has been issued and (a copy) sighted by the certifying OV.

4. **WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code**

Paragraph IV e) (i) refers. In order to complete this certificate, it is necessary to be familiar with the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly known as OIE). The latest edition of the Code can be found on the WOAH website at:

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/>

5. **Support assurances from Centre Veterinary Surgeon to enable certain paragraphs to be signed by the Official Veterinarian**

The Authorised Centre Veterinary Surgeon must provide the assurances required of the certificate to the Official Veterinarian to enable relevant paragraphs to be signed.

He/she should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin, if necessary with the support of a written declaration from the person in charge of the animals or the attending veterinary surgeon concerned, confirming freedom from certain diseases and that the actions to be certified have been carried out as specified in the certificate.

6. **Semen collection from imported donors**

Imported germplasm is not eligible for export under the certificate; paragraph IV b) refers.

7. **Sealing of the transport container**

Paragraph IV e) (iii) & (iv) refer: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamper-evident seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the container and the seal must be entered at paragraphs I f) & g) on the health certificate respectively.

8. **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, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.