

EXPORT OF HEAT TREATED POULTRYMEAT PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA - 8006EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS: 8006EHC and 618NDC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8006EHC. Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but to be read in conjunction with certificate 8006EHC.

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 8006EHC may be used for the export of heat-treated poultry meat products from the United Kingdom to the Republic of South Africa.

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 or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland (DAERA-NI).

OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office (in GB - the Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland, to DAERA-NI, Dundonald House, Belfast.

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

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT

Paragraph I.a refers. Because of the requirement for declarations which are particularly relevant to meat/meat products from poultry, it is essential that the description of the product includes wording that indicates exactly from which type of poultry bird the meat/meat products are derived.

4. 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. The import permit number should be given in the health certificate on page 1.

South African Import Permit conditions require a separate Export Health Certificate to be provided for each cutting plant and slaughterhouse. Section II Origin of products should therefore be completed with ONE slaughterhouse and ONE cutting plant only. Where consignments originate from more than one slaughterhouse and/or cutting plant, a separate EHC should be completed for each combination. Consignments may be held or rejected if multiple sources are listed without separate EHCs.

5. **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF MEAT**

Paragraphs III.1.i and III.1.ii refer.

The OV should ascertain from the manufacturer's records if the product derives from animals in the UK or another country and delete as necessary.

Paragraph III.1.i requires the meat to be produced from animals/birds which have been born/hatched, reared and slaughtered in the UK.

This paragraph can be certified on the basis of familiarity with the manufacturer's procurement arrangements from slaughterhouses or the examination of manufacturer's records, or examination of statements from the manufacturer's veterinary surgeon/s or of statements from the OVs at the slaughterhouse/s.

Paragraph III.1.ii allows animals to be sourced from the UK or certain EU Member States that are authorised by South Africa (as in the EHC foot note). The poultry must have been hatched and reared in those MSs, and certification /documentation to that effect must be made available before the paragraph can be certified. The OV should examine such documents to ensure that adequate detail is provided to enable signing of 8006EHC.

6. **APPROVED STATUS AND APPROVAL NUMBER OF THE MANUFACTURING PLANT**

Paragraphs I.(1). and III.4. may be certified on the basis that processed food facilities/establishments are required to be approved in the UK. The OV should view evidence of approval, such as the facility/establishment official approval number.

Health/ID marking of products: South Africa will accept consignments of product bearing oval health/ID marks. Some consignments might contain a mix of products which each might bear different health/ID marks. Products will be identified as originating from the final establishment of production by cross-reference with the central unique identifier number of the establishment in the oval mark/stamp of the product.

Additional RSA requirement:

Do not list multiple slaughterhouses or cutting plants on a single EHC. Each certificate must correspond to one slaughterhouse and one cutting plant only, even if all establishments are RSA-approved.

Where consignments originate from multiple establishments, exporters must obtain separate EHCs.

The authorities of South Africa 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 RSA the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) website
<http://webapps.daff.gov.za/VetWeb/abbatoirsEstablishment.do>

7. **FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

Paragraph III. 2. may be certified on the basis that the poultry meat has been supplied from approved slaughterhouses in the UK and that the meat could only have been produced and passed for human consumption if the points in this paragraph were complied with.

8. **DECLARATIONS FOR NCD AND HPAI (PARAGRAPH III.3)**

If the UK or authorised MS **IS** free (see guidance on obtaining or checking notifiable disease freedom in this document) from Newcastle disease (NCD) and highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPNAI), paragraph III.3.ii must be deleted.

If it is not, then paragraph **III.3.i** must be deleted and paragraph **III.3.ii** must be **certified**. The WOAH recommendations for inactivating NCD in poultry meat can be found in Article 10.9.21 at:

https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_nd.htm

and that for HPAI in Article 10.4.24 at:

https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_avian_influenza_viruses.htm

9. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)

Paragraph III.3.i. with respect to NCD/HPAI refers.

If the products are derived from poultry hatched, reared and slaughtered in the UK, OVs may certify the paragraph on behalf of the Department, provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from Central Operations for Exports at Carlisle (or equivalent in Northern Ireland).

If the animal products are derived from poultry hatched and reared in another authorised Member State, and which were slaughtered in the UK, the NCD/HPAI status of the MS can be ascertained by supporting veterinary certification/declarations from the country in question.

10. PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENT

Paragraph III.4. refers: The name and approval number of the processing establishment must be entered at paragraph III.4. The processing establishment may be the same as the manufacturing establishment at paragraph I.(1).

11. HEAT TREATMENTS

Paragraph III.8. refers: The import permit must be consulted and the heat treatments/processing standards required completed accordingly. Unused rows should be deleted.

Compliance with the heat treatment/processing standards in paragraph III.8. may be certified on the basis of:

- familiarity with the production process operating in the establishment: and
- checks on company records of processing, quality control checks, etc. for the batches certified; and/or
- supplementary supporting evidence provided by the responsible Environmental Health Officer.

12. 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 APHA at the Centre for International Trade in 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>