

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR EXPORTERS AND OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS - 7006NFG

IMPORTANT

Exporters and Official Veterinarians (OVs) are advised that the conditions for export of pig meat to the People's Republic of China (PRC) are complex and demanding. Clearances for certain non-notifiable diseases such as PRRS on premises of origin are not straight forward and special procedures have been introduced to facilitate these declarations.

Well in advance of exports taking place, exporters and certifying OVs must become familiar with these notes for guidance and all associated documents. In the event of any questions, they are advised to contact the APHA Centre for International Trade (CIT) by email at processingteam@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301 or DAERA in Northern Ireland at VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk.

In an attempt to simplify the procedures, these notes 7006NFG have been split into five separate parts as follows:

- 7006NFG - Part 1: Introduction and General Principles (read first)
- 7006NFG - Part 2: Farm Assurances
- 7006NFG - Part 3: Slaughterhouses and cutting plants
- 7006NFG - Part 4: Standalone cutting plants
- 7006NFG - Part 5: Final certification at exporting cold stores (this document)
- 7006NFG - Flow diagram of export chain

Associated Documents

- The Protocol for veterinary and health requirements for export of pig meat to the People's Republic of China, the UK-China Trotters Protocol and Standard Operational Procedures for Trotters (included in 7006NFG - Part 1);
- 7006ANNA - PAS quarterly veterinary food chain information (FCI) and health declaration for herds of origin;
- 7006ANNB - Owner/manager FCI declaration to slaughterhouse operator;
- 7006ANNC - Owner manager support declaration for veterinarians completing 7006ANNA;
- 1734IMC - Internal movement certificate;
- 7006EXA - Guidance on completion of the interactive pre-certificate (application for export/EHC to DAERA).

These five parts and all other associated documents may be downloaded from the website of the United Kingdom Export Certification Partnership (UKECP) via the following link: www.ukecp.com/export-health-certificates. The documents can be found using the search parameters 'China', 'meat' and

'porcine'.

Alternatively, these can be found at the [EHC finder](#) page in GOV.UK from APHA CIT or DAERA upon request.

7006NFG – PART 5: FINAL CERTIFICATION AT EXPORTING COLD STORES

1. INTRODUCTION

These notes are intended for exporters and certifying OV's in a PRC-approved cold store from where the consignment will be dispatched to its final destination in the PRC. They must be read in conjunction with 7006NFG Part 1: Introduction and General Principles; and for **NI colleagues** the 7006EXA: Guidance document on completion of the interactive pre- certificate (application for export/EHC to DAERA).

Certifying OV's in cutting plants are required to provide support documentation in the form of an Internal Movement Certificate (IMC), confirming that the consignment meets PRC requirements in full. This support document enables the OV in the premises of despatch to sign final export health certificate 7006EHC.

2. ADVANCE PROVISION OF OV NAME

The PRC requires that all OV's must be approved by the General Administration of Customs China (GACC) before signing any 7006EHCs.

Following GACC Import and Export Food Safety Bureau Letter [2024] No. 269 on 29 July 2024, the list of OV's approved to export to China (the "OV list") only requires the name of the OV's. The OV list now no longer contains the name of the approved sites where any individual OV can sign EHCs. Therefore, all approved OV's can now sign 7006EHCs at any China approved site in the UK, without the list needing to be amended.

There is no longer a requirement for OV's to submit specimen signatures and stamps before being added to the OV list.

If additions or modifications to the OV list are required, OV's or exporters should inform UKECP in GB. In NI, please email VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk who coordinates updates to the OV list. Defra will compile an updated OV list and send it to GACC at intervals of 3 months when required. On each occasion, GACC require a period of 30 days after receiving a new list (the working day after Defra send the list) to forward the new OV list to ports and implement the changes in it.

Additional ad hoc requests may be accepted by Defra but GACC still require a period of 30 days to implement any changes. Exporters should therefore plan ahead and ensure any likely changes or additions to their OV's are communicated well in advance. Consignments are at risk if exports commence before the authorities in the PRC have implemented the updated OV list. Defra will supply APHA/DAERA with the new OV list and the effective date of implementation.

Please see further guidance on entering the OV name, stamp and signature in the final certificate at Section 6 (Notes on completion of 7006EHC) below.

3. SCOPE OF EXPORTS TO THE PRC

Please refer to Part 1 of 7006NFG.

4. USE OF INTERNAL MOVEMENT CERTIFICATES (IMCs) FOR MOVEMENTS BETWEEN PREMISES OF PRC EXPORT ELIGIBLE MEAT:

The OV at the supplying cutting plant must complete a copy of an Internal Movement Certificate (IMC) for downstream movement of each consignment of meat intended for export to the PRC (form **7006IMC** or similar document). The OV at the cutting plant must give each IMC a unique reference number which should consist of the plant approval number followed by the date of slaughter and a sequential number e.g.: 1234/21.03.19/05.

(See 7006EXA (FOR NI EXPORTS ONLY) and guidance document and Section 5 below of this document for more information on approval/registration number format)

The paper copy of the 7006IMC can be handwritten - information does not have to be typed but the details must be clearly legible and unambiguous.

The OV at the cold store must retain all copies of IMCs received from supplying premises for a period of at least one year after the date of export.

5. APPROVAL OF MEAT PLANTS AND COLD STORES TO EXPORT TO THE PRC

All slaughterhouses, cutting premises, manufacturing premises and cold stores intending to export eligible pork and pig meat products to PRC require approval prior to export taking place.

Please refer to Part 1 of 7006NFG for full details on procedures for premises approvals AND (only for those in Northern Ireland) the **7006EXA** guidance document for the approval/registration format.

A list of premises specifically approved for export to the PRC is included in **Annex 1** of this document. The list will be updated as required. The list is also available on GACCs website <https://ciferquery.singlewindow.cn/>

The establishments present in the supply chain for exporting pork and pig products to PRC must be eligible, at the time of certification, to export to PRC. All approved establishments are automatically associated with one another for the purposes of export to China, and Defra has ensured this with the Chinese authorities.

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The PRC authorities will expect that the details of the establishments entered onto the certificate are correct, consistent and in accordance with their own records of approved establishments. Approval numbers, and other details, should exactly match the details as listed on the GACC website: <https://ciferquery.singlewindow.cn/>

Approved sites can still be checked by exporters and OV's at **Annex 1** of this guidance document along with GACC's list.

Health/ID marking of products: GACC will accept consignments of product bearing the current format of oval health/ID marks. Some consignments might contain a mix of products which each might bear different health/ID marks (**FOR NI** - see advice at the 7006EXA guidance document on completion of section III (1) of the 7006EHC on "Shipping 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.**

Export of Trotters to the PRC

Exporters and OV's are reminded that additional premises approval is required for the export of trotters to the PRC. Under no circumstances can export of trotters take place from premises that are not approved. Operators of approved premises are required to meet the conditions laid down in the document entitled '*Standard Operating Procedures for the export of trotters to the People's Republic of China*', which is included as an Annex in 7006NFG - Part 1.

When completing final export certification for trotters, OV's at the cold store must carry out the necessary checks to ensure that the premises where the trotters intended for export were processed and packaged is listed as approved for export of trotters to the PRC.

Only those premises indicated as such in **Annex 1** of this document are approved for the export of trotters.

6. NOTES ON COMPLETION OF 7006EHC

Certifying OV's at export cold stores must note that unauthorised deletions or manuscript amendments to 7006EHC are not permitted. The only permitted handwritten entry is the signature of the OV. The date of certification must be entered using an inked rubber stamp. **The OV signature and the date stamp must be made of ink of any colour other than black.**

The name of the OV must exactly match the information supplied in the current OV List. Only enter the Official Veterinarian's name on 7006EHC; **do not enter** additional information, e.g. title or qualifications/registrations (including M/F RCVS) of the OV alongside the name in the 7006EHC.

To ensure an accurate record of OV names an OV form will need to be completed by all OV's certifying 7006EHC. When completing the OV form please ensure that all information is accurate and complete.

- The name entered on the form must match exactly how the OV will sign EHCs to China.
- Middle names should only be included if they will be used when signing EHCs.
- Pay close attention to spelling, punctuation, and the use of upper/lowercase letters.
- If the OV uses a stamp to sign EHCs, ensure the name on the form reflects the stamp format precisely.
- Do not include post-nominals (e.g. "MRCVS") or professional titles/prefixes (e.g. "Dr", "Mr", "Ms") in the name or signature. These are not recognised by the Chinese authorities and their inclusion may result in consignment rejections.

Any certificates containing details/information of the OV at the signature section that is different to the current OV List **will likely result in consignments being detained on arrival to China.**

Following the 30 July 2024 release of GACC Import and Export Food Safety Bureau Letter [2024] No.269, the **requirement for OVs to provide specimen signatures and stamps has been removed.**

Additionally, the OV List no longer states which cold store(s) a China approved OV works at and thus an OV can move between different cold stores, or work at multiple cold stores without amending the OV List. There is no longer a limit on the number of approved OVs at each site.

OVs and exporters should note that they have the final responsibility to ensure that the details on the completed certificates are correct. Due to the complexity of the conditions, it is recommended that such checks should be carried out sufficiently in advance of the date of export to enable any changes that may be required. GACC will expect that the details of the establishments entered onto the certificate are correct and consistent.

Information across all documents should be consistent. If the container number or seal number differs from the details on the official health certificate, or if the seal is damaged, the shipment will be prohibited from inspection.

The registered plant number, production batch number, and production date must also be consistent with the information on the health certificate. Any inconsistencies will lead to the shipment being refused entry, and replacing the health certificate will not be permitted.

7. OFFICIAL VETERINARY DECLARATION - CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROTOCOL

Part V of 7006EHC refers. Please refer to Part 1 of 7006NFG for a description of The Protocol and the relevant Articles. For the purposes of certification of exports of pig meat, Articles 4 - 10 of 7006NFG Part 1 Annex 1 refer.

7006EHC Articles 1 and 2 and Articles 11 - 16 may be certified by the OV on the basis of information already supplied to GACC by the UK competent authorities, together with operating and administrative procedures described in these Articles as agreed between Defra and now GACC.

Article 3 - Official Disease Clearances

Article 3 of The Protocol may be certified on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre of International Trade (CIT) at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

Articles 4(a), 4(b) and 4(c) - UK origin of the animals and premises of origin freedom from specified diseases

The above conditions may be certified on the basis of IMCs signed by the official veterinarian at the supplying slaughterhouse/cutting plant confirming that the consignment complies with the import conditions of the PRC.

Article 5 - approval of premises exporting to the PRC

All establishments in the export supply chain must hold prior approval to export to the PRC. This may be certified on the basis of IMCs signed by the official veterinarian at the supplying slaughterhouse/cutting plant. All establishments in the supply chain must also be linked via the Associations List, which is managed automatically by Defra.

Article 6 - compliance with UK Hygiene Regulations / fitness for human consumption

The existing EU legislation that the UK complied with prior to the end of the Transition Period has been incorporated into our domestic law as 'assimilated EU law' under the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023.

References in guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this assimilated EU law. The EU standards that this legislation includes continue to remain in force, without substantive amendment, as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

Paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) of Article 6 may be certified on the basis of the oval mark and evidence that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved by Local Authorities and operating in accordance with Regulations (EC) Nos. 852/2004, 853/2004 and (EU) 2017/625 and, in the case of microbiological criteria, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005.

With regards to residue levels, paragraph (c) of Article 6 may be certified on the basis of the results of the National Surveillance Scheme (NSS) for residues, to which all UK approved meat establishments are subject.

The NSS implements assimilated Council Directive 96/22/EC and assimilated Regulation (EU) 2017/625, which are transposed into national legislation by The Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) (England and Scotland) Regulations 2015 and parallel legislation in the other devolved administrations.

For the purposes of this certificate OV's should note that residue limits as stipulated by the UK competent authorities and GACC are regarded as equivalent.

Article 7 - segregation of slaughter for non-eligible animals and provision of a dedicated area for storage

The requirement for segregation pre- and post-slaughter and during preliminary processing may be certified on the basis of IMCs signed by the official veterinarian at the supplying slaughterhouse/cutting plants confirming that the consignment complies with the import conditions of the PRC.

All PRC export-eligible meat must be processed, wrapped and packaged separately from other meat not eligible for export to the PRC.

In order to ensure PRC's requirements for traceability and segregation, meat eligible for export to PRC must be clearly identified throughout the entire export chain.

The certifying OV at the exporting cold store must be fully familiar with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for segregation/separation. These written procedures must explain how this requirement is achieved and maintained in the cold store from the intake of meat to despatch.

Articles 8 and 9 - wrapping, packaging and storage of exported goods

Please refer to the relevant Articles of the Protocol for a description of labelling, packaging and storage details.

Multiple seals per container are not permitted. The Official Veterinarian must ensure that single containers have only one seal and one seal number.

Please note that the inner and outer packaging of the consignment must not show signs of modification, such as repackaging or re-labelling. Signs of modification can result in the consignment being detained.

8. ELECTRONIC PRE-CERTIFICATION

The Official Veterinarians (OV) providing final certification for consignments to PRC are required to submit a weekly notification of exports to PRC which should include all relevant data for any certificate signed by the OV for the previous week.

In GB, the OV must submit the electronic table to processingteam@apha.gov.uk before 12pm each Monday.

In Northern Ireland, the OV must submit the electronic table to the vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk mailbox **before 11am each Monday**.

Data entry must be accurate, in the agreed format and match the consignment details otherwise acceptance from the Chinese authorities may not be granted.

The OV is responsible for ensuring that all data submitted is correct and APHA/DAERA cannot be held responsible if a consignment is held or delayed if inaccurate data has been provided. APHA/DAERA send all notification tables to China Inspection and Quarantine (CIQ) for their approval.

A template copy of the weekly notification table can be supplied by contacting processingteam@apha.gov.uk/vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk

Note - GACC have introduced a new computer system for the pre-notification of EHCs - Electronic Information Verification System for Veterinary Health Certificates for Exports of Meat Products to China (known as "eCert"). This needs to be solely used by Competent Authorities for the submission of EHC pre-notifications as of 00:00 (GMT+8) 1st December 2024. This requires OVs to submit information on a new spreadsheet to notify APHA/DAERA of the EHCs.

If the old spreadsheet is submitted or not all of the information is included then the OV will have to resubmit documentation.

AMENDMENTS TO NOTIFICATIONS

On occasion it may be required to amend the details on a notification when changes occur when the consignment is in transit, e.g. a change in consignee. When a change is required the certifying OV must submit a spreadsheet using the same template as the initial notification though only including the row pertaining to the consignment which has changed. Each column should be completed to give full information of the consignment, and **the details which differ** from the original notification must be **highlighted** by having the font in **red text** along with including EHC number that it replaces (if applicable).

The notification of amendments should be sent by the OV on an ad hoc basis as and when required, to the same email address as per the weekly notification. APHA/DAERA will then process the details of the change on GACC's new eCert system which shall be submitted straight to CIQ.

When completing the spreadsheet, key information must be adhered to;

- Write the date in the format yyyy-mm-dd. Using forward slashes is not acceptable.
- Under species state "Porcine" not frozen pork (this should be under the product section)
- The spreadsheet doesn't allow spaces in either the container or the seal numbers. As such, if possible, it is recommended that you do not put spaces within such numbers in the EHC.

9. **DISCLAIMER**

These notes are provided on the basis of information available at the time. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the information against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country.

For further advice exporters should contact the APHA Centre for International Trade CIT Carlisle at processingteam@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301 or DAERA in Northern Ireland at VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk

Annex 1 – UK establishments approved for export of fresh pig meat to China

All plants approved to export pork to China, and any alterations to that approval are on GACC's website; <https://ciferquery.singlewindow.cn/>

As of 07/06/24, all EHC7006 need the address written as per GACCs approval list (to be compatible with DECOL and EHCO these must be submitted in capitals). The addresses in the table below are correct as per GACC records but may not be formatted correctly and appear to have errors. If the details in the EHC are recorded in another way than the table below it will risk the consignment being detained at the port on arrival in China. We recommend that you check the details in the approvals list before completing the EHC <https://ciferquery.singlewindow.cn/>.

注册编号 Approval No. to be entered in 7006EHC certifica tes	企业名称 Name of Plant	企业地址 Address of Plant	生产方式 Activities	Trotte rs ? Y/N
2060	KARRO Food Ltd	Hugden Way, Norton Grove IndustrialEstate . Malton. North Yorkshire, YO179HG	屠宰、分割 Slaughterho use, Cutting plant	Yes
4175	Pilgrim's Pride Ltd	George Henry Road, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 7BZ	分割 Cutting plant	No
4085	Pilgrim's Pride Ltd	Bow Street, Dukinfield, Cheshire SK16 4HY	屠宰、分割 Slaughterho use, Cutting plant	Yes
5213	Cranswick Country Foods, Norfolk	Brandon Road, Watton, Norfolk IP256LW	屠宰、分割 Slaughterho use, Cutting plant	Yes

5091	Pilgrim's Pride Ltd	Spalding, Lincolnshire PE12 6EP	屠宰、分割 Slaughterho use, Cutting	Yes
2093	Cranswick Country Foods	Staithes Road, Preston, Hull Hu12 8TB	屠宰、分割 Slaughterho use, Cutting	Yes
9052	KARRO FOOD LTD.	70 Molesworth RoadCookstownCo. TyroneBT80 8PJ	屠宰、分割 Slaughterho use, Cutting plant	Yes
9028	Interfrigo Ltd	Unit 12, Steeple Industrial Estate,Co. Antrim BT41 1AB	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
NE028	Magnavale Chesterfield LTD.	Magnavale House, Park Road,Holmewood Industrial Park, Holmewood,Cheste rfield, Derbyshire,S42 5UY	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
LI 036	Americold Spalding Ltd	Marsh Road Spalding Lincolnshire PE12 6HA United Kingdom	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
9022	Granville Food Care Ltd	Unit 4, GranvilleIndustr ial Estate, Dungannon,Co, Tyrone BT701NJ	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
AO011	Turners (Soham) Ltd	Fordham RoadNewmarket SuffolkCB8 7NR	冷藏 Cold store	N/A

WX7158	Thermotraffic Ltd.	Ash road south ,Wrexham Industrial Estate,Wrexham,L L13 9UG	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
XA007	ABP Hull Cold Store	Corporation Road, King George Dock,Hull, East Yorkshire HU9 5NFCold store	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
DL005	Thermotraffic Ltd.	Pedmore Road, Brierly Hill, Dudley, WestMidlands, DY5 1LJCold store	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
8061	Pilgrim's Pride Ltd	Oakleigh Green, Westerleigh, Bristol, BS37 8QZ	屠宰、分割 Slaughterhouse Cutting plant	Yes
1136	Quality Pork Processors Ltd	Montrose Road, Brechin, Angus DD9 7PL	屠宰、分割 Slaughterhouse Cutting plant	Yes
9064	Ardboe Coldstore Limited	Ardboe Coldstore Limited,Ardboe Business Park,Kilmascally Road,Ardboe, County Tyrone BT 71 5BJ	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
SR 020	Magnavale Scunthorpe Ltd.	Phase 6, Celsius Parc Cupola Way Scunthorpe, DN15 9YJ	冷藏 Cold store	N/A
ZU 027	Americold Lurgan Warehousing Limited	66 Silverwood Rosd,Lurgan, County Armagh BT66 6NL	冷藏 Cold store	N/A

9045	Cranswick Country Foods (Ballymena)	146 Fenaghy Road, Cullybackey, Co. Antrim, BT42 1EA	屠宰、分割 Slaughterhouse Cutting plant	Yes
WD 030	Importo Limited T/A Locharbriggs Coldstore	Catherinefield Industrial Estate, Locharbriggs, Dumfriesshire, DG1 3PQ	冷藏 Cold store	Yes