

EXPORT OF DAY-OLD CHICKS/HATCHING EGGS OF POULTRY TO GHANA - 6224EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER

1. SCOPE

This certificate 6224EHC can be used for export of hatching eggs and day-old chicks of chicken to Ghana.

2. Official Signature

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 - 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 (EHCOnline) 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 EHCOnline 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

aPVPs certifying DECS 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 inspection of the flock(s) of origin**

The inspection in paragraph IV a) must be carried out within 30 days of export.

4. **Premises freedom from disease**

Paragraph IV b) refers. Farms of origin, hatcheries and egg stores must not have cases of any of the diseases cited in this paragraph in the 6 months prior to export. This may be certified on the basis of personal knowledge of the premises or documentary evidence from a veterinarian at the premises.

5. **Poultry Health Scheme Membership**

Paragraphs IV d) and e) refer. Note that the paragraph specifies membership of a government supervised poultry health scheme. This means either the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS) within Great Britain, or the Northern Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS) within Northern Ireland.

The OV may certify membership of a poultry health scheme provided that he/she has received written confirmation from APHA, which will be sent to him/her before shipment (or the equivalent arrangement in Northern Ireland).

If the flock of origin are not member(s) of a Government supervised poultry health scheme, blood samples must be taken from all the birds comprising the flock(s) of origin and subjected to the rapid plate agglutination test for pullorum disease and fowl typhoid, with negative results in each case.

6. **Notifiable Disease**

Paragraphs IV c) refers. This paragraph may be certified provided the Official Veterinarian has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by the issuing office (in GB, APHA Exports in Carlisle). In the case of Northern Ireland, a similar written authority must be obtained from the issuing office in Northern Ireland.

To certify (i), the farm(s) of origin/ the hatchery must be located outside the area of any 10km control zone in place due to an outbreak of avian influenza or Newcastle disease, which remains in place for at least 30 days following confirmation of the outbreak.

To certify (ii), the farm(s) of origin and hatchery must be approved premises in the GB poultry compartments scheme.

7. **Vaccination of the parents of the day-old chicks/hatching eggs**

Paragraph IV f) refers. The date of vaccination for infectious bursal disease given to the parents of the day-old chicks/hatching eggs must be entered in the first paragraph if applicable.

8. **Support Certification**

When the flock of origin is inspected by a different veterinarian, he/she should complete form 6224SUP (Support Health Certificate), certifying that the requirements in paragraphs IV) a), b), d), e) and f) of 6224EHC are complied with.

9. **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

10. **Welfare during travel**

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

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