

## **EXPORT OF DAY OLD CHICKS OF DOMESTIC FOWL TO MAURITIUS**

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

#### **1. Scope of the certificate.**

This certificate is for the export of day-old chicks of domestic fowl (chicken) to Mauritius.

#### **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.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with OV stamp in any 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 (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](mailto: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 Certificate System (DECS) 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**

Exporters should be aware that the consignment must be accompanied by an import permit from the government of the Republic of Mauritius, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Fisheries, Division of Veterinary Services. Note that the permit number AND its date must be inserted in paragraph III.

4. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV. a), c)(i), and (h) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV on behalf of the Department provided they have received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent by the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or the issuing office in Northern Ireland.

Authority is given for premises specified on application, and will be for premises outside of any restricted zone in place due to an outbreak of HPAI or ND, or for premises approved within the official GB Compartment Scheme. The unused option can be deleted as indicated.

To certify paragraph IV. h), this assurance can be provided without restriction at any time when the whole of the UK is free from area restrictions for avian influenza or Newcastle disease. In cases when certain area restrictions do apply, the OV must obtain a plan from the exporter of the route from the hatchery to the airport, and check with APHA (or issuing office in NI) that it does not cross any restricted areas. For a hatchery within the Compartment Scheme which is situated within a restriction zone, this excludes the zone in which the hatchery is situated.

5. **Flock Disease Clearance**

At paragraphs IV. b) and c)(iii), 'evidence' should be interpreted as including clinical signs, information from flock production and mortality records, laboratory test reports and pathological examinations.

6. **Vaccination**

Paragraph IV. c)(ii): The OV must certify this paragraph on the basis of their personal knowledge of the premises of origin, supported by whatever written statements may be considered necessary from the owner and other veterinarians.

Paragraph IV. d): Flock vaccinations against the indicated diseases must be detailed. Where the size of the table is insufficient to accommodate details of all the vaccines used in the flock, a separate schedule may be used. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph IV. d), which should be annotated "see attached schedule". The certifying OV must draw a line under the last entry of the schedule and sign, date and stamp it in a colour other than black. The schedule must be firmly stapled to the export health certificate and referenced with the reference number of the particular export health certificate at the top right-hand corner. The corners of each sheet should be turned over, 'fanned', and stamped with the OV stamp.

Paragraph IV. e): The vaccine choices which do not apply must be deleted.

7. **Poultry Health Scheme Membership**

Paragraph IV. f) refers. Membership of the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), or in Northern Ireland the NI Poultry Health Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS), may be certified on behalf of the department provided the OV has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to them before despatch. Note that the 618NDC form will confirm solely that the premises is a current PHS/NIPHAS member. With respect to the conditions of incubation, the OV should certify this on the basis of their own observations in the hatchery.

8. **Flock additions**

Paragraph IV. g) refers. The OV must certify this statement on the basis of their knowledge of the flock(s) of origin, supported by any necessary checks on the flock movement records. The OV at the hatchery may need to use a support statement from the veterinarian at the flock of origin, as below.

9. **Support certification**

Paragraphs IV. b), c) (ii) and (iii), d), and g) refer. In cases where the OV is not personally responsible for the flock(s) of origin, they may certify the statements referring to those flocks on the basis of a support certificate (317SUP) provided by the veterinarian who is regularly responsible for those flocks. The support health certificate will be issued by the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle at the same time as the export health certificate.

10. **Clinical inspection**

Paragraph IV. j) refers. The inspection must be carried out and dated within 24 hours of the intended time of departure.

11. **No paragraph (i)**

Note that the paragraph notation in the certificate reads IV. h) to IV. j) with paragraph IV. i) omitted. This is intentional to avoid confusion, as roman numeral 'i' may be used to number indented sub-paragraphs.

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 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: [DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk)

13. **Welfare in Transport**

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.