

EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO UKRAINE

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters. They are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8945EHC.

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 8945EHC may be used for the export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to Ukraine.

2. Official Signature

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an authorised Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

In Northern Ireland, this certificate may be signed by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

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 (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Animal Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade at 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

aPVPs certifying DECOL 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. 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.

Please note, the exporter must be listed on the Ukraine authorities register for approved exporting establishments:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xi6lFlUn3gpkr9zjgtm8Z40G1bm5Ie4me-9t7YQBZs/edit?gid=0#gid=0>

4. Schedules

Paragraph I.28 refers: A separate schedule may be used to provide the information required. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I.28 and paragraph I.28 must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV). Any blank spaces in the schedule or in paragraph I.28 must be deleted with diagonal lines.

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also.

5. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

The following paragraphs refer, in regard to notifiable disease freedom:

- II.1.1 - Foot and mouth disease (territory freedom for 3 months)
- II.1.2 - Rinderpest (territory freedom for 12 months)
- II.1.3 - Peste des petits ruminants (territory freedom for 21 days)
- II.1.5.1 - Tuberculosis (territory freedom, if appropriate)
- II.1.6 - Enzootic bovine leukosis (free herd for 2 years - see below)
- II.1.7 - Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (territory freedom for 6 months)
- II.1.9 - Lumpy skin disease (territory freedom for 28 days)
- II.1.10.1 - Bluetongue (territory freedom, if appropriate)

The OV may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

Paragraph II.1.4.1 (brucellosis) may be certified for donor bulls that are admitted onto an approved semen collection centre, which implements the required surveillance for brucellosis. If this option is certified, paragraph II.1.4.2 can be ignored.

Paragraph II.1.5.1 (tuberculosis) refers to disease freedom of the territory/zone where the centre is located. Ukraine authorities have confirmed that the territory/zone must be free in accordance with WOAH standards. Currently only Scotland fulfils these criteria. In addition, donor bulls must originate from TB free herds. If this option is certified, paragraph II.1.5.2 can be ignored.

Paragraph II.5.2 (tuberculosis) may be certified for donor bulls that are admitted onto an approved semen collection centre, which implements the required surveillance for tuberculosis. If this option is certified, paragraph II.1.5.1 can be ignored.

The first section of paragraph II.1.6 (enzootic bovine leukosis) may be certified for donors that have been resident in an approved semen collection centre for at least 2 years. Otherwise, disease clearance must be obtained for the herd of origin of the donor animal.

Paragraph II.2 may be certified given that all diseases referred in section II.1 except IBR, leptospirosis and Schmallenberg virus are notifiable in UK.

6. **Laboratory tests**

Paragraph II.5 refers. The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

If tests for bluetongue are required, samples must be sent to the Pirbright Institute. Guidance on submission of samples, including the submission forms to use, can be found at:

http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick_media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

7. **Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR)**

Paragraph II.1.8 refers.

The first subparagraph II.1.8.1 refers to semen for export to Ukraine as fresh semen. This paragraph may be certified on the basis of a veterinary declaration from the centre veterinarian about the IBR status of the herd (for donor bulls which have been resident at the centre for at least 12 months). Additional assurances must be obtained from the veterinarian with knowledge of the herd of origin of the donor bull, for donor bulls which have been resident for less than 12 months.

The second subparagraph II.1.8.2 refers to semen for export to Ukraine as frozen semen, where:

- Option II.1.8.2.1 may be certified if the centre has been free from IBR for at least 12 months.
- Option II.1.8.2.2 may be certified if donor bulls are kept in isolation during collection and for 30 days after collection of semen and subject to diagnostic test of the donor bulls.
- Option II.1.8.2.3 applies to seropositive bulls or if status is unknown and may be certified subject to testing of virus (PCR or virus isolation) in semen.

8. Bluetongue (BTV)

Paragraph II.1.10 refers. If the first option (country or zone freedom from BTV) cannot be signed, the second or third testing options must be certified at the stated intervals.

Please note that Ukraine does not recognise UK regionalisation for bluetongue.

9. Leptospirosis

Paragraph II.1.11 refers. The OV may certify the first option based on inspection of the centre's health records or a veterinary declaration from the centre veterinarian (for donor bulls which have been resident at the centre for at least 12 months).

Alternatively, the second and third options may be certified, based on diagnostic testing or antibiotic treatment of donors.

10. Schmallenberg (SBV)

Paragraph II.1.12 refers. OVs may certify this paragraph if semen was collected before 1 June 2011, or the donor was subject to serology testing after the collection of semen, or each batch of semen was subject to PCR test.

11. Animal feed

Paragraph II.4 refers. OVs may certify this paragraph on the basis of the feed ban in the UK.

12. Semen Processing

Paragraphs II.6 and II.7 refer. These paragraphs may be certified if semen has been hygienically collected, processed and stored in accordance with the conditions of approval of the semen collection centre.

13. Sealing of the transport container

Paragraph II.8 refers: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in the presence of the OV, in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal must be entered at paragraph I.23 on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, topping up should be done in the presence of an Official Veterinarian (OV) who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The OV must endorse paragraph I.23 on the health certificate with the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating and stamping the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black**.

14. 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.