

EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS AND DAY-OLD BIRDS OF THE CHICKEN, DUCK AND TURKEY SPECIES TO THE PHILIPPINES

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5309EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5309EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. **Scope of the certificate**

This certificate may be used for the export of hatching eggs or day-old birds of the domestic chicken, duck and turkey species to the Philippines.

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 should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI 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.

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 Certification 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. **Premises of origin listing**

There is no general requirement for origin premises to be listed/registered with the Philippines authorities. However, when the UK is not officially free of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, Defra must supply a list of exporting premises for the Philippines authorities to verify that all premises are outside of HPAI affected areas. The list shall include the establishment number, name and full address.

To ensure Defra has the latest lists in the event of an HPAI outbreak, **exporters must supply a list of origin farms and hatcheries to APHA/DAERA for all shipments (even when the UK is free from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza)**, who will liaise with Defra to ensure the premises are included on any list supplied to the Philippines authorities.

When the UK is not free from HPAI, inclusion on the registered list must be confirmed prior to departure of the consignment.

4. **Date format: mm/dd/yyyy**

As a preference of the Philippines authorities, the date format of month/ day/ year should be used throughout the certificate, including in the final attestation section. Each section which may require a date entry has been annotated with "mm/dd/yyyy" as a reminder.

5. **Disease clearance for the premises of origin - Use of a hatchery**

Parts IV a), b) and c) contain deletable references to the hatchery. Where used, the hatchery, as well as the flock of origin, must always be compliant with the health attestation. It should only be deleted in cases of export of hatching eggs where a hatchery is not used.

6. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraph IV a) refers. This paragraph may be certified by the OV for eggs of UK origin provided that he/she has received written authority from the issuing office before shipment. This will be based on information provided of the origin premises at time of application.

In the case of day old birds hatched from eggs imported from another country, the OV may certify the paragraph on the basis of a signed statement from an official veterinarian in the country of origin.

The "area" refers to the 'third administrative territory' as shown on the WOA-H-WAHIS information portal premises, corresponding to the district or equivalent throughout the UK; all farms and hatcheries must be outside of an area that has an infected premises, until the final end date as entered onto WAHIS for any outbreaks in that area. Note that this does not require resolution of the entire WAHIS event, which may include outbreaks in another area.

7. **Poultry Health Scheme Membership**

Paragraph IV b) refers. With reference to membership of a poultry health scheme, this may be certified in GB if the flocks of origin are members of the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), and in Northern Ireland if they are members of the Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS). The certifying OV will receive written confirmation that the flocks are currently members of the scheme from APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle, or the equivalent in Northern Ireland, prior to export.

The OV is personally responsible for obtaining confirmation that all the test results have been negative. The OV must check the laboratory reports, or receive written confirmation from the veterinarian who is normally responsible for the flocks of origin.

Serology tests may occasionally turn up false positives, and these may be regarded as negative if further confirmatory testing has shown a negative result.

In the case of the export of day old birds hatched from eggs which were imported from another country, the OV may certify the paragraph on the basis of an import certificate which confirms that the hatching eggs were derived from flocks which met the disease testing requirements. The OV must inspect the relevant document and confirm that it is in order. This can be considered equivalent to being 'members of a Government supervised poultry health scheme'.

8. **Flock Health Record**

Paragraph IV c) refers. 'Evidence' should be taken as including clinical signs, information from production and mortality records, laboratory reports and pathological examinations.

In the case of day-old birds hatched from eggs imported from another country, the OV may certify the paragraph on the basis of a signed statement from a registered veterinarian in the country of origin.

9. **Flock Testing Programmes**

Paragraph IV d) refers.

A suitable representative sample to test for **avian influenza** would be 30 birds for any size of population. This would give 95% probability of detecting infection at a prevalence of not less than 10%. The samples may consist of:

either, clotted blood for ELISA or AGP tests;
or, cloacal swabs or faeces for a virus isolation test.

Samples must be tested in a Government approved laboratory.

The testing requirement for **Salmonella pullorum** will be met if the flock has been tested within the past 6 months according to the protocol laid down in GB for the PHS, or in Northern Ireland for the NIPHAS. If the last such test was more than 6 months ago, a representative sample must be re-tested in order to certify the paragraph.

The testing requirement for **Salmonella enteritidis** will be met if the flock has been tested routinely as laid down in the National Control Plan in the case of chickens, or under a similar voluntary protocol in the case of ducks or turkeys.

In the case of day old birds hatched from eggs imported from another country, the OV may certify the paragraph on the basis of a signed statement from a registered veterinarian in the country of origin.

10. **Disinfection of the eggs**

Paragraph IV e) refers. The eggs must be disinfected as soon as possible after collection with an effective disinfection method such as:

- fumigation with formaldehyde;
- spraying with or immersion in an eggshell disinfectant in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;
- made hygienic by any other effective method approved by the veterinary authorities.

The disinfection must be carried out at the premises of origin, which means the flock farm where they were collected.

11. **Disinfection of the hatchery equipment**

Paragraph IV f) refers. The Philippine import conditions do not lay down any prescribed methods or disinfectants. The OV must be satisfied from personal observation and any other appropriate enquiries that the methods conform with best practice in the industry.

12. **Clinical inspection**

Paragraph IV g) refers. The inspection of the day-old poultry must be carried out within 24 hours prior to the intended time of export.

13. **Avian Influenza vaccination**

Paragraph IV j) refers. The day-old chicks or the parent flocks of the hatching eggs/day-old chicks may be vaccinated against avian influenza. Deletions should be made to indicate the vaccination status of the parent flocks and of the chicks.

If no avian influenza vaccination has been carried out, the first line should be retained (except if exporting hatching eggs, in which case 'day-old chicks' should be deleted) and the rest of the paragraph deleted.

If any avian influenza vaccination has been carried out, deletions should be made accordingly, and the details of the vaccination entered in the appropriate section.

14. **Support certification**

When the flocks of origin are located in the UK and are inspected by a different veterinarian from the certifying OV, the flock veterinarian must complete form 5309SUP (Support Health Certificate), certifying that the requirements in paragraphs IV (b), (c), (d) and (e) of 5309EHC are complied with.

In the case of day-old birds hatched from eggs imported from another country, the OV may certify on the basis of written statements from an official veterinarian in the country of origin regarding the aforementioned paragraphs.

15. **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

16. **Welfare of Animals**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards. Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852