

VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO VETERINARY CONTROLS
FOR DIRECT TRANSIT THROUGH REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE OR FOR TEMPORARY STORAGE
INTENDED FOR DISPATCH TO ANOTHER COUNTRY/SHIP - 8943EHC

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

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued together with export health certificate 8943EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8943EHC.

OVs AND EXPORTERS ARE ADVISED THAT CERTIFICATE 8943EHC HAS NOT BEEN FORMALLY AGREED WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN THE IMPORTING COUNTRY.

Exporters are therefore strongly advised to verify the requirements of the transiting country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment. They should attempt to obtain an import permit and check this certificate against the requirements of the import permit.

If the health requirements do not match or no permit is available, the exporter may choose to proceed with the export using certificate 8943EHC, however this decision and any consequences thereof are taken strictly at the exporter's own risk.

1. **SCOPE**

Export health certificate 8943EHC may be used to accompany exports to third countries which will transit Türkiye in order to reach their final destination. As stated in the title of the EHC, this applies to all products subject to veterinary controls.

It is the exporter's responsibility to determine if their product is subject to veterinary controls for transiting Türkiye. Türkiye publishes a list of model veterinary certificates which may be used as a list of products subject to veterinary controls but is unlikely to be exhaustive. This list is available here [ithalat](#) under the subheading '*Hayvansal Ürünler için Sağlık Sertifikaları (İthalat)*'.

2. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

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 ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

Certifying OV's 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 OV's 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 On-Line (DECOL) 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.

The OV should keep a copy for his/her own records.

3. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

This certificate is based on a model veterinary certificate made available by Turkish authorities at the following link [tum_ulkeler_transit_saglik_sertifikasi.pdf](#).

As a result, some paragraphs may appear out of sequence whilst others may be intentionally left blank.

4. COMPLETION OF SECTION I OF THE CERTIFICATE

Additional guidance from Turkish authorities is available in the

notes of the certificate and may be used a guide for how the certificate is intended to be completed. However the guidance given in this NFG should be considered the definitive version for completion by UK certifying veterinarians.

Accompanying EHC/Destination EHC Number

As this certificate is for the transit of Türkiye only, there is expected to be an accompanying EHC which is intended for import into the final destination country.

Before continuing to numbered sections of the EHC, the field in the top left of the first page of the EHC should be completed with the unique EHC reference number for this separate accompanying EHC.

I.3 - Central Competent Authority

This should be completed with "Defra".

I.4. - Local Competent Authority

The certifying OV should enter the name of the local office of APHA responsible for the exporting establishment. Where the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "DAERA" should be entered.

I.7 & 1.8 - Country/Regional ISO Codes

ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the United Kingdom is 'GB' and this should be entered at Box I.7, unless the country of origin is not the UK, in which case the ISO code for the country of origin should be used. ISO codes may be found online here: [Online Browsing Platform \(OBP\)](#).

Box I.8 should generally be marked as N/A (not applicable). However, if the UK/country of origin and the product fall within the scope of emergency disease control legislation laid down by the importing authorities then this paragraph should be completed with the appropriate region names and ISO codes if these are specified under such emergency legislation.

I.9 - Country of Destination

Indicate the name and two-letter ISO code of the country of final destination. Turkish authorities advise to leave blank for ship supply either direct or after storage.

A list of relevant ISO codes can be found here: [Online Browsing Platform \(OBP\)](#).

I.11 - Place of destination

Indicate the name, address, country and ISO country code of the shipment's final destination. For products which are being temporarily stored in Türkiye; indicate the name, address, country and ISO country code of the customs warehouse, ship supply warehouse or destination in the free zone. The name of the vessel should be indicated for direct ship supply.

I.14 - Means of transport

Indicate the registration number (railway wagons or container and road vehicles), flight number (aircraft) or name (vessel). In the case of transport in containers their registration number and serial number of the seal (if applicable) must be indicated in box I.19. In case of unloading and reloading, the consignor must inform the border control post of entry into Türkiye.

I.15 - Entry Border Control Post (BCP)

Indicate the name of the BCP of entry into Türkiye.

I.16 - Accompanying documents

Indicate the unique code of required accompanying documents and country of issue. This is expected to include the EHC for the country of final destination for the consignment, but may also include other commercial documentation required.

Commercial document references may include for example the airway bill number, the bill of lading number or the commercial number of the train or road vehicle.

I.23 - Description of the consignment

Indicate the relevant Harmonised System (HS) Code. This is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics. The appropriate HS Code should be entered in **Box I.23**. Further information on HS Codes can be found online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff/sections>

The OV should confirm with the exporter that the HS Code used correctly describes the products being consigned.

For products: indicate the species, type of products, type of treatment, approval number of establishments when applicable (such as slaughterhouse, manufacturing plant, cold store), number of packages, type of packaging, batch number, net weight and the (oldest) date of collection/production.

For animal by-products (ABPs) or derived products: indicate the species, type of products, type of treatment, approval or registration number of the manufacturing or production establishment together with ISO country code, number of packages, type of packaging, batch number, net weight.

Species: indicate the scientific name of species present in the consignment

Packaging: identify the type of packaging (can, barrel, cask, box, bag, etc.).

5. COMPLETION OF PART II OF THE CERTIFICATE

II.1 - Disease freedom statements

Paragraph II.1 and its subparagraphs need only be certified when the product being exported is derived from a species affected by the listed diseases and the product is not considered a safe commodity for the listed diseases according to the [WOAH Terrestrial Code for Animal Health](#). All paragraphs not relevant to the transiting

commodity should be deleted.

Any of these paragraphs can similarly be deleted if the product has been treated or processed with a method designed to make it safe with regard to the listed diseases as per the WOAHP Terrestrial Code for Animal Health. If relevant please refer to Paragraph II.5.

Paragraph II.1.(viii) may also be deleted when the product being certified is fish which have been killed and eviscerated prior to dispatch. Paragraph II.1.(viii) is expected to usually be deleted, APHA CITC cannot provide clearance for all the diseases listed. If the certifying official veterinarian considers clearance of this paragraph to be necessary to complete the EHC they should contact exports@apha.gov.uk.

If necessary, paragraphs II.1.(i)-II.1.(iv) and paragraph II.1.(vi) may be signed on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland, on form 618NDC. Alternatively it may be certified based on supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer for the country of origin if not the UK.

Concerning High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI), a region of the UK should generally be considered free from HPAI if it is outside of a 10 kilometre surveillance zone/prevention zone subject to restrictions for HPAI. However, some larger regions and counties have been specifically banned for HPAI for affected commodities by Türkiye - anything in these regions should not be considered free from HPAI for the purpose of transiting Türkiye.

Exporters and certifying veterinarians should check the list of countries and regions banned for notifiable diseases by the Turkish authorities here: [Hayvan Hastalıkları Nedeniyle Yasak Konulan Ülkeler ve Yasaklanan Maddeler](#). A list of commodities banned for each disease can be accessed by clicking the name of the disease in the linked list. At time of writing regions of the UK are banned for bluetongue (Mavdil), avian influenza, Newcastle disease and scrapie (Scrapie).

Defra cannot advise at this stage on certification of paragraph II.1.(v). Please contact exports@apha.gov.uk to seek further advice if you are seeking to transit a commodity through Türkiye from a species affected by these diseases which is not considered a safe commodity with respect to these diseases by the WOAHP terrestrial code.

II.2 - Establishment statements

Paragraphs II.2.(i) may be certified based on the certifying officer's knowledge of and familiarity with the manufacturing establishment/establishments of origin, and on sight of any supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

This might include reference to published lists of establishments approved by the authorities of the United Kingdom. A non exhaustive selection includes [Approved food establishments | Food Standards Agency](#) (slaughterhouses and cutting plants for meat and processing plants for meat, fish and dairy), [Animal by-product operating plants: approved premises - GOV.UK](#) (animal by-product plants in Great Britain) and [Animal by-products approved premises | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#) (animal by-product plants

in Northern Ireland).

Paragraph II.2.(ii) may be certified based on establishments receiving regular animal health visits from a veterinarian. If the farm of origin is a member of an approved farm assurance scheme [Farm assurance schemes: evidence of vet visits - GOV.UK](#) which requires annual veterinary visits then this statement may be certified on the basis of the relevant farm assurance scheme membership.

The veterinary visits should take place at least once per year and must be a visit of the establishment at herd / flock level for the purpose of detection of, or information on, occurrence of animal disease, or a statutory visit for herd health reasons.

If farms are not part of a recognised farm assurance scheme that mandates annual veterinary inspections, then a declaration from a private veterinarian confirming veterinary visitations to the farm are performed at least annually (or at a higher frequency if deemed proportionate to the animal health and welfare compliance risk in the holding) is required. A sample Establishment Veterinary Visitation Attestation form can be found on APHA [Official Veterinarian Training](#).

Paragraphs II.2.(iii) and II.2.(iv) may be certified with reference to the previously mentioned 618NDC form. Alternatively it may be certified based on supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer for the country of origin if not the UK. As is consistent with the rest of the certificate, 'national restriction measure for animal health reasons' should be considered to apply only when the commodity is not listed as a safe commodity for the disease in question by the WOAAH terrestrial code for animal health.

II.3 - Animal statements

Paragraphs II.3.(i) may be certified with reference to the previously mentioned 618NDC form. Alternatively it may be certified based on supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer for the country of origin if not the UK.

Paragraphs II.3.(ii) and II.3.(iii) may be certified based on the certifying officer's knowledge of and familiarity with the manufacturing establishment/establishments of origin, and on sight of any supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

Paragraph II.3.(iii) is considered to apply to TB positive (reactor) animals and products derived thereof and therefore restrict these commodities' transit through Türkiye.

II.4 - Packaging

This can be certified based on the certifying officer's knowledge of and familiarity with the manufacturing establishment, and on sight of any supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

II.5 - Treatment and processing

This paragraph may be deleted if not applicable to the transiting product. If any of the disease clearance statements of paragraph II.1. have been deleted on the basis of the product being treated/processed with a method designed to make it safe with regard to the listed diseases as per the WOAAH Terrestrial Code then this

treatment/processing should be described here.

6. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

If declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

7. DISCLAIMER

Whereas 8943EHC takes into account certain recommendations by the WOAHA for trade in this commodity, exporters and certifying OVs are advised that the certificate has not been drafted in accordance with any official import requirements of the importing country and has not been officially agreed with the authorities of Turkey.

Accordingly, use of 8943EHC is at the exporter's risk.

It is the responsibility of the exporter to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or advice provided by the competent authority in the transiting country, if these are available.

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