

**EXPORT OF ZOO RODENTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**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 8913EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8913EHC. 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**

Export health certificate 8913EHC may be used for the export of zoo rodents from the United Kingdom to the United States of America.

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 or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an Official Veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland (DAERA).

OVs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the 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.

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

## **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.

### **3. Identification**

Paragraph I refers. The animals to be exported must be individually identified, by means of a microchip. The microchip number and type and site of implantation must be entered at the table for each animal.

### **4. Origin of the animals**

Paragraph II refers. As well as name of the exporting zoo and contact details of an authorised person at that zoo, details of quarantine, treatment and examination site must be provided - paragraph V on pre-export quarantine also refers.

### **5. Destination of the animals**

Paragraph III refers. As well as details of the consignee, which should be the importing zoo, the details of the flight used should be recorded.

### **6. Health Information**

Paragraph IV refers.

Paragraph IV.(a) refers. This paragraph can be certified on the basis of a written declaration from the exporter and further enquiries that the certifying veterinarian considers appropriate.

Paragraphs IV (b) & (c) refer. The OV should certify these paragraphs on the basis of personal knowledge of the premises of origin, supported by laboratory reports, pathological examinations and other records as appropriate. If the OV does not have personal knowledge of the premises, they must obtain a written support statement from another veterinarian who does have such knowledge.

### **7. Pre-Export Quarantine**

Paragraph V refers. The import conditions do not lay down detailed terms for the quarantine premises, except the facilities should be free from access to mammalian wildlife. Consequently, the OV must use their discretion to apply generally recognised principles of biosecurity. The animals should be isolated from other animals that do not have the same health status as the animals intended for export.

### **8. Parasite Treatment**

Paragraphs V(c) & (d) refer. The animal(s) should be treated during the first week of pre-export quarantine for endoparasites and twice at

an interval of 14 days for ectoparasites. The OV should use products with a product authorisation for use in the United Kingdom. If there are no products authorised for the particular species, then the OV should follow the cascade principle in using other products. The owner should be advised that the use of any product not listed on the data sheet can entail a risk of adverse reactions. If the OV does not apply the treatment themselves, they must obtain written evidence from administering veterinarian.

9. The examination at Paragraph IV.(e) should be carried out within 24 hours prior to the animals leaving the pre-export quarantine facilities. The certifying OV may need to seek clarification with the flight airline as regards welfare requirements under IATA guidelines. Further information on IATA and CITES welfare requirements can be found at the following links:

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/transport/index.shtml>

[http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live\\_animals/index.htm](http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live_animals/index.htm)

#### 10. **Transport**

Paragraphs V (f), (g) & (h) refer. The OV should certify these paragraphs on the basis of personal knowledge of the premises of origin and quarantine, supported by other records as appropriate. If the OV does not have personal knowledge of the premises they must obtain a written support statement from another veterinarian who does have such knowledge.

#### 11. **C.I.T.E.S**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other legislation laid down for the protection or conservation of certain wild species, e.g. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.). Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department at the address given below:

Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service (WLRS)  
Zone 1/17, Temple Quay House,  
2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EB  
Tel: 0117 372 8774 Fax: 0117 372 8206

#### 12. **Welfare**

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](mailto:WIT@apha.gov.uk)

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

13. **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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)