

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA - 8735EHC
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued together with export certificate 8735EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8735EHC.

Exporters are 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 8735EHC may be used for the export of pigs intended for breeding purposes from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Rwanda.

It is not permitted to export pigs or wild boar from Great Britain for fattening or slaughter. This applies to journeys from, and transit journeys through, Great Britain to destinations outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

A valid letter of authorisation and an import permit issued by the Department of Animal Resources Innovation and Technology Centre of the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB) are required for importation of pigs intended for breeding from the United Kingdom. Exporters and importers can find the relevant contact details at www.rab.gov.rw.

The certifying OV must verify that an import permit has been issued to the exporter and that its expiry date falls within the anticipated time of arrival at the destination.

The number of the import authorisation must be entered in the space provided immediately above Part I of the certificate.

Important: the following documents must always accompany the animals/consignment and be presented to the Veterinary Authority at the port of entry in Rwanda:

- The original copy of the **letter or authorisation issued to the exporter** by the Office of the Head of the Department of the Animal Resources Innovation and Technology Transfer of RAB.
- **A valid import permit issued to the Importer in connection with the consignment being exported.**
- The **original 8735EHC** Certificate issued by APHA/DAERA duly completed and certified by the OV.

3. SCHEDULES

Section I refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. In this case, Section I 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 OV. Please also refer to the last part of paragraph 6 of these notes regarding the attachment of test results to the certificate.

The schedule must be stapled to 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. Any blank spaces in the schedule or certificate must be deleted with diagonal lines.

4. 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.

Under the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, it is an offence to export pigs or wild boar for slaughter and fattening, beginning in or transiting through Great Britain to a third country.

If the OV has suspicions that the consignment is being exported for fattening or slaughter in contravention of section 1 of the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, this should be reported as soon as possible to APHA by calling 03000 200 301. In your report, please detail the following:

EHC and journey log reference number
Location and address of inspection, including CPH number
Name and address of transporter and journey organiser
Transporter authorisation number
Details of the animals in the consignment (number, species, age)
The reason for your concern
Any relevant additional information

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 EHC 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 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.

5. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

OVs may certify paragraphs IV(a) and IV(b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

6. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

In Great Britain, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at APHA Weybridge, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB.
Email: lab.services@apha.gov.uk
Telephone: General enquiries: 03000 600022
Pre-addressed labels can be obtained by telephoning 01932 357335.

Samples from Scotland should be sent to: APHA Lasswade, International Research Centre, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ.

Important: Please telephone APHA Lasswade before dispatching samples for statutory testing, as some are only carried out at APHA Weybridge.

For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically. If in doubt, APHA should be contacted to establish to which laboratory samples should be sent for testing and to obtain

advice on procedures for collection and dispatch of samples. Samples should be submitted in good time to allow reports to be received in advance of the export date.

In the case of pre-export testing of large numbers of animals making up an export consignment, laboratories should be given the maximum period of notice possible for receipt of samples.

OVs should note the requirement from the Rwandan authorities that test results must be attached to and form part of the certificate in the same manner as the schedules referred to in paragraph 3 of these notes. Each page of test results must be signed, stamped and dated by the OV.

7. VACCINATION AGAINST SWINE ERYSIPELAS

Paragraph IV(e) refers. OVs and exporters should note the requirement for exported pigs to be vaccinated against swine erysipelas and the specified timing of vaccination prior to the date of shipment.

8. TRANSPORT TO PORT/AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE AND ONWARDS TO DESTINATION

The certifying OV must obtain the written declaration referred to in paragraph IV(i). For convenience these declarations have been reproduced at **Annex A** to these notes.

9. 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

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TRANSPORT DECLARATIONS TO BE MADE BY THE OWNER / AGENT OF THE OWNER / EXPORTER OF THE ANIMALS

Health Certificate Reference No:.....

1. I,(name in block capitals) of

(address)

am the *owner / *agent of the owner / *exporter of the breeding pigs to be exported to Rwanda accompanied by export health certificate 8735EHC, the reference number of which appears above.

2. I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the following statements are correct and true with regard to the above consignment:

The following arrangements have been made regarding the transportation of the animals from the isolation premises to their destination:

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
IV(i) (i)	they will be transported directly to the airport/port of shipment in the UK in containers/vehicles previously cleansed and disinfected with an approved disinfectant	
IV(i) (ii)	they will be transported without coming into contact with any animals other than those meeting the requirements of this certificate	
IV(i) (iii)	they will be transported to their destination safely and humanely in accordance with the Live Animal Regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).	

Signature

Date