

## EXPORT OF BREEDING BOVINES TO BRAZIL

### NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

#### IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8761EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8761EHC.

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 8761EHC may be used for the export of breeding bovines from the United Kingdom to Brazil.

It is not permitted to export bovines 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. 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 any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Under the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024, it is an offence to export bovines 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](mailto: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.

**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. The import permit number should be given in the health certificate at paragraph III.(d).

**4. Schedules**

Paragraphs I and II refer: Separate schedules may be used to identify the animals certified. The schedule(s) must contain the same information as that required in paragraphs I and II and paragraphs I and II must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule(s) must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV).

The schedule(s) must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule(s) and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule(s) and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule(s) or in paragraphs I and II must be deleted with diagonal lines.

**5. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)**

Paragraph IV.1.1, IV.1.3, IV.1.4 (rabies and anthrax), IV.1.9, IV.1.13.1 (BTV), IV.1.16.1 (Brucellosis free herd) refers: OVs may certify this paragraph 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.

6. **Additional Support Assurances required to enable certain paragraphs to be signed by the Official Veterinarian.**

Paragraphs IV.1.2, IV.1.5, IV.1.6, IV.1.7, IV.1.8, IV.1.13.2, IV.1.14, IV.1.15, IV.1.16 (brucellosis testing) refer: OV's may certify these paragraphs based on personal knowledge of the herd(s) of origin of the animals for export or supporting certification from a private veterinarian with knowledge of the herd(s) of origin.

Paragraph IV.1.5 can be crossed out subject to support certification from the private veterinarian (or based on personal knowledge) and that vaccination against anthrax is currently prohibited in the UK.

Paragraph IV.1.6 - animals must be vaccinated against blackleg (*Clostridium chauvoei*) 180-20 days prior to export. Animals that have been previously vaccinated against the disease must be vaccinated again during this period.

Treatment and quarantine

Paragraph IV.1.10 refers: The OV must inspect the quarantine facilities and observe the treatment for external parasites or be given documentary evidence of quarantine and treatment in the form of a certificate signed by a veterinary surgeon detailing the treatment performed, the date(s) of treatment, the identification of the animals treated, the address of the quarantine premises and the dates of the quarantine period.

BSE (IV.1.11)

The WOA's Terrestrial Animal Health Code recommend that surveillance and monitoring is in place to establish the BSE risk status of a country - see Article 11.4.3 (negligible risk) and Article 11.4.4 (controlled risk) at:

[https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre\\_bse.htm](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre_bse.htm)

Sub-paragraph IV.1.11.1 can be certified on the basis that UK is officially recognized as negligible / controlled risk for BSE by WOA's at the date of publication of this guidance (please check the link below for every certification):

<https://www.woah.org/en/disease/bovine-spongiform-encephalopathy/#ui-id-2>

Sub-paragraph IV.1.11.2 can be certified if the animals to be exported and their parents were born in the UK after the 1st August 1996 (date of UK feed ban). For imported animals, the OV must check any relevant import documentation (e.g. GB/NI EHC) to confirm compliance.

Sub-paragraph IV.1.11.3 can be certified subject to checks on the individual ID tags of the animals and on the basis that the UK TSE Regulations (including Regulation 999/2001) in GB/NI complies with WOA's in that it sets out requirements for the control and eradication of TSEs and the requirement for animals to be individually identified and permanently via auditable traceability systems.

Sub-paragraph IV.1.11.4 can be certified if animals and their parents were born and raised in UK or in the case of imported animals, originated from an officially negligible or controlled BSE risk zone/country. Assurances may be required by the exporter or country of origin of the imported animals or evidence of compliance (e.g. import documentation, EHC).

Tuberculosis (IV.1.12)

Two either/or options to certify:

Sub-paragraph IV.1.12.1 can be certified if animals are SICCT skin tested twice, 60-90 days apart with the second test performed during

pre-export quarantine and within 30 days prior to export, with negative results.

Or sub-paragraph IV.1.11.2 can be certified if the animals have been resident in an establishment in England, Wales or Northern Ireland, and is recognised as officially free of tuberculosis (OTF), in accordance with WOAH standards, for at least 12 months prior to export. This means for at least 12 months prior to export there were/are no whole herd restrictions (TB2) served e.g. following the discovery of reactors, or no individual animal restrictions (TB34) served e.g. following the discovery of inconclusive reactors, or no other TB-related restrictions served e.g. because routine herd tests are overdue or because of zero tolerance.

The OV must request TB checks to be performed by APHA/DAERA to confirm the herd's OTF status over a 12-month period. If animals are resident in establishments in Scotland, the establishment can be checked by APHA for current OTF status only, as Scotland is considered officially free of tuberculosis at date of publication of this guidance.

In addition to this, the conditions for WOAH herd freedom from infection with *M. tuberculosis* complex in bovids, which can be found in Article 8.11.6, must be reviewed and complied with if certifying sub-paragraph IV.1.11.2: [https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre\\_bovine\\_tuberculosis.htm](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre_bovine_tuberculosis.htm)

#### Schmallenberg virus (SBV)

Sub-Paragraph 1.20.1 should be crossed out as it does not apply to the UK. SBV cases have been recorded in the UK.

Sub-paragraph 1.20.2 must be certified. Sub-paragraph 1.20.2.1 can be certified based on personal knowledge of the herd(s) of origin of the animals for export or supporting certification from a private veterinarian with knowledge of the herd(s) of origin.

Sub-paragraph 1.20.1.4 refers to 'protection against vectors at all times' which means the use of fly traps and the application of insecticide treatment as a minimum from the start of quarantine and until departure from the UK.

#### Transport

Paragraph IV.21 can be certified when the exporter/owner provides a signed and dated declaration concerning transport requirements of the animals.

If further guidance is required, CIT / DAERA should be contacted.

### **6. Clinical examination**

Paragraph IV.1.19 refers- The pre-export inspection should consist of a visual appraisal and, if deemed appropriate, physical examination of the animals for export. Each animal subject to an inspection must be assessed as an individual.

OVs must use their professional judgement to determine the level of inspection required in order to ensure that no animal is exported which shows signs of infectious disease, open wounds or external parasites and that animals are fit to travel.

### **7. Laboratory tests**

Paragraph IV.1.17 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](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.

**8. 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)