

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO BARBADOS

HEALTH CERTIFICATE - NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

Associated Documents: 6978EHC and 618NDC

1. IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6978EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6978EHC. 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.

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. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 6978EHC may be used for the export of Breeding Pigs from the United Kingdom to Barbados.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND RETURN OF COPY TO THE DVM

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**.

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

Certifiers are only required to return a certified copy of EHCs for the following EHC types:

if the commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids
EHC's where the certifier cannot submit certifier feedback

If you are required to return a certified copy to CITC, email a scanned copy to certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

Retain a copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified for two years.

Certifiers 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

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates 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.

4. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Paragraph I refers. All pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 1995 (as amended), with an ear tag or tattoo bearing the letters "UK" and the official herd mark of the holding on which the mark is applied (which need not necessarily be the premises from which the pigs are being exported if pigs were marked on a previous holding). The mark should also include an individual animal number which, in the case of an eartag, should be prefixed by the letter "P".

Official Veterinarians must be satisfied that each animal is individually identified in accordance with the schedule to the health certificate. This may be done by reading the identification marks personally, or by having the ear numbers read by someone in the employment of the veterinary practice and under the direction of the certifying veterinarian, or by the Official Veterinarian or an employee of the veterinary practice supervising the marking of the animals to be exported. The terms "direction" and "supervision" are defined in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

5. SCHEDULES

Paragraph I. refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in Paragraph I. and Paragraph I. must be annotated "See Attached Schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian.

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the Official Veterinarian 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 in Paragraph I. should be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCES

The Official Veterinarian may certify paragraphs IV (c) and IV (e) and, in the case of pigs exported from Great Britain, paragraph IV (g) (i), on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency on form 618NDC.

7. PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION

Paragraph IV(a) refers. Pigs for export to Barbados must be isolated from all other livestock on the premises for at least 30 days immediately preceding export. As a general guide, the following conditions should be met to meet the conditions of segregation:

(i) Isolation accommodation must be as remote as practicable from any other livestock.

(ii) Any building used for accommodation must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using a Defra-approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.

(iii) No drainage or effluent produced by or derived from other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.

(iv) Any person who requires to enter the segregation accommodation should take appropriate action to prevent cross contamination e.g. clean overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation and a means of cleaning and disinfecting footwear.

8. TESTING DURING PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION

The tests and treatments described at paragraphs IV(f) (i) and (ii), IV (h), IV(j) and IV (k) and, in the case of pigs originating from Northern Ireland, paragraph IV(g) (ii), must not be carried out until the animals have commenced the period of pre-export isolation.

The Barbados import conditions specify a minimum period of 30 days pre-export isolation. This may not be considered appropriate time during which to carry out all the pre-export tests and to obtain the results in good time to meet the date of export. Exporters should note that 30 days is a minimum requirement and they may wish to extend this period so that tests can be completed and all the results obtained without causing unnecessary concerns in meeting export deadlines.

9. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Laboratory, Weybridge (Tel: 01932 375335). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade Unit (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are performed at Regional APHA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division, Stormont, Belfast (Tel: 028 9052 0011)

For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically. If in doubt, APHA or VSD 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 for testing. Samples should be submitted in good time to allow reports to be received in advance of the export date.

10. CLINICAL EXAMINATION

The clinical examinations referred to at paragraphs IV (d) and IV (l) should be carried out within 48 hours of loading. Separate examinations are required for the pigs in pre-export segregation and the remainder of the pigs resident on the holding of origin. The holding of origin is the holding on which the pigs to be exported were resident before entering pre-export segregation accommodation.

11. TRANSPORT TO FINAL DESTINATION

Paragraph IV (m) refers. The certifying Official Veterinarian must obtain the written declaration from the person in charge of transporting the animals to their final destination.

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

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