

EXPORT OF POULTRY MEAT AND POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTS TO CURAÇAO

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8929EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8929EHC. 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 8929EHC may be used for the export of poultry meat and poultry meat products from the United Kingdom to Curaçao.

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 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.

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.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: provision of certified copies
Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification System (DECS) 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. **IMPORT PERMISSIONS**

The steps required to import products of animal origin to Curacao are described at <https://uovz.cw/import/import-of-products-of-animal-origin/>

Exporters should note the establishment listing requirements and the information on obtaining an import permit.

4. **HEALTH STATUS OF BIRDS AND FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

Paragraphs IV. a) may be certified on the basis that the meat has received the oval identification mark with plant identification number.

The Food Standards Agency (FSA), Food Standards Scotland (FSS) and DAERA in Northern Ireland are responsible for ensuring that all poultry intended for human consumption is subject to ante mortem inspection, and post mortem inspection at an FSA/FSS/DAERA approved slaughterhouse. These paragraphs may be certified on the basis of ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection required before the meat is declared as fit for human consumption. All meat (or its wrapping/packaging) which has passed these inspections will carry the approved oval identification mark, as implemented in UK legislation (The Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013, and the equivalent in the devolved regions).

4. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Paragraph IV. b) (i) refers. This paragraph may be certified by the OV provided that they have received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to them by APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle before shipment. In Northern Ireland the local equivalent arrangements will apply.

Authority will be given with reference to details of premises provided at the time of application, and allow certification for any premises outside any zone currently under restrictions in place due to an outbreak of HPAI and Newcastle disease.

Certifying Official Veterinarians must ensure that the products to be exported correspond to those subject to the authority to certify.

5. **REQUIREMENTS FOR TREATED PRODUCTS**

Paragraph IV. b) (ii) refers. This paragraph is applicable for treated or processed products. It can be certified if the product has been treated to ensure the inactivation of avian influenza virus as in accordance with WOAHP guidelines as per Articles 10.4.24 and 10.9.21 of the WOAHP Terrestrial Code.

Official Veterinarians should note that the requirement under The Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (England) (No.2) Order 2006, and its equivalents in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, is that poultry meat originating in a Protection Zone around an outbreak of HPAI must be heat-treated to a core temperature of 70°C to be eligible for export.

6. **CONDITION OF THE PACKAGING**

Paragraph IV. c) requires the certifying veterinarian to verify that the products are packaged in new and clean packaging suitable for the product being exported.

7. **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:

APHA CIT: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk