

**EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS AND DAY OLD POULTRY TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to the Official Veterinarian (OV) and the exporter. The NFG should have been issued to you together with its related export health certificate. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the health certificate. 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**

This certificate is for the export of hatching eggs and day old birds of the domestic poultry species (chickens, turkeys and ducks) to the Democratic Republic of the Sudan.

**2. Official Signature**

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](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.

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. **Support Certification**

Paragraphs IV. b), e), and f) refer. In situations where the flock of origin is attended by a different veterinarian from the certifying OV, the latter may complete the export health certificate on the basis of a support certificate from the flock veterinarian, 331SUP, which will be issued at the same time as the principal health certificate.

4. **Means of Transportation**

Paragraph III. b) refers. The OV should write 'air', 'sea' or 'road' as appropriate, and provide the flight number, ship name, or truck registration.

5. **Clinical Examination of the Chicks**

Paragraph IV. a) refers. The examination should take place on the same date as the birds are despatched. In the case of exports of hatching eggs this paragraph must be deleted.

6. **Health in the Flocks of Origin**

Paragraph IV. b) refers. 'Evidence' should be understood to include clinical signs, information from production and mortality records, laboratory reports and pathological examinations. The paragraph refers to outbreaks of clinical disease, and is not concerned with pathogens which are effectively controlled by vaccination programmes.

7. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraphs IV. c) and d) may be certified on behalf of the Department provided the OV has received written authority (Form 618NDC) from APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or the equivalent in Northern Ireland, which will be sent to them before shipment.

In paragraph IV. d) the OV must delete ONLY those lines which do NOT apply. At times when the UK is not officially free of notifiable avian influenza, authority to certify option d) ii) will be given when all origin premises are outside of any disease control zone in place due to an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry, applicable to farms at the time of collection of the eggs and hatcheries at the time of hatching. However, if requirements as stated in an import permit received from the importing authorities differ, this should be raised to the issuing office for advice.

8. **Testing under a Poultry Health Scheme**

Paragraph IV. e) refers. Directive 2009/158/EC is the European poultry trade Directive. All of the conditions in the Directive are fully implemented in GB by the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), and in Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS). Therefore membership of either of these schemes means that the premises are officially approved and tested for these diseases in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC. Current membership of the PHS or NIPHAS will be confirmed in a written statement (form 618NDC) which will be sent to the OV by the issuing office (in GB, APHA, Center for International Trade, Carlisle) before shipment. Note that the OV is personally responsible for checking that testing has been carried out, and that all the laboratory results have been negative (or in the case of doubtful results, have proved negative on further investigation).

9. **Testing for Mycoplasma synoviae**

Paragraph IV. f) refers. Note that in the case of an export of ducks the paragraph must be deleted, as ducks are not considered to be affected by Mycoplasma infections.

The routine testing carried out under the rules of the PHS or NIPHAS does not include M.synoviae. Therefore it is necessary to conduct an additional test specifically for this infection. PHS/NIPHAS testing for M.gallisepticum is carried out at least every 90 days during lay, with sufficient samples taken to give 95% probability of detecting infection at a prevalence of at least 5%. The necessary number of samples is given in the table below. It will be sufficient if the last set of samples taken for the M.gallisepticum testing under the PHS/NIPHAS is also tested for M.synoviae. These tests must all be carried out at a laboratory approved by Defra for Mycoplasma testing under the PHS/NIPHAS provided the laboratory is also UKAS (ISO17025) accredited for M. synoviae serology testing.

Note that in this case the term 'flocks of origin' should be taken to mean 'farms of origin', therefore 60 samples should be collected per farm. The number of samples necessary to achieve 95% probability of detecting infection at a prevalence of 5% is given in the following table:

| Number of birds<br>in flock | Number of samples<br>to be taken |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| up to 20                    | all                              |
| 20-29                       | 20                               |
| 30-39                       | 25                               |
| 40-49                       | 30                               |
| 50-59                       | 35                               |
| 60-89                       | 40                               |
| 90-199                      | 50                               |
| 200-499                     | 55                               |
| 500 or more                 | 60                               |

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

11. **Welfare of Animals**

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.