

## **EXPORT OF CAPTIVE BIRDS TO BARBADOS**

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

#### **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 1949EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 1949EHC. 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 certificate**

This certificate may be used for the export of captive birds (which are defined in this case as psittacines (budgerigars, cockatiels, cockatoos, conures, lovebirds, parrots, macaws), canaries, finches, pigeons and doves) to Barbados.

#### **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.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with 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. **Import permit**

A valid Import Permit must accompany all birds entering Barbados. Application forms may be obtained from the Veterinary Services department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Barbados. For further details, Veterinary Services can be contacted at:  
Tel: (246) 535-0220; (246) 535-0221;  
email: vetservices@agriculture.gov.bb

4. **Identification**

Paragraph I. refers. The animals must be identified by an appropriate method giving each animal a unique identification code (numbers and/or letters). Microchips or closed leg rings are the method of choice. If microchips are used the exporter must ensure that the appropriate reader will be available to the authorities at the point of import to Barbados. The method of identification must be given, and if it is electronic microchip, the type of reader should be written down. The location of the microchip must also be recorded. In addition the columns for species (common name as well as scientific name), breed, age and sex must be recorded.

If the space in paragraph I is insufficient to accommodate details of all birds in the consignment, a separate schedule may be used. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I, and the certifier should write "see attached schedule" across paragraph I. The OV must draw a line under the last entry and sign, date and affix the OV stamp in a colour other than black on each page of the schedule and also under the last entry, in order to prevent the unauthorised addition of more entries. The pages of the schedule must be firmly stapled to the export health certificate and each referenced with the unique reference number at the top right-hand corner of the export health certificate. The corners of each sheet should be turned over, 'fanned', and stamped with the OV stamp.

5. **Premises of origin**

Paragraph II. b) records the 'premises of origin' of the consignment. This is the premises on which the pre-export isolation as well as the associated treatment, testing and examination, has been conducted.

6. **Clinical inspection of birds for export**

The inspection at paragraph IV. a) must be carried out within 2 days prior to export. This should be carried out at the pre-export isolation premises as recorded in II. b).

7. **Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraph IV. b), with regards to Newcastle disease and notifiable avian influenza, may be certified on behalf of the Department provided the OV has received written authority from the APHA Centre for International Trade on Form 618NDC, or alternative for Northern Ireland, which will be sent to the OV before shipment.

Authority will be based on premises of origin as advised at the time of application (corresponding to the premises shown in II. b)), and will be on the basis of the origin premises not having a confirmed outbreak of a notifiable disease of poultry as declared to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), in the past 6 months.

8. **Non-Notifiable Disease Clearance**

Paragraph IV. b), with regards to pigeon paramyxovirus and avian chlamydiosis, may be certified by the OV based on knowledge of the premises of origin, if necessary supported by a declaration from the owner, that the premises of origin has not had any case of these diseases in the past 6 months.

9. **Pre-Export isolation**

Paragraph IV. c) refers. The OV must verify that the isolation premises are suitable for the birds not to come into contact with other birds not similarly eligible for export to Barbados. The OV must use their discretion to apply the generally accepted standards of biosecurity. The OV must visit and inspect the premises at the beginning of the 30 day period, and check and record the identity of each of the birds in isolation.

In order to certify that the birds have spent at least 30 days in the isolation quarters, the owner must provide a declaration to the certifying OV that the birds have not left the isolation premises in that period, and that no outbreaks of contagious disease have occurred in the premises during that time.

10. **Avian influenza testing**

Paragraph IV. d) refers. The most simple and effective option is the PCR test.

Alternatively, blood samples may be taken for serological testing. The AGID or Elisa tests are recommended as the HI test is specific for each H type of influenza and therefore both test for H5 and H7 will have to be carried out separately and for each bird.

All samples must be submitted to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Weybridge. A copy of the laboratory results must be attached to the health certificate.

11. **Newcastle disease test**

Paragraph IV. e) refers. For both options (i) and (ii), the samples should be taken within 14 days prior to the date of export and sent to APHA Weybridge.

Either testing option can be chosen, though the OV should consider the choice of test in IV. d) as submissions can potentially be made for both AI and ND tests together. The OV should discuss the requirements for submission of samples with APHA in advance, including turnaround of results for certification and export purposes. It is recommended that the laboratory test results for ND are also attached to the certificate.

12. **Avian chlamydiosis treatment**

Paragraph IV. f) refers. The birds must be treated against avian chlamydiosis using chlortetracycline in the 45 days prior to export. When necessary OVs may need to refer to the manufacturer for advice and if necessary follow the "cascade procedures". The date of treatment, as well as the product name and active ingredient, should be indicated.

Alternatively, within 14 days of shipment the birds can be tested for Chlamydia by PCR or other approved test, with negative results. The testing date should be indicated. For this test, it is not a requirement for testing to be carried out at APHA Weybridge; this can be done at any accredited laboratory.

13. **Parasite Treatment**

Paragraph IV. g) refers. In order to certify this paragraph, the OV must either administer the treatment or personally observe the administration. Products authorised for use in the UK should be used if available, and if no products are licensed in the UK for the species concerned, the OV should exercise their clinical judgement in using products according to the cascade principle.

14. **Pigeon Vaccination**

Paragraph IV. h) refers. This paragraph applies only in the case of members of the Pigeon family, and should be deleted in the case of any other species. Note that the vaccine must be inactivated. Any vaccine used in the UK must have a current market authorisation for use in pigeons in the UK.

15. **Canary Pox clearance**

Paragraph IV. j) refers. To certify freedom from Canary pox, canaries for export to Barbados must have been resident in the UK for 6 months prior to export (or since hatching), and no confirmed cases of canary pox in the premises of origin. Official Veterinarians must be satisfied that this paragraph can be certified. This should be based on a written declaration from the exporter/owner, the veterinarian knowledge of the premises and any further enquiries that the certifying veterinarian considers appropriate, such as, private veterinarian statements and aviary records, including disease incidents and medicine records.

16. **Owner's Declaration**

Paragraph IV k) refers. The declaration should not be attached to the certificate, but should be kept by the OV for record purposes.

The authorities in Barbados have expressed preference for the birds to be in clean, new containers and not re-usable disinfected containers to decrease the risk of disease transmission; however they will allow for re-usable containers if they are thoroughly cleaned, washed, and disinfected before re-use to ensure they are free of debris, waste, and parasites.

17. **No paragraph i)**

Note that there is no paragraph IV i). This is deliberate to avoid confusion as roman numeral 'i' may be used to number sub- paragraphs.

18. **Quarantine on arrival**

Exporters should be aware that, on arrival, the birds may be subject to a minimum period of 30 days quarantine on premises approved by the Barbados Ministry of Agriculture.

19. **CITES**

This certificate does not provide exemption from other formalities laid down specifically for the protection of certain wild species. For further details, consult <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cites-imports-and-exports>. If applicable, the CITES permit number(s) should be recorded in part I.

**20. Welfare during travel**

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.

**21. 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)