No:.....

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8963 EHC titled:
EXPORT OF BOVINE, OVINE AND CAPRINE CASINGS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

Associated Documents: 8963 EHC

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8963 EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8963 EHC. 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 may be used for the export of casings from bovine, ovine and caprine animals.

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 (DEFRA), 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/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK.**

Certified Copy Requirements

Certifiers are only required to return a certified copy of the Export Health Certificate (EHC) 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 copies of issued certificates

Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification System (DECS) produced EHCs must upload a legible scanned copy of the signed EHC to the DECS system (via AVP Portal or DECS Export Application notification email link, as appropriate) within 7 working days 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. COMPLETION OF PART I – DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.3 – Central Competent Authority
This should be completed with "**Defra**".

I.4 – Local Competent Authority
For exports from Great Britain, this should be completed with "**Animal and Plant Health Agency**" or "**APHA**".

For exports from Northern Ireland, this should be completed with "**Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs**" or "**DAERA**".

I.6 – Operator responsible for the consignment
Please enter the details of the transit company/operator

I.8 – Region of Origin
This paragraph may usually be struck through.

However, if the country of origin and the product fall within the scope of emergency disease control legislation laid down by the importing authorities then this paragraph should be completed with the appropriate region name and code if these are specified under such emergency legislation.

In these cases, Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade (CIT) in Carlisle or DAERA in Northern Ireland should be consulted for further specific guidance.

I.12 - Date of departure
The date of departure must be entered. The standard date format in Morocco is DD/MM/YYYY.

I.15 – Means of transport
The means of transport i.e. aeroplane, ship, railway wagon, road vehicle must be indicated.
The option 'Other' is not applicable to the movement of products and should not be selected.

The flight number, name of the vessel, the train number and rail car or the number plate of the road vehicle should be entered as the means of identification as appropriate. OVs should take into account the notes in the certificate.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry. This includes providing information in the event of unloading and reloading.

I.18 – Intended use

Check the appropriate box to indicate the intended use of the product.

Product for uses other that human or animal consumption would fall outside the normal use case of this certificate and exporters should check with APHA and Moroccan authorities that this would be acceptable.

I.19 – Identification of the commodities

The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics.

The most appropriate HS Code should be entered in the box for commodity.

Further information on HS Codes can be found online at: https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff/sections

Note: The exporter is responsible for confirming that the HS code used is acceptable to the importing authorities, and the OV should confirm with the exporter that the HS Code used appropriately describes the products being consigned.

Give the identification of the commodities making up the consignment, including the species, slaughterhouse/manufacturing plants of origin, type of package, net weight and batch number.

4. PART II – Public Health Attestation

II.a – Approval by competent authority

This paragraph may be certified based on the slaughterhouses and processing plants of origin being approved by the competent authority. For casings from the UK, certifying officers may consult the following link: Approved food establishments | Food Standards Agency

II.b – Processing method

This paragraph may be certified based on the certifying officer's knowledge of and familiarity with the establishment/s of origin and their processing methods, and on sight of any supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

II.c – Precautions to avoid contamination

This paragraph may be certified based on the certifying officer's knowledge of and familiarity with the storage and processing, of the product, and on sight of any supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

II.d – Ante and post-mortem inspection

This paragraph may be certified on the basis that this is required by UK law, specifically **Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/624** as assimilated into UK law.

For casings which have been imported into the UK, this paragraph may be certified based on equivalent legislation applying in the country of origin.

5. PART III – Declaration

Certifying officers should certify paragraph 1, 2 or 3 whichever is relevant to the consignment in question, and delete whichever paragraphs are not relevant.

At time of writing the United Kingdom consists of three zones with respect to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. All three are recognised by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the EU as negligible risk for BSE. Therefore **Paragraph 1** should be used for exports of casings originating from the UK. Paragraph 2 should only be used in the event that a zone of the UK is recognised as controlled risk, and paragraph 3 should be used in the event that the casings were imported into the UK from a country recognised as negligible risk.

Paragraphs 1.a and 1.c, (as well as 2.a, 2.c and 2.d if necessary) may be certified on the basis of compliance with **TSE Regulation (EC) No 999/2001**, as transposed into national and EU legislation. Paragraph 1.b (and if necessary 2.b) may be certified based on the certifying officer's knowledge of and familiarity with the establishment of origin, and on sight of any supporting documents as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

Paragraph 3 and associated subparagraphs may be certified on the basis of importing certification attesting to the conditions laid out on the certificate, or based on additional documentation from the country of origin as deemed necessary by the certifying officer.

6. SIGNING AND STAMPING

For the lines with labels 'Done at (Place)'and 'on date' OVs should enter the location/address and date of their signing and stamping.

7. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

Where declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process and/or declared intended use. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made. For best practice supporting declarations should be dated with a date close to the date of certification.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

8. DISCLAIMER

This certificate and these notes are 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 (CIT) – Carlisle, via the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#customer-service-centres-csc

In Northern Ireland, please contact the DAERA trade administration team at DAERAtradeexports@daera-ni.gov.uk