

No:

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR EXPORT OF PORCINE SEMEN FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO MEXICO - 6359EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6359EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6359EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities of Mexico, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 6359EHC may be used for the export of fresh/frozen porcine semen from the United Kingdom to Mexico.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

This certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or a Local Veterinary Inspector (LVI) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government Rural Directorate, the Welsh Government Department for Rural Affairs or by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland (DARD), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate export panel for export purposes.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DARD, Dundonald House, Belfast.

The OV should keep a copy for his/her own records.

4. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

The layout and numbering of certificate 6359EHC follow the template of Intra-Trade Animal Health Certificates (ITAHCs) produced by the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES).

5. **COMPLETION OF PART I - DETAILS OF DISPATCHED CONSIGNMENT**

I.2.a - Intentionally blank

I.3 - Central Competent Authority

The OV should enter 'Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' in this box.

I.4 - Local Competent Authority

State the name of the local office of the AHVLA or DARD in whose administrative area the collection centre from where the porcine semen to be exported is located.

I.6 - Intentionally blank

I.7 - Country ISO Codes

ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the United Kingdom is 'GB' and this is already entered at Box I.7.

The ISO Code for Mexico is 'MX' and is already entered at Box I.9. The certifying OV should make enquiries to verify the destination Mexican Regional Code, which should be entered in Box I.10.

I.12 - Intentionally blank

I.13 - Intentionally blank

I.15 - Means of Transport - Identification

Enter the registration number of transport vehicles, flight number or name of the vessel.

I.17 - Intentionally blank

I.18 - Intentionally blank

I.21 - Seal / Container number

State the serial number of the transport container and seal number(s).

I.25 - Identification of the commodities and HS Code

The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system in which articles are grouped into various categories. It is used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics. The HS Code for porcine semen is '05119985' and is already entered in Box I.25

Identification of the donor boar

State the official identification and name (if applicable) of the donor boar(s).

Date of Entry

State the date of entry into the semen collection centre (dd/mm/yyyy).

Date of Collection

State the date(s) of collection of the semen (dd/mm/yyyy)

Schedules

A separate schedule may be used to identify the semen certified. The schedule must contain the same information as that required in Box I.25 of the certificate and this box 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 Box I.25 should be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)

Paragraphs II.1, II.4.2.(a) (first indent), and II.4.3 refer. OVs may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC issued by the AHVLA in Great Britain or equivalent in Northern Ireland.

7. COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 90/429/EEC (as amended)

Paragraphs II.2 and II.3 refer. The semen collection centre must be approved by Defra in accordance with Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended). The certifying OV must be fully conversant with the provisions of Council Directive 90/429/EEC and any subsequent amendments, laying down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the porcine species.

8. ORIGIN AND RESIDENCY

Paragraph II.4.1 refers. The certifying OV should check appropriate farm and movement records to verify that the donor boars meet the origin and residency requirements of this paragraph.

The OV may also wish the operator of the collection centre to provide a signed statement as additional verification of origin and residency.

9. FREEDOM OF THE COLLECTION CENTRE FROM OTHER DISEASES

Paragraphs II.4.2 and II.4.3 refer. OVs should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the approved semen collection centre. If necessary, this may be supported by discussion with the local office of the AHVLA/DARD.

Certifying OVs should also carry out appropriate checks of collection centre records including use of medicines and fertility records to verify freedom from the named diseases. If desired, these checks may also be supported by means of a written declaration from the operator of the collection centre attesting to freedom from the diseases mentioned in these paragraphs.

Parvovirus

The first declaration regarding country freedom is included because this certificate has been agreed on an EU-wide basis and some other countries may claim freedom from PPV. PPV is endemic in the UK and

the first statement regarding country freedom must be deleted. The OV should check with the centre operator if the option for seronegativity or vaccination is to be offered. The OV should check suitable records of laboratory testing or vaccination to support whichever declaration is made.

Leptospirosis

The declaration in respect of leptospirosis is for absence of clinical signs of leptospirosis such as fever, anorexia and jaundice in groups of boars in the last 6 months or, if these clinical signs have occurred, if an alternative diagnosis has been obtained.

A declaration for lack of clinical occurrence of leptospirosis cannot be certified for a pig herd which contains pigs which are vaccinated against leptospirosis. Such a licensed vaccine is not currently available in the UK.

10. LABORATORY TESTS

Paragraph II.4.2 refers. The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DARD.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at AHVLA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional AHVLA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (Tel: 028 9052 0011).

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the AHVLA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

11. 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 AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contact-us/tradeexports.html>

SPECIMEN