

VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR DOMESTIC PORCINES INTENDED FOR BREEDING AND PRODUCTION CONSIGNED TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA - 7114EHC

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 7114EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7114EHC.

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

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 7114EHC may be used for the export of breeding pigs and pigs intended for production from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Moldova.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Prior to making arrangements to export breeding pigs to the Republic of Moldova, exporters are advised to contact the Sanitary-Veterinary and Animal Origin Food Inspection Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of the Republic of Moldova for up to date information on requirements for any import documentation.

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 Assembly Government Department for Rural Affairs or by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland, 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 ink of any 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 also keep a copy for his/her own records.

4. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

In accordance with the requirements of the veterinary authorities of the Republic of Moldova, the layout and numbering of certificate

7114EHC follow a template similar to that of Intra-Trade Animal Health Certificates (ITAHCs) produced by the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) for intra-community trade.

5. **COMPLETION OF SECTIONS 1 - 8**

4.2. - Local Competent Authority

The certifying Official Veterinarian should enter the name of the local office of the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) or DARD in whose administrative area the premises from where the pigs to be exported is located.

5. - Intended Destination of the Animals - Registration Number of Holding

Official Veterinarians should enter the registration number of the holding of destination in the Republic of Moldova in addition to the name and address.

7. - Means of Transport and Consignment Identification

The registration number of transport vehicles, flight number or name of the vessel must be provided.

Additional details of the means of transport may be provided at section 7.3. This section may be crossed through if there are no further details to be added.

8. - Identification of Animals and Tests

All pigs in Great Britain must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2007 (as amended) or in Northern Ireland the Aujeszky's Disease Order (Northern Ireland) 1994, with an ear tag or tattoo bearing the letters "UK" and the official herd mark of the holding on which the mark is applied (which need not necessarily be the premises from which the pigs are being exported if pigs were marked on a previous holding). The mark must also include an individual animal number. (e.g. UK AB1234 0001).

Official Veterinarians must be satisfied that each animal is individually identified in accordance with the schedule to the health certificate. The Official Veterinarian may wish to read the identification marks personally, or they may be read by a responsible person in the employment of the veterinary practice and under the direction of the certifying veterinarian. The terms "direction" and "supervision" are defined in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

Additional guidelines provided by the Veterinary Authorities of the Republic of Moldova for the completion of this section are as follows:

- the identification system and the anatomical position must be identified;
- indicate date of birth or age in months;
- indicate gender (M = male, F = female)
- indicate tests performed on the animal as appropriate and in the following order the disease identification codes for which they have been tested:
 - brucellosis: «BRL» code,
 - Aujeszky's disease: «AJD» code
 - transmissible gastroenteritis «TGE» code.

8. - Schedules

A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. The schedule must contain the same information as that required in Section 8.2. of the certificate and this section 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 Section 8.2 should be deleted with diagonal lines.

6. ORIGIN, RESIDENCY AND OTHER SUPPORT STATEMENTS

Paragraphs 9.1, 10.2, 10.3, 12.3(a) and 12.3(c) refer. The certifying Official Veterinarian should check farm movement and other records to verify that the animals have been born and reared in the United Kingdom or have been resident in the UK for at least the last 6 months and meet the conditions regarding vaccination status against Aujeszky's disease and contact with vaccinated animals.

The Official Veterinarian may also wish the owner / exporter / agent of the exporter to provide the signed statements at **Annex 1** to these notes as additional verification of origin and residency.

7. PROHIBITION ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES

Paragraph 9.2 refers. This paragraph may be signed on the basis of the provisions laid down in the Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 1997 (as amended) (S.I. 1997/1729) and parallel legislation in the devolved administrations.

This statutory instrument implements Council Directive 96/22/EC, concerning the prohibition on the use in stockfarming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and of beta-agonists. This legislation prohibits the administration the substances listed in paragraph 9.2. to any animal, unless it is in the form of a licenced veterinary medicinal product given by a veterinary surgeon in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Official Veterinarians should also rely on their own personal knowledge of the nature and usage of therapeutic agents on the farm of origin.

Any doubt about the usage of this category of therapeutic substances should be discussed with AHVLA in Carlisle or DARD in advance of the export.

8. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCES

For breeding pigs originating from the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland), paragraphs 9.1 (first sentence), 10.1(a), 10.4, 10.6, 10.7(b) and 12.1 refer. OVs may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the AHVLA Specialist Service Centre

- Exports - at Carlisle or the issuing office of DARD in Northern Ireland.

Official Veterinarians must also delete paragraphs 10.1(b) (i) and (ii).

Aujeszky's Disease - Official Clearances for Great Britain

For breeding pigs originating from Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), paragraphs 12.2 and 12.4. concerning Aujeszky's disease refer. OV's may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle.

Official Veterinarians certifying exports from Great Britain must delete all of paragraph 12.5.

Exports of Pigs from Northern Ireland - Additional Guidance

Official Veterinarians certifying exports of breeding pigs from Northern Ireland must delete all of paragraph 12.4.

Certifying OV's must carry out appropriate checks with DARD to ensure that all the provisions of paragraphs 12.2 and 12.5 have been complied with.

9. VACCINATION OF PIGS AGAINST NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Paragraphs 10.1(c) and the second part of paragraph 10.3 may be certified on the basis that vaccination of pigs against the diseases listed in paragraph 10.1 of 7114EHC and importation of pigs that have been vaccinated against these diseases is not permitted in the United Kingdom.

10. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

Paragraph 10.5 refers. **All** pigs for export to the Republic of Moldova must be tested during pre-export isolation period for porcine brucellosis using either the buffered brucella antigen test (BBAT) or a cELISA.

In the case of pigs originating from Northern Ireland, paragraph 12.5. refers. Pigs must be tested during the pre-export isolation period by ELISA for the presence of gE antibody using all the Aujeszky's disease viral antigens.

The Official Veterinarian 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 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. FURTHER REQUIREMENTS AND/OR TESTS

Paragraph 12.6 refers. The veterinary authorities of the Republic of Moldova may impose additional animal health or testing requirements for individual consignments. These will be detailed in the import permit, for example the requirement for serological testing for transmissible gastro-enteritis (TGE).

OVs should contact the AHVLA at Carlisle or DARD for further advice in case of any concerns over such additional requirements.

12. APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES

Paragraph 12.3(b) refers. Pigs for export to the Republic of Moldova must be held in approved isolation facilities, which may be located on the premises of origin, for a period of not less than 30 days immediately prior to shipment.

The following conditions must be met by the isolation facilities before approval is given by the OV. The OV is advised to consult the local office of AHVLA or DARD in case of any problems:

- (i) Any vehicles used to transport the animals for export from the farm of origin to the approved export quarantine facility must be cleansed and disinfected with an approved disinfectant prior to use;
- (ii) The isolation accommodation must comprise airspace separate from any other airspace in which livestock are present and should be as remote as practicable from any other livestock accommodation.
- (iii) The interior of the isolation building must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using an approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.
- (iv) No drainage or effluent produced by or derived from other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.
- (v) Any person entering the isolation accommodation must first put on overalls and waterproof footwear reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation.
- (vi) A footbath containing an approved disinfectant, diluted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, must be located at the entrance to the isolation premises. Any person entering must first wash and disinfect their footwear.

13. TRANSPORT TO AIRPORT / PORT OF SHIPMENT

Paragraphs 10.7, 10.8, 10.10 and 11 refer. In order to certify these paragraphs, the certifying Official Veterinarian should obtain written declarations from the owner / exporter / agent of the exporter stating that these conditions will be complied with.

Annex 1 to these notes lists the required declarations, which should be signed and dated by the owner or owner's representative and retained by the OV.

In addition, appropriate checks should also be carried out verify that the owners declarations are accurate and true.

14. WELFARE

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Further information on OIE and IATA transport recommendations may be obtained from the Welfare in Transport Team at the AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle, via the link below:

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

15. 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>

**VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR DOMESTIC PORCINES INTENDED FOR BREEDING
AND PRODUCTION CONSIGNED TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**DECLARATIONS TO BE MADE BY THE OWNER / AGENT OF THE OWNER / EXPORTER
OF THE ANIMALS**

Health Certificate Number

1. I, (name in block capitals)
of
..... (address)

am the *owner / *agent of the owner / *exporter of the pigs to be exported to the Republic of Moldova accompanied by an export health certificate the number of which appears above.

2. I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the following statements are correct and true with regard to the above consignment;

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
9.1	The animals come from holdings which have been free from any official prohibition on health grounds, for the past 42 days in the case of brucellosis, for the past 30 days in the case of anthrax and for the past six months in the case of rabies, and have not been in contact with animals from holdings which did not satisfy these conditions.	
10.2	The animals have remained in the United Kingdom since birth, or for at least the last six months before dispatch to the Republic of Moldova and without contact with imported cloven-hoofed animals for the last 30 days.	
10.3	The animals are not to be killed under a national programme for the eradication of disease.	
12.3(a)	Prior to dispatch for exportation, the animals have remained since birth in the holding(s) of origin referred to in point 6.1 or they have remained in this (these) holding(s) for the last three months and in others of equivalent status since birth.	
12.3(c)	The animals have not been vaccinated against Aujeszky's disease and have not been in contact with vaccinated animals and the herd of origin has not been vaccinated during the previous 12 months.	

[Continued]

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
	The following arrangements have been made regarding the transportation of the animals from the premises of origin to the airport/port of shipment;	
10.7	they will be dispatched from their holding(s) of origin, without passing through any market:	
	* (a) directly to the Republic of Moldova; or	
	* (b) to the officially authorized assembly centre described under point 6.2 of the above mentioned health certificate situated within the United Kingdom and until dispatch to Republic of Moldova;	
10.7(a)	they will be transported without coming into contact with other cloven-hoofed animals not complying with at least the same health requirements as described in the above mentioned health certificate;	
10.7(b)	until dispatched to the Republic of Moldova, they will not be kept at any place where, or around which within a 20 km radius, during the previous 40 days there has been a case/outbreak of any of the diseases mentioned under point 10.1. of the above mentioned health certificate;	
10.8	any transport vehicles or containers into which they	
10.10	are loaded will be cleaned and disinfected before loading with an officially authorised disinfectant and so constructed so that faeces, urine, litter or fodder could not flow or fall out of the vehicle or container during transportation;	
11	they have been treated before and at the time of loading in accordance with the relevant provisions of law on animal protection and welfare, in particular as regards watering and feeding	

* delete as necessary

Signature

Date

SPECIMEN