

EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO MOROCCO

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR 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 6345EHC and its continuation 6345CONB and 6345CONC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6345EHC.

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

1. Scope of the Certificate

Export health certificate 6345EHC may be used for the export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to Morocco.

Please note that the export health certificate 6345EHC is in three parts, 6345EHC PART A, 6345CONB PART B and 6345CONC PART C.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

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, the Welsh Government 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) Centre for International Trade 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.

3. Obtaining an 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. The import permit number should be given in the health certificate at paragraph III.5).

4. Schedules

Paragraph I refers: A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph I and paragraph I must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV).

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV 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 paragraph I must be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

Paragraphs I.1 and VI.1 (except for the period 3rd August 2007 to 5th May 2011 when the UK was under restrictions because of bluetongue) of Health Information refers: OVs may certify this paragraph on behalf

of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the AHVLA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DARD in Northern Ireland.

6. **Laboratory tests**

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 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.

7. **Tests for tuberculosis on donor animals from which semen is collected for export to Morocco.**

Paragraph IV.3 refers: The normal intradermal comparative cervical test using bovine and avian PPD tuberculins must be applied. However, only the bovine reaction should be considered when interpreting the test results, in accordance with - point 2.2.5.3.4 in Annex B of Directive 64/432/EEC as follows: animals showing an increase in the skin fold thickness greater than 2 mm or the presence of oedema 72 hours after tuberculin injection (i.e. a positive bovine reaction) must be considered positive under 'severe' interpretation. The avian reaction must be ignored for this purposes, but it will have to be taken into account (and recorded on the TB test chart) to assess whether any TB restrictions under national requirements are necessary, for which the standard test interpretation will be used.

If any of the animals subjected to the pre-export tuberculin test is deemed a reactor or an IR according to the standard interpretation, semen from none of the other animals on the centre can be certified. This is because the centre it is no longer considered officially tuberculosis free (OTF). The OV must immediately notify the local AHVLA office of these results.

8. **Sealing of the transport container**

Paragraph VII.5 of Health Information refers: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal must be entered at paragraph III.3) on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, topping up should be done in the presence of an Official Veterinarian (OV) who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The OV must endorse paragraph III.3) on the health certificate with the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating and stamping the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black**.

9. **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 Centre for International Trade at Carlisle via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/imports-exports/international-trade/>

