

EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO PARAGUAY

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 6207EHC and its continuation 6207CON. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6207EHC.

CERTIFICATE 6207EHC HAS NOT BEEN FORMALLY AGREED WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN THE IMPORTING COUNTRY.

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.

If the health requirements do not match, the exporter may choose to proceed with the export using certificate 6207EHC BUT STRICTLY AT EXPORTERS RISK.

1. Scope of the Certificate

Export health certificate 6207EHC may be used for the export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to Paraguay.

Please note that the export health certificate 6207EHC is in two parts, 6207EHC PART A and 6207CON PART B. Both parts must be signed, dated and stamped on the day of shipment.

Exporters and certifying official veterinarians must take particular note of the information on disclaimers at paragraph 10.

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 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.

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 IV.(c).

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. **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.

6. **Council Directive 88/407/EEC**

Paragraph V.(a) refers: The certifying OV must be conversant with the provisions of Council Directive 88/407/EEC (and any subsequent amendments), which lays down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the bovine species.

7. **Genetic defects**

Paragraph V.(m) refers: The certifying OV should obtain a written declaration from the Authorised Veterinary Surgeon in charge of the semen collection centre concerning the donor bull and genetic defects.

8. **Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)**

Paragraph V.(v) refers: OVs may certify paragraph V.(v) 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.

9. **Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)**

Paragraphs V.(x), V.(y) and V.(z) refer: These paragraphs may be certified on the basis that these are requirements of the TSE legislation (Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001, as transposed into national legislation), and that the UK competent authorities (Defra and the Devolved Administrations) ensure compliance with the legislation.

10. **Disclaimer**

Exporters and certifying official veterinarians must be aware that this export health certificate, 6207EHC, takes into account the

important recommendations by the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) for trade in this commodity. Exporters and certifying official veterinarians must be aware that 6207EHC has not been officially agreed with Paraguay. Accordingly the exporter and the Official Veterinarian must note that use of 6207EHC for export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to Paraguay is used at the exporter's risk. Official veterinarians should ensure that the exporter is aware of this.

The exporter should therefore be aware that 6207EHC does not take the requirements of the importing country into account. 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 are available. If official advice is provided by authorities in the importing country or if an import permit is provided, the exporter must copy these to the Animal Health Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle. If the advice or the permit do not match the assurances provided on 6207EHC, the exporter should contact the Animal Health Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contactus/tradeexports.html>

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