

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR PIGS FOR BREEDING, EXPORTED FROM THE EU INTO THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION - 6412EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES REGARDING AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

The latest revision of these notes describes additional African swine fever control measures imposed by the Russian Federation (RF) following recent outbreaks of the disease in the Balkan States, Poland and the Czech Republic, as well as the long standing ASF situation in Sardinia. An additional Schedule - 6412EHC (Section 4.1 ASF Schedule) - is now required to accompany certificate 6412EHC for exports of breeding pigs to the RF. The ASF Schedule is subject to periodic updates, the latest date of which will appear in the footer. Please refer to paragraph 7 of these notes for further guidance on the new procedures.

IMPORTANT NOTES

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6412EHC and 6412EHC (Section 4.1 ASF Schedule). The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with these two documents. We strongly suggest that exporters confirm the 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.

Certificates 6412EHC and 6412EHC (Section 4.1 ASF Schedule) are based on EU-Russian Federation agreed model documents. As a result, the wording and the details must not be amended. The following guidance has been prepared on the basis of information from the EU Council and European Commission and bilateral correspondence with the Russian Federation (RF). Provided the guidance notes below are followed or relied upon, the certificate may be signed.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificates 6412EHC and 6412EHC (Section 4.1 ASF Schedule) may be used for the export of pigs for breeding from the United Kingdom to the Russian Federation.

Associated Documents

- 6412EHC
- 6412EHC (Section 4.1 ASF Schedule [05/12/2017])

2. IMPORT PERMIT

The Russian authorities require supervision of the pre-export quarantine period by a member of the State Veterinary Service of the Russian Federation and may require countersignature of the certificate prior to loading the consignment. The import permit will lay down the conditions for premises approval and other details.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the

Scottish Government or the Welsh Government and holding the appropriate valid Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

In Northern Ireland, this certificate may be signed by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

OVs must sign and stamp the 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 Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Customer Service Centre (CSC) at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

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

4. GENERAL INFORMATION (SECTIONS 1-3 REFER)

Certificate No: (Section 1.4): This must consist of the prefix 'GB' (ISO Country Code for the UK), followed by a unique number, i.e. year/issuing office number/sequential number. The prefix 'GB' is pre-printed on the certificate and the unique number must also be printed. If this number is entered in manuscript, the certificate will be INVALID.

Country of origin (Section 1.5): refers to the EU Member State(s) where the animals to be exported originate.

Country of transit (Section 1.8): refers to the *third* country of transit, NOT to EU MSs through which the consignment will pass.

Point of crossing the border of the Russian Federation (Section 1.9): The OV must ask the exporter for this information.

Administrative-territorial unit (Section 3.1): The Administrative-territorial unit is the APHA Office responsible for the area in which the establishment of despatch is located.

5. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

Section 2 refers. In Great Britain, all pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement)(England) Order 2011 and parallel legislation in the devolved administrations of Wales and Scotland. In Northern Ireland, all pigs must be identified in accordance The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012.

Animals intended for export from the United Kingdom must be marked with an identification mark. The identification mark must include the letters 'UK', followed by the officially authorised herd mark and a unique identification number allotted to the pig by the keeper (e.g. UK AB1234 0001).

OVs must be satisfied that each animal is individually identified in accordance with the schedule to the health certificate. The OV 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.

6. SCHEDULES

Section 2 refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified if more than five animals are shipped. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in the table at Section 2. Section 2 of the certificate 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 OV. The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV must "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 2 must be deleted with diagonal lines.

7. COUNTRY DISEASE CLEARANCE

The OV may certify Section 4.1; 1st - 4th indents on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CSC at Carlisle or from the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

Additional African swine fever Controls

6412EHC (Section 4.1 ASF Schedule) is a list, in both English and Russian text, of areas/zones recognised by the RF as ASF restricted territories of certain EU Member States. This list is subject to periodic updates as provided by the RF authorities to the EU Commission in accordance with the latest ASF situation. The date of the most recent update appears in the footer of the Schedule.

The first indent of Section 4.1 of 6412EHC has been further amended to exclude all of the areas/zones listed in the Schedule from the requirement of a three year freedom from ASF. Accordingly, the certifying OV may certify a three year freedom from ASF in any area or zone of the EU not included in the Schedule.

Furthermore, the RF Authorities stipulate that any consignment of breeding pigs must not transit any of the areas referred to in the Schedule. This is particularly important when considering the route to be taken by road vehicles carrying large consignments of breeding pigs.

Completing 6412EHC and 6412EHC(Section 4.1 ASF Schedule)

Certifying OVs must sign and stamp 6412EHC (Section 4.1 Schedule) where indicated on the second page.

When completing 6412EHC, as well as signing at the bottom of the certificate as usual, the OV must place an additional stamp, date and initial at Section 4.1 of 6412EHC on the right hand side at or about the level of the first indent referring to ASF freedom. This extra stamp is at the request of the RF authorities and acknowledges that the OV is fully aware of the revised ASF controls.

6412EHC(Section 4.1 ASF Schedule should then be attached to 6412EHC together with any additional continuation schedules from Part 2 - Identification of Animals in the usual way by stapling and fan stamping.

8. PREMISES FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES

Section 4.1: 5th - 7th indents refer. OV's should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin, if necessary with the support of an owner declaration confirming freedom from certain diseases. Certifying OV's should also carry out appropriate checks of the farm records including use of medicines, fertility and birth records to verify freedom from the named diseases.

9. EXPOSURE OF ANIMALS TO HORMONES, ETC

Section 4.2 refers. Council Directive 96/23/EC is implemented by the Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations 1997 and a programme referred to as the National Surveillance Scheme. On the basis of this scheme, it can be considered that the animals from which the meat was derived meet the requirements of this paragraph.

10. QUARANTINE PREMISES

Section 4.3 refers. The pigs must be held in an approved quarantine premises for at least 21 days immediately preceding export.

Approval and supervision of the pre-export quarantine period must be carried out in co-operation with the veterinary authorities of the Russian Federation in accordance with the provisions of the import licence. Quarantine protocols must be agreed, preferably in writing, with the Russian veterinary authorities prior to the commencement of the quarantine period.

Requirements for Quarantine Premises

The following conditions must be met before approval is given by the OV. The DVM must be consulted in case of any problems:

(i) The isolation accommodation must comprise of an airspace separate from any airspace in which any other livestock are present, and be as remote as practicable from any other livestock accommodation.

(ii) The interior of the isolation building must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected, and must be cleansed and disinfected using a Defra approved disinfectant immediately before the animals to be exported enter the quarantine facility.

(iii) No drainage or effluent produced by/derived from other livestock may pass through the isolation accommodation.

(iv) Any person who requires to enter the isolation accommodation, must first put on overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation.

(v) A footbath containing an approved disinfectant, diluted in accordance with the manufacturers instructions, must be located at the entrance. Any person entering must first wash and disinfect footwear using the footbath.

Veterinary Supervision at the Quarantine Premises

As a general guide, the State Veterinarian of the Russian Federation will attend the quarantine premises on three occasions:

- at the commencement of quarantine
- at the time of loading
- at some time midway through the quarantine period

The supervising OV will also attend on three occasions:

- during the first week of the quarantine period
- during the second week of the quarantine period
- within 24 hours of loading

Visits for blood sampling / TB testing (first injection), treatments specified in the certificate and verification of identification may be regarded as visits meeting the requirement for OV supervision of quarantine.

NB A protocol for quarantine visits for every consignment must be agreed between the OV and the Russian State Veterinarian prior to the commencement of the quarantine period.

Individual Clinical Examination with Daily Thermometry

Paragraph 4.3 refers. The Russian Authorities have agreed that this requirement would apply only in the case of animals that appear to be inappetent or otherwise unwell and that it does not apply to healthy animals.

11. SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

In Great Britain, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA) Laboratory, Weybridge (Tel: 01932 375335). Some tests are carried out at VLA Lasswade Unit (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are performed at Regional VLA laboratories.

For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically. If in doubt, VLA should be contacted to establish to which laboratory samples should be sent for testing and to obtain advice on procedures for collection and dispatch of samples for testing. Samples should be submitted in good time to allow reports to be received in advance of the export date.

In the case of pre-export testing of large numbers of animals making up an export consignment, laboratories should be given the maximum period of notice possible for receipt of samples.

12. TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPORT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Russian authorities have not specified the testing requirements for the diseases listed in Section 4.3 of the certificate. A suggested testing regime to satisfy the requirements of the Russian Federation is as follows:

NB: All results for all tests must be negative and the name of the laboratory, the date and the method of testing must be entered onto the certificate.

Disease	Laboratory	Type of test
Classical Swine Fever	VLA Weybridge	ELISA or SNT
PRRS	VLA Weybridge	ELISA or IPMA
Brucellosis	VLA Weybridge	ELISA or SAT or BBAT
Tuberculosis	N/A	Single Comparative Intradermal test read at 72hrs
Chlamydia (Chlamydophila)	VLA Weybridge	CFT (negative at 1/32)
Aujeszky's Disease	VLA Weybridge	ELISA or SNT
Transmissible gastro-enteritis	VLA Weybridge	Differential ELISA or SNT
Swine Vesicular Disease	IAH Pirbright	ELISA
Atrophic Rhinitis	VLA Bury St Edmunds	Nasal swab for toxigenic strains of <i>P multocida</i>

ELISA - Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay

SNT - Serum Neutralisation Test

IPMA - Immunoperoxidase Monolayer Assay

BBAT - Buffered Brucella Antigen Test (Rose Bengal Test)

13. TESTING OF PIGS IN PRE-EXPORT QUARANTINE FOR NOTIFIABLE AND NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

All animals exported to the Russian Federation must demonstrate negative results to pre-export tests for the diseases referred to in Section 4.3 of the certificate.

However, in the case of large consignments, it is not infrequent for inconclusive or positive results for notifiable and/or non-notifiable diseases to be found in animals undergoing testing during the pre-export quarantine period.

In such cases, the supervising LVI in consultation with the DVM and the attending veterinarian from the Russian Federation should carry out appropriate investigations, which may include re-sampling of the animals and their in-contacts, to confirm or rule out the presence of disease.

Further actions to meet the requirements of the certificate may vary from a simple exclusion of certain animals from the export consignment through to removal of all animals showing a positive/inconclusive result from the quarantine premises and a recommencement of the 21 day quarantine period, together with a re-sampling programme to confirm the absence of disease and re-establish the disease status of the animals in pre-export quarantine.

Notifiable / Reportable Disease

Exporters should be aware that positive results may be obtained with the CSF ELISA when pigs are infected with other viruses such as bovine virus diarrhoea (BVD) and border disease (BD) viruses. Inconclusive results for SVD and swine brucellosis may also be notified by IAH Pirbright or VLA.

In cases where inconclusive or positive serological results to notifiable disease are detected, in addition to the above procedures, official movement restrictions may be applied to the isolation

premises and the holding(s) of origin whilst confirmatory tests/epidemiological investigations are carried out by the State Veterinary Service to confirm the presence or absence of disease.

If notifiable disease is confirmed, national disease control measures will be implemented.

In all cases, it is imperative to prevent the export of any animal posing any risk of introducing any disease referred to in the export health certificate into the Russian Federation. The supervising veterinarian of the Russian Federation should be consulted as necessary.

14. TUBERCULIN TESTING OF PIGS FOR EXPORT

The comparative intradermal test using avian and bovine PPD tuberculin should be carried out. The test must be read after 72 hours.

Exporters and OV's should note that tuberculin testing should not be repeated within 45 days of a previous tuberculin test. Before a pre-export test is carried out, the OV should make due enquiries to ascertain that the animals to be tested have not had a previous test within that period.

Tuberculin Testing Method

The preferable site is the loose skin at the base of each ear. Before proceeding with the test, both injection sites should be checked for the presence of any nodules resulting from previous injections or vaccinations.

Each site should be cleaned, the loose skin at the base of the ear raised into a fold and the skin thickness measurement recorded. Standard strength PPD, as issued for cattle, must be used and a dose of 0.1 ml injected intradermally into each raised fold taking care not to inject subcutaneously

A useful aid for subsequently reading the test is, after cleaning, to draw a circle on the skin at each selected site with a black felt-tip pen and the injections are made within the encircled areas.

The owner or stockman who is in charge of the pigs must be advised to avoid giving injections to the pigs at the test sites between the initial and reading visits.

Any increase in skin thickness of more than 2mm at the site of injection or any oedema, necrosis or swelling of associated lymph nodes, should be regarded as a positive reaction. If any animal has a reaction at the bovine site greater than at the avian site, the DVM must be informed.

15. TESTING FOR ATROPHIC RHINITIS

The OV should submit samples to VLA Bury St Edmunds for testing for toxigenic strains of *Pasteurella multocida* and identify samples as being for export purposes.

In order to give a valid result, take samples from pigs **which have not received antibiotic treatment.** Take a deep nasal swab avoiding gross contamination at the nasal opening. Wire shafted swabs (e.g. Medical Wire Equipment Co.: MW172c) are preferred.

Amies Charcoal medium is recommended as a transport medium, although saline is acceptable. Submit samples to arrive at the laboratory within 24 hours of sampling, avoiding weekends, holidays etc. Maintain swabs at a low temperature (4°C), e.g. send on ice in a leak-proof container.

The address to send the samples is as follows:

VLA Bury St Edmunds, Roughton Hill, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 2RX, Telephone: 01284 724499, Fax: 01284 724500.

16. VACCINATIONS AND TREATMENTS

Sections 4.4 and 4.5 refer. With regard to swine parvovirus, dams of pigs of less than six months old must have been vaccinated against parvovirus and pigs over six months must be vaccinated against parvovirus.

OVs must ensure that the appropriate vaccinations / treatments have been carried out, indicating the method of treatment, date of vaccination / treatment and the dose of the vaccine / anthelmintic / ectoparasiticide / antibiotic.

Leptospirosis Treatment

Pigs should be injected with streptomycin / dihydrostreptomycin at a dose rate of 25mg/kg live body weight once during the 21 day pre-export quarantine period. Any variation to this treatment will be subject to the agreement of the OV and the State Veterinary Service of the Russian Federation.

17. TRANSIT OF OTHER COUNTRIES EN ROUTE TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Exporters are advised to ascertain any additional animal health requirements that may be required with respect to the transit of consignments of breeding pigs from the UK through other EU Member States and/or third countries en route to their destination in the RF. The consignment must fully comply with the health requirements for transiting such countries in addition to those required by the RF. Exporters should also bear in mind the revised ASF controls described in paragraph 7 of these notes when planning the route.

Exporters should be aware that, if the consignment is intended to transit EU countries and meet EU trade requirements for breeding pigs, a minimum period of 30 days residency in the quarantine premises will be required.

Only in cases where animals from a single holding are moved to a pre-export quarantine premises co-located on the same holding would the certifying OV be able to sign the EU breeding pigs certificate without the animals having carried out the full 30 day residency period in the quarantine premises.

18. MEANS OF TRANSPORT

Pigs must be moved in accordance with the General Licence for the movement of pigs, made under The Disease Control (England) Order 2003 (as amended).

Rules for the cleansing and disinfection of livestock vehicles are contained in the Transport of Animals (Cleansing and Disinfection) (No.3) Order 2003. The main requirements in the Order are as follows:

After unloading animals, the vehicle must be fully cleansed and disinfected as soon as is reasonably practicable, before the vehicle is used again and in any case within 24 hours after it is unloaded. Wheels, wheel arches and mud flaps must always be cleansed and disinfected whenever the vehicle is cleansed and disinfected.

Section 4.6 of the certificate may be certified provided the certifying OV is satisfied that the conditions of the General Licence for the movement of pigs have been complied with.

19. 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 APHA CSC at Carlisle:

Agricultural Livestock Team (Exports of cattle, pigs, sheep and goats)

Email: Livestockexports@apha.gsi.gov.uk

20. DISCLAIMER

This health certificate and associated documents 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 documents against any relevant import license or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country.

If these do not match, the exporter should contact the APHA CSC at Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>

or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.