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## EXPORT OF BREEDING SHEEP AND GOATS TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

### 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 6486EHC and its continuation 6486CON. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6486EHC.

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 6486EHC may be used for the export of live sheep from the United Kingdom to the Republic of Serbia.

Please note that the export health certificate 6486EHC is in two parts, 6486EHC PART A and 6486CON PART B. Both parts must be signed, dated and stamped on the day of shipment.

2. Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an authorised 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. 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 and Rural Development (DARD).

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.

4. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

Paragraphs IV.A.a), IV.B.b), IV.B.c)-first option, IV.B.d) and IV.B.e)i) 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.

5. Scrapie.

Paragraph IV.B.h)ii) refers. The flock or herd of origin is considered by the Central Competent Authority to have complied with the scrapie freedom requirements if the guidance at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-trade/files/6227NFG1.pdf> but for 7 years (rather than the 3 years as required for trade with most EU MSs) has been followed, and the conditions satisfied. Membership of the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) administered by the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC - <http://www.sac.ac.uk/consulting/services/i-r/sghs/schemes/scrapiemon/>) is also acceptable evidence that the requirements have been complied with, although it must be confirmed that the membership has been running for at least 7 years. Even if a valid certificate of

compliance with Annex VIII or of membership of the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme is available for the herd/flock, prior to signing the certificate, the OV must check that there has been continued compliance with the requirements, and, in particular, must obtain a written confirmation from Animal Health Veterinary Laboratories Agency (SSC-Exports, Carlisle) that no case of scrapie has been officially confirmed in the flock/herd during the seven years prior to signing the certificate. The pro-forma at Appendix A 2 should be adapted to request this clearance. Also, the OV must check by reference to the movement records that all animals added to the flock/herd during the previous 7 years came from flocks/herds of a similar (scrapie) health status.

If the genotyping option is chosen, then the genotyping must be either carried out at a government laboratory (AHVLA), or the Scottish Agriculture College (SAC) or Cellmark (where the certificate is issued by Innovis AND it clearly states in the top right hand corner that a veterinarian took the sample and mentions the address) OR the individual sheep must have a genotyping certificate issued under the National Scrapie Plan (NSP) or the Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme (CSFS) by a laboratory which is\*/was authorised by the government to carry out genotyping under the plan/scheme. Any such genotyping certificates issued under the scheme/plan before it/they closed remain valid, but the OV must ensure that the identification of the animal as recorded on the genotyping certificate correlates with the official ear tag on the animal as recorded on the certificate; if only the electronic identification number is recorded on the genotyping certificate, then the OV must scan and check the electronic identification of the sheep to confirm correlation between the certificate, the sheep and the official ear tag number on the certificate. Unless genotyping was carried out officially under the NSP or CSFS, all blood samples for genotyping must be taken by a veterinary surgeon.

#### **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. 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/>