

**EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO THAILAND - 174EHC**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS**

**PLEASE NOTE:** notes for guidance (NFGs) are not intended to operate as standalone documents, but must be read in conjunction with the appropriate export health certificate.

**1. IMPORT PERMIT**

Exporters are advised to contact the Thai authorities for advice regarding any import permits that may be required for the export of breeding pigs from the United Kingdom into Thailand.

**2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**

Any Local Veterinary Inspector (LVI) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, The Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department or the National Assembly for Wales may sign the export health certificate as an Official Veterinarian.

LVIs should affix the "Official Veterinarian" stamp to the certificate in the normal manner.

**3. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION**

Paragraph I refers. All pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2003. Animals intended for export from the United Kingdom must be marked with an identification mark, which can be either an ear tag or a tattoo. The identification mark must include the letters 'UK', followed by the Defra herd mark and a unique identification number allotted to the pig by the keeper (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. This may be done by reading the identification marks personally, or by having the ear numbers read by someone in the employment of the veterinary practice and under the direction of the certifying veterinarian, or by the Official Veterinarian or an employee of the veterinary practice supervising the marking of the animals to be exported. The terms "direction" and "supervision" are defined in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

**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 this paragraph 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 paragraph I should be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. **COUNTRY DISEASE CLEARANCES**

The Official Veterinarian may certify paragraphs IV(a), IV(b), IV(c) and, in the case of export of breeding pigs from Great Britain, paragraph IV(f)(i) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the local Divisional Veterinary Manager on Form 618NDC.

6. **PREMISES FREEDOM FROM OTHER DISEASES**

Paragraph IV(d) refers. Official Veterinarians should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the premises of origin, if necessary with the support of an owners declaration confirming freedom from certain diseases. Certifying Official Veterinarians 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.

7. **APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES**

Paragraph IV(e) refers. The pigs must be held in approved isolation premises for a period of not less than 30 days immediately preceding export and must be transported only with animals of equal health status. The following conditions must be met by the isolation premises before approval is given by the Official Veterinarian. The Official Veterinarian must consult the DVM 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. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using a Defra approved disinfectant immediately before entry of the animals to be exported.

(iii) No drainage or effluent produced by or 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 to the isolation premises. Any person entering must first wash and disinfect their footwear.

The isolation premises, if different to the premises of origin, must comply with the requirements at paragraph IV(d).

8. **SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES**

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) 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.

9. **TESTING FOR ATROPHIC RHINITIS**

Paragraph IV(g) (iv) refers. The Official Veterinarian should submit nasal swabs 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, Rougham Hill, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 2RX,  
Telephone: 01284 724499, Fax: 01284 724500.

10. **COMPLETION OF THE CERTIFICATE AND RETURN OF COPY TO THE DVM**

The Official Veterinarian must sign and stamp the health certificate in an ink of any colour other than black. A copy of this certificate must be sent to the Local Divisional Veterinary Manager within 7 days of signing.

11. **DISCLAIMER**

The DEFRA disclaimer (Form 372DMR) will be issued to the exporter with this certificate for his/her information. The 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 Central Operations for Exports in Carlisle via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalhealth/about-us/contact-us/centrops.htm>

SPECIMEN