

EXPORT OF BREEDING SHEEP AND GOATS TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5312EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5312EHC.

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 5312EHC may be used for the export of breeding sheep and goats to Trinidad and Tobago.

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 Assembly Government Department for Rural Affairs or by the Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland, who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate export panel for export purposes.

OV's 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 Animal Health Central Operations for Export 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. **Arrival notification**

Veterinary officials in Trinidad and Tobago must be notified at least 24 hours in advance of the animals' anticipated time of arrival.

5. **Isolation on arrival**

On their arrival in Trinidad, the animals will undergo isolation at an approved premises for a period of not less than 21 days. Expenses in relation to the isolation will be for the account of the importer.

6. **Identification for export**

Regardless of their age, sheep and goats for export (both Intra-Community and Third Country Trade) must be identified by two eartags both bearing the same unique identification number consisting of "UK" followed by the **flock/herd number** of the natal holding and the **individual animal ID number**, for example UK 123456 0001, where 123456 is the flock/herd number of the holding on which the animal was born.

If animals originate from another Member State of the EU, please see: http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/identification/ovine/ovine_tags_en.htm for information on how the animals should have been identified. The use of X tags is no longer permitted. Sheep and goats identified by means of a red 'R' replacement tag must not be certified by

Official Veterinarians as they are not eligible for intra-Community trade or for export to third countries via EU member states.

7. **Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)**
Paragraph V.1. can be signed on behalf of the Department by an Official Veterinarian provided written authority to do so on form 618NDC has been obtained from the issuing office, within 10 days of shipment.
8. **TSEs and Blue Tongue (BT)**
Paragraphs V. 3., 4. and 5. (TSE related) and 12. (BT related) refer: The certifying Official Veterinarian should contact the local Animal Health Divisional Office if unsure about whether the statements at paragraphs V. 3., 4. and 12. can be certified. Paragraph V. 5. can be certified on the basis of the TSE Regulations as implemented in the UK.
9. **Pre-export isolation**
Paragraph V. 6 refers: if no specific conditions are set out in the import permit, it is the responsibility of the certifying Official Veterinarian to specify conditions that will enable this clause to be certified. As a general guide, the following conditions should be met:
 - (i) Isolation accommodation should be as remote as practicable from any other livestock.
 - (ii) Any building used for isolation accommodation must be capable of being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The building must be cleansed and disinfected using an officially-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 should take appropriate action to prevent cross-contamination, e.g. clean overalls and boots reserved exclusively for use in the isolation accommodation and a means of cleaning and disinfecting footwear.
10. **Tuberculin test**
Paragraph V. 7. refers: The animals should be subjected to the comparative intradermal test using avian and bovine PPD tuberculins, with negative results. Negative means a reaction to bovine PPD tuberculin which is less than the reaction to avian PPD tuberculin when the test is read at 72 hours. The test is performed by injecting bovine and avian PPD tuberculins into the skin at the posterior aspect of the base of the right and left ear (for sheep and goats) or the medial aspect of the right and left thigh (for sheep).
11. **Testing for maedi-visna/contagious caprine arthritis-encephalitis**
Paragraph V. 10 (b) refers: only the animals to be exported are required to be tested.
12. **Bluetongue**
Paragraph V. 12 refers: provided there have been no cases of Bluetongue, and no serological or epidemiological evidence to indicate the presence of Bluetongue infection, in the herd/flock during the past two years, this clause can be certified even if there are serologically-positive animals in the herd/flock due to vaccination against Bluetongue.
13. **Enzootic Bovine Leukosis (EBL)**
Paragraph V. 13 refers: this clause should be interpreted as referring to the **premises** from which the animals to be exported have originated. Therefore, provided the premises are free of EBL, this clause can be certified.

14. **Treatment for internal and external parasites**
Paragraph V. 14 refers: if there is no licensed product available to carry out the specified treatment, a suitable product licensed for use in another species should be used under the conditions of the cascade system.
15. **Laboratory tests**
Samples must be sent for testing to the laboratories of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA). The majority of pre-export tests are carried out at the Veterinary Laboratory Agency (VLA New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, Tel:01932 357335). Some tests are carried out at the regional VLA laboratories. For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, OV's should check with the VLA to establish to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be received in advance of the export date. 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, OV's should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.
16. **Welfare**
Exporters are reminded that they must comply with the UK Welfare Laws relating to the export of livestock. Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Department at any of the following offices:-
- ENGLAND** Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Animal Welfare Division
Area 8b Millbank, c/o Nobel House
17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR
Tel: 020 7238 5914 / Fax: 020 7238 6009
- SCOTLAND** The Scottish Government Rural Directorate
Animal Welfare Section
Pentland House, 47 Robb's Loan, Edinburgh, EH14 1TW
Tel: 0131 556 8400 ext. 6181 / Fax: 0131 244 6616;
- WALES** Welsh Assembly Government Department for Rural Affairs
Animal Welfare Section
Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NQ
Tel: 02920 823593 / Fax: 02920 823352
- NORTHERN IRELAND** Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Northern Ireland, Animal Welfare Section,
Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road,
Belfast, BT4 3SB
Tel: 028 9052 4580/ Fax: 028 9052 5012
17. **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 Global Animal Health Division via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/general/contacts.htm>

SPECIMEN