

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO UKRAINE - 6012EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF 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 6012EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6012EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities of Ukraine, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

Associated Documents 6012EHC, 6012NFG, 618NDC, 372DMR.

1. IMPORT PERMIT

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

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.

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 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. DEVOLVED ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE TERRITORIAL UNIT

The devolved administration of despatch (England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland) should be reflected on the certificate by deleting the three which do not apply.

The administrative territorial unit is the Animal Health Divisional Office responsible for the area in which the establishment of despatch is located.

4. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Paragraph I refers. All pigs must be identified in accordance with

The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2007 (as amended) or in Northern Ireland the Aujeszky's Disease Order (Northern Ireland) 1994, with an ear tag or tattoo bearing the letters "UK" and the official herd mark of the holding on which the mark is applied (which need not necessarily be the premises from which the pigs are being exported if pigs were marked on a previous holding). The mark must also include an individual animal number (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.

5. **SCHEDULES**

Paragraph I refers. Exporters are advised to provide animal details of the consignment to SSC Carlisle at the application stage. In circumstances where the consignment will be transiting EU member states the exporter is advised to submit the animal details in a particular format (if there are more than 10 animals). The exporter should contact SSC Carlisle for further advice.

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.

6. **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(i) (i) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the local Divisional Veterinary Manager on Form 618NDC.

7. **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.

8. **PREMISES FREEDOM FROM ANTHRAX**

Paragraph IV(e) refers. Official Veterinarians should take into

account their personal knowledge of the anthrax status of the premises of origin. The certifying Official Veterinarian may also wish to verify the anthrax status of the premises of origin / isolation premises by contacting the Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle .

9. ORIGIN AND RESIDENCY OF THE ANIMALS

Paragraph IV(f) refers. The certifying Official Veterinarian should check the farm movement records to verify that the animals have been born and have remained since birth in the United Kingdom and may also wish to obtain a written declaration from the owner to this effect.

10. VACCINATION OF ANIMALS INTENDED FOR EXPORT TO UKRAINE

Paragraph IV(g) refers. Vaccination against classical swine fever and Teschen disease is prohibited in the United Kingdom. Certifying Official Veterinarians must verify that the breeding pigs for export to Ukraine have not received vaccination for either Aujeszky's disease or leptospirosis, if necessary with the support of a written declaration from the owner of the animals.

11. APPROVED ISOLATION PREMISES

Paragraph IV(h) refers. The pigs must be held in approved isolation premises for a period of not less than 21 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 Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle 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).

Regular Veterinary Inspection

For the purposes of this certificate, regular veterinary inspection means that the supervising Official Veterinarian should attend the pre-export quarantine premises and inspect the consignment on at least three occasions:

- during the first week of the quarantine period

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

Inspection visits may be made in conjunction with visits for blood sampling / TB testing (first injection) purposes and/or treatments specified in the certificate and verification of identification.

12. TUBERCULIN TESTING OF PIGS FOR EXPORT

Paragraph IV(j) refers. The comparative intradermal test using avian and bovine PPD tuberculin should be carried out. The test must be read after 48 hours.

Exporters and Official Veterinarians 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 Official Veterinarian 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 intra-dermally 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 local Animal Health Office must be informed.

13. SUBMISSION OF SAMPLES FOR LABORATORY TESTING

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.

14. TESTING FOR ATROPHIC RHINITIS

Paragraph IV(k)(iii) 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 which would be active against *Pasteurella multocida* within two weeks of the time of sampling. 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.

15. TRANSPORT TO PORT / AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE

The certifying Official Veterinarian must obtain the written declarations referred to in paragraphs IV(p) and (q).

In the case of transport by air, the design of the containers, the recommended species requirements, and preparation for transport must be in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE International Animal Health Code and International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.

For further information on OIE recommendations, exporters and Official Veterinarians should contact the International Animal Health Division, London (020 7904 6343). For further information on IATA Regulations, exporters and Official Veterinarians should contact the Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle or Animal Welfare Division at the address stated below.

16. TRANSIT OF OTHER COUNTRIES EN-ROUTE TO UKRAINE

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 Ukraine. The consignment must fully comply with the health requirements for transiting such countries in addition to those required by Ukraine.

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 Official Veterinarian 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.

17. **COMPLETION OF THE CERTIFICATE AND RETURN OF COPY TO THE ANIMAL HEALTH CENTRAL OPERATIONS FOR EXPORT AT CARLISLE**

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 Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle within 7 days of signing.

18. **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 and Wales and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the British 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.

Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained via the links below:

For Animal Welfare regulations:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare/default.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare/farmed/transport.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare/farmed/transport/guideandpub.htm>

For International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards:

http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live_animals/index.htm

19. **DISCLAIMER**

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/animalh/int-trde/general/contacts.htm>

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