

**EXPORT OF DEBONED FRESH MEAT/MEAT PRODUCTS OF BOVINE ORIGIN TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - 7410EHC**

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

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**IMPORTANT NOTE**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7410EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7410EHC.

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.

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**1. SCOPE OF CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 7410EHC may be used for the export of deboned fresh meat and meat products of bovine origin to the United Arab Emirates.

The terms 'fresh meat' and 'meat products' are as defined in Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin.

Health certificate 7410EHC allows the export of both chilled and frozen meat/products and, in this context, 'chilled/frozen' should be interpreted literally when completing paragraph V: if beef/product is being despatched chilled ('fresh'), then the date of expiry of the certificate must be 3 days from the date of despatch; if being despatched frozen ('other' way), the date of expiry must be 30 days from the date of despatch.

**2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**

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 Government Department for Rural Affairs or by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland (DARD), 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 the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) Specialist Service Centre - Exports - 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 AND OTHER ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS**

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit and additional documents to accompany the consignment.

4. **BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (BSE) STATEMENTS**

Paragraphs IV(a), IV(b)(iii), IV(b)(vi) and IV(c) may be certified on the basis of the requirements of current TSE legislation (Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001, as transposed into national legislation). The TSE Regulations ban any meat which has been mechanically separated (whether by high or low pressure systems) from bones - ie mechanically deboned meat - to be traded/placed on the market, regardless of the age of the cattle.

The UK competent authorities (Defra, the Devolved Administrations and the Food Standards Agency) ensure compliance with the legislation.

5. **ORIGIN AND GENETIC MODIFICATION OF ANIMALS FROM WHICH THE EXPORTED MEAT IS DERIVED**

Paragraphs IV(b)(i) and IV(b)(ii) refer. These paragraphs may be certified on the basis of the certifying Official Veterinarian's knowledge of the operational conditions as regards the farms of origin in the United Kingdom of the animals from which the exported meat is derived.

The certifying Official Veterinarian may wish to obtain written confirmation from the farms of origin that the animals in question meet the requirements of these paragraphs.

6. **EU REGULATIONS 852/2004, 853/2004 AND 854/2004 (AS AMENDED) (THE EU 'FOOD HYGIENE PACKAGE')**

Paragraphs IV(b)(iv), IV(b)(v), IV(d), IV(f) and IV(h) may be certified on the basis of the application of the oval health or identification mark on the exported meat or packaging thereof indicating that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, manufacturing premises (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with the above Regulations and the Food Standards Agency Manual for Official Controls.

7. **RESIDUES AND OTHER UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES**

Paragraph IV(g) refers. The statement in this paragraph in respect of chemical residues may be certified on the basis of the microbiological monitoring required by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 and on basis of the results of the national surveillance scheme for residues, which cover all EU approved meat establishments.

The national surveillance scheme implements Council Directives 96/22/EC, 96/23/EC and Regulation (EC) 854/2004, which are transposed into national legislation by The Animals and Animal Products (Examinations for Residues and Maximum Limits) Regulations 1997.

8. **EXPIRY OF HEALTH CERTIFICATE**

Paragraph V refers:

For fresh (chilled) meat, the certificate is valid for a maximum of three days. The start date of the period of validity is the date of travel by air of the consignment. OV's must therefore get

confirmation from the exporter of the date on which the consignment is to be exported and complete paragraph III(e). The date of expiry of the certificate is three days after that date and must be entered at paragraph V.

For other (frozen) beef products, the certificate is valid for a maximum of thirty days. OV's must therefore get confirmation from the exporter of the date on which the consignment is to be exported and complete paragraph III(e). The date of expiry of the certificate is thirty days after that date and must be entered at paragraph V.

**9. 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 Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contact-us/tradeexports.html>

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