

EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO URUGUAY

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 6170EHC, its continuation 6170CON and the supplementary certificate 6170SUP. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with these certificates.

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 6170EHC may be used for the export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to Uruguay

Please note that export health certificate 6170EHC is in two parts, 6170EHC PART A and 6170CON PART B, and there is also a supplementary certificate 6170SUP covering assurances for Schmallenberg virus. All parts must be signed, dated and stamped.

2. Certification

Sections I to VI of the two-part health certificate, 6170EHC and 6170CON, and the supplementary certificate 6170SUP, must be signed by an Authorised Veterinary Surgeon (AVS) at the Semen Collection/Storage Centre.

Section VII of 6170CON must be signed by a Whole-Time Veterinary Officer (WTVO) of the Department, as must the countersignature section of 6170SUP.

The local office of the Animal Plant and Health Agency (APHA) or, in the case of Northern Ireland, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), Dundonald House, Belfast, must therefore be approached to arrange the required countersignatures.

The health certificates must be completed and signed by both AVS and WTVO in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

WTVOs should affix their SP stamp to the certificates in the normal manner, also using any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified copies of the completed certificates must be sent to the Animal Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

The WTVO should keep copies 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. 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 paragraph I must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed and dated by the Authorised Veterinary Surgeon (AVS).

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the AVS should "fan", sign and date over the pages of the schedule and

certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and signed and dated also. Any blank spaces in the schedule or in paragraph I must be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. **Council Directive 88/407/EEC (as amended) and OIE guidelines**

The certifying veterinarians must be conversant with the provisions of Council Directive 88/407/EEC (and any subsequent amendments) which lays down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the bovine species, as well as the guidelines in the appendices of the OIE Code and Manual concerning bovine semen.

6. **Residency of the donor bulls in the UK**

Paragraph VI(a) refers: If necessary, details in the cattle passport may be checked to establish whether paragraph VI(a) can be signed.

7. **Laboratory tests**

The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DAERA.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA 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).

If tests for bluetongue are required, samples must be sent to the Pirbright Institute. Guidance on submission of samples, including the submission forms to use, can be found at:

http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick_media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA 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.

8. **Sealing of the transport container**

Paragraph II.(d) refers: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal must be entered at paragraph II.(d) on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, topping up should be done in the presence of an Authorised Veterinary Surgeon (AVS) or a Whole-Time Veterinary Officer of the Department (WTVO) who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The AVS or WTVO must endorse paragraph II.(d) on the health certificate with the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black**. The liquid nitrogen used to top up the container must meet the requirements of paragraph VI(h) of the certificate, ie it must be fresh and must not have been used previously for any other purpose.

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 APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle, via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.