

EXPORT OF BREEDING PIGS TO BARBADOS

HEALTH CERTIFICATE - NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

Associated Documents: 6978EHC, 618NDC and 372DMR

1. IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6978EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6978EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

2. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 6978EHC may be used for the export of Breeding Pigs from the United Kingdom to Barbados.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND RETURN OF COPY TO THE DVM

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.

For Northern Ireland, any Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed to the appropriate export panel by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland may sign the certificate as an Official Veterinarian.

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

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.

4. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Paragraph I refers. All pigs must be identified in accordance with The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 1995 (as amended), 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 should also include an individual animal number which, in the case of an eartag, should be prefixed by the letter "P".

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. 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 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. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCES

The Official Veterinarian may certify paragraphs IV (c) and IV (e) and, in the case of pigs exported from Great Britain, paragraph IV (g) (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. PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION

Paragraph IV(a) refers. Pigs for export to Barbados must be isolated from all other livestock on the premises for at least 30 days immediately preceding export. As a general guide, the following conditions should be met to meet the conditions of segregation:

- (i) Isolation accommodation must be as remote as practicable from any other livestock.
- (ii) Any building used for accommodation 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 segregation 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.

8. TESTING DURING PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION

The tests and treatments described at paragraphs IV(f) (i) and (ii), IV (h), IV(j) and IV (k) and, in the case of pigs originating from Northern Ireland, paragraph IV(g) (ii), must not be carried out until the animals have commenced the period of pre-export isolation.

The Barbados import conditions specify a minimum period of 30 days pre-export isolation. This may not be considered appropriate time during which to carry out all the pre-export tests and to obtain the results in good time to meet the date of export. Exporters should note that 30 days is a minimum requirement and they may wish to extend this period so that tests can be completed and all the results obtained without causing unnecessary concerns in meeting export deadlines.

9. 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.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division, Stormont, Belfast (Tel: 028 9052 0011)

For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically. If in doubt, VLA or VSD 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.

10. CLINICAL EXAMINATION

The clinical examinations referred to at paragraphs IV (d) and IV (l) should be carried out within 48 hours of loading. Separate examinations are required for the pigs in pre-export segregation and the remainder of the pigs resident on the holding of origin. The holding of origin is the holding on which the pigs to be

exported were resident before entering pre-export segregation accommodation.

11. TRANSPORT TO FINAL DESTINATION

Paragraph IV (m) refers. The certifying Official Veterinarian must obtain the written declaration from the person in charge of transporting the animals to their final destination.

12. 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
9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR
Tel: 020 7238 5865 /Fax: 020 7238 6009

SCOTLAND

Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs
Department, Pentland House, 47 Robb's Loan, Edinburgh
EH14 1TW. Tel: 0131 556 8400 ext 6181/Fax: 0131 244
6616;

WALES

National Assembly for Wales,
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

13. 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 International Animal Health Division via the appropriate address in the link given below.

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