

EXPORT OF PIGS FOR IMMEDIATE SLAUGHTER TO NORTHERN IRELAND - 4655EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF EXPORTERS AND OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS

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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 4655EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 4655EHC.

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. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government and holding the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of any colour other than black.

After certifying the consignment, the Official Veterinarian must ensure that a copy of the signed EHC is emailed (preferable option) or faxed to the APHA Customer Service Centre (CSC) Carlisle on the day of signing, to enable the production of a TRACES message (as a replacement for the ANIMO message).

The OV should also keep a copy of the signed certificate for his/her own records.

**2. SCHEDULES**

Paragraph II refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. The schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph II and paragraph II must be annotated 'see attached schedule'. Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number. 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. One corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule or in paragraph II should be deleted with diagonal lines.

**3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)**

OVs may certify paragraph V(b) of the certificate on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CSC at Carlisle.

4. **SPECIFIC IMPORT LICENCE**

Imports of pigs for immediate slaughter from Great Britain into Northern Ireland are covered by a specific import licence issued by the Veterinary Service Animal Health Group of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA) following written application by the exporter.

**The licence is valid for one consignment only** for 8 days from the date of issue, unless revoked by the Department.

5. **LANDING IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Landing must take place at the port of Larne. The person in charge of the animals must report immediately following disembarkation to a Portal Inspector and co-operate with DAERA staff as required. Animals may not leave the port until a Portal Inspector has authorised such departure.

6. **PRIOR NOTICE OF IMPORTATION**

The person in charge of the imported animals must advise the Portal Inspector of their arrival not later than 24 hours prior to importation. Any consignment arriving at the port which has not been pre-notified may be re-exported.

7. **IDENTIFICATION**

The animals to be imported must be clearly and permanently identified to permit tracing of their premises of origin by means of an ear tag or tattoo/slap mark bearing the letters 'UK' followed by a herd mark.

8. **TRANSPORT TO PORT OF DEPARTURE AND ONWARDS TO DESTINATION**

The certifying OV must obtain the written declaration referred to in paragraph V(c) of the certificate. For convenience these have been printed at **Annex A** to these notes.

9. **WELFARE**

Exporters should be reminded that they must comply with the British law relating to the export of livestock.

10. **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 CSC 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>

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TRANSPORT DECLARATIONS TO BE MADE BY THE OWNER / AGENT OF THE OWNER / EXPORTER OF THE ANIMALS

Health Certificate Reference No:.....

1. I, .....(name in block capitals)  
of  
.....  
.....(address)

am the \*owner / \*agent of the owner / \*exporter of the pigs to be exported to Northern Ireland accompanied by export health certificate 4655EHC, the reference number of which appears above.

2. I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the following statements are correct and true with regard to the above consignment:

The following arrangements have been made regarding the transportation of the animals to their destination:

EHC Paragraph	Declaration	YES (Initial)
V(c)	(i) the transport vehicle(s) was/were cleansed so as to remove all visible organic matter and disinfected with a disinfectant approved by the competent authority of the exporting country before loading the animals; (ii) after leaving the premises of origin the pigs will be kept separate from animals of a lower health status; (iii) immediately after landing, imported animals will be moved <b>directly</b> to the abattoir/slaughter plant in Northern Ireland as shown in the health certificate. The animals will not be moved to a market.	

Signature .....

Date .....