

EXPORT OF SHEEP AND GOATS FOR IMMEDIATE SLAUGHTER TO NORTHERN IRELAND

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

Associated Documents: 2104EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 2104EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 2104EHC. Exporters and certifying OVs must ensure that a specific Import Licence has been issued by DAERA for the consignment in question. The Import Licence requires official certification (which this certificate is intended to cover) as well as supplementary assurances, which have to be certified by a veterinarian in a private capacity. The specific Import Licence, this official certificate and the privately issued supplementary certificate must accompany the consignment to Northern Ireland. To obtain the specific Import Licence, the importer or DAERA (Tel 02890 52 0807/ 905 20989 or Fax 02890 525 472) should be contacted.

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 2104EHC may be used for the export of sheep and goats for immediate slaughter from the United Kingdom to Northern Ireland.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in 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/AVI should keep a copy for his/her own records.

3. IDENTIFICATION

Paragraph II refers.

Identification must comply with the requirements of Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification and Movement) (England) Order 2007 and equivalent legislation in Wales and Scotland.

Official UK holding of birth ear tags would normally bear the mark "UK", followed by a 6 digit flock or herd number, followed by an individual animal number with up to a further 6 digits.

a) Identification for entry into the assembly centre

From 11 January 2008 animals must be individually identified, in order to be eligible for entry into an assembly centre, as follows:

- All animals for export must have two identifiers, both of which must be ear tags.
- Double-tagged animals should have one tag in each ear.
- Double tagged animals can be exported provided they retain at least one UK tag (the other tag can be an R [replacement] tag).

- o *Single-tagged animals bearing an R tag are not eligible for export.*
- o *Double-tagged animals with two R tags are not eligible for export.*
- Tattoos are **not** an acceptable form of identification for export purposes.

b) Identification: Record-keeping by assembly centre operator

When exporting animals to Northern Ireland, assembly centre operators are obliged, under The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification & Movement) (England) Order 2007, Statutory Instrument (SI) No 3493, to complete sections A, B, C, and D of the movement document recording the following details:

- Section A, you must include the date you move the animals and the number of animals you move.
- Section B, including, the haulier's name and vehicle registration number.
- Sections C and D, the name of the port and the country, as well as details of the holding where the animals will be moved to in Northern Ireland in the 'Name and postal address' box.

A copy of the movement document must be sent to your local authority within 3 days of the movement taking place.

c) **IMPORTANT** - Identification: Detailed Information

For full details on identification requirements, please consult the following documents:

- Rules for identifying sheep and goats / Guidance for keepers in England:

http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/id-move/sheep-goats/pdf/guidance_newrule.pdf

- The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification & Movement) (England) Order 2007

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20073493_en_1

- Also, a list of ear tag manufacturers can be obtained at:

http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/id-move/sheep-goats/eartag_makers.htm

4. **DESTINATION**

Paragraph V (b) refers.

The Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland's import licence requires that sheep and goats for immediate slaughter are consigned directly to the slaughterhouse of destination without coming into contact with other animals.

5. **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, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK 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.

Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Customer Service Centre in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>

6. 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 Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>