

**EXPORT OF SHEEP AND GOATS FOR BREEDING RETURNING TO NORTHERN IRELAND FROM SHOWS/SALES/APPROVED PREMISES IN GREAT BRITAIN**

**Notes for Guidance of OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS, Exporters, Show/Sale Organisers and owners of approved premises**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 4162EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 4162EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned in advance of each consignment.

**IDENTIFICATION - Paragraph II refers**

1. Sheep and goats exported to any destination outside Great Britain must be identified in accordance with the requirements of The Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (England) (No.2) (Amendment) Order 2003 as amended and the equivalent legislation in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

An animal is eligible for export provided that it is marked with the 'UK' mark, a holding mark and an individual identification number. These marks need not necessarily appear on the same tag. This requirement can be met with the following marking alternatives:

- An 'origin' mark, which includes the letters 'UK', followed by the flockmark or herdmark of the animal's holding of birth and with an individual identification number.
- An 'F' mark, which includes the letters 'UK', followed by the flockmark or herdmark of the holding to which the animal was imported from outside the EU, and with an individual identification number.
- An 'origin' mark or an 'F' mark which include the letters 'UK' and the appropriate flockmark or herdmark (see above) plus an 'S' mark and an individual identification number.
- An 'X' mark, which includes the letters 'UK', followed by the flockmark or herdmark of the assembly centre, the letter 'X' and an individual identification number. The 'X' must always be on the same side of the tag as the flock or herd mark, to show that the export tag is different from the holding of birth tag.

*Exporters of sheep or goats originating in Northern Ireland are advised to consult the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland regarding arrangements for marking sheep or goats intended for return from Great Britain.*

2. Paragraph V (b) refers. Sheep and goats imported from Northern Ireland directly to an approved show or sale or approved premises (e.g. feed trial, semen collection centre or embryo collection centre) may be re-exported to Northern Ireland if accompanied by health certificate 4162EHC(01/05/1997) and a copy of the health certificate which was issued by the Department for Agriculture for Northern Ireland and which accompanied the animals on their importation into Great Britain. The owner or exporter should provide a written declaration that the animals were moved directly from their premises of origin to the approved premises where they remained since their arrival. If the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN has any reason to doubt the validity of the declaration, the APHA should be consulted.

**APPROVAL OF SHOWS/SALES/PREMISES - Paragraphs III(b) and V(c) refer**

3. Shows, sales and other premises may be granted approval for holding sheep and goats of Maedi Visna/caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Accredited status by the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC). Exporters are advised to consult SAC at the address below, before exporting their animals from Northern Ireland to check on the status of the premises of destination in Great Britain.
4. With respect to all animals certified as MV/CAE Accredited, the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN must see a **current certificate** of status and in the case of approved show, sale or premises the letter of approval of the centre by SAC.

**Verification of the Accredited Status of Maedi-Visna/CAE Scheme Flock/Herds and Assembly Centres**

5. For export direct from SAC Scheme flocks/herds

The official certifying veterinarian must see a written confirmation obtained from SAC at Inverness Tel: 01463 226995/Fax: 01463 711103 that the status of the flock/herd is current.

6. For export from an approved show, sale or other approved premises

The official certifying veterinarian must ensure that the show, sale or other approved premises is approved to handle accredited sheep and goats. To do this the veterinarian, exporter or the premises operator on their behalf, should send the following details by fax to SAC as soon as an application is made for export of sheep or goats to the Republic of Ireland, and before the animals are moved on to the premises:

- the name of the show, sale or other approved premises from which the animals are to be exported;
- the official veterinarian's or show, sale or other approved premises operator's fax and telephone numbers

The fax should then be sent to Sheep and Goats Health Schemes, PO Box 44, Milton Keynes MK6 1AU (Tel: 01908 844970/Fax: 01908 84488).

7. SAC will arrange appropriate checks with a view to approving the show, sale or premises to handle accredited stock. If the centre is approved, SAC will send confirmation of current status by fax to the official veterinarian.
8. As for direct exports the official veterinarian will also need to see written confirmation from SAC of the accredited status of all flocks from which animals are moved to the show, sale or other approved premises for export.
9. Official veterinarians, show, sale or other approved premises operators and exporters should be aware that checks on status can only be carried out during normal office hours.
10. 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.

11. 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>