

EXPORT OF COOKED PIG MEAT (ORIGINATING FROM GREAT BRITAIN) TO AUSTRALIA -
7856EHC

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

Exporters and certifying Official Veterinarians (OVs) are advised that the conditions for export of cooked pig meat to Australia are complex and demanding to ensure the requirements have been met and that the meat for export to Australia has been produced at all times in establishments approved and eligible for export to Australia.

Well in advance of exports taking place, exporters and certifying OVs must become familiar with these notes for guidance and all associated documents. In the event of any questions, they are advised to contact the APHA Customer Service Centre (CSC) by email at product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301.

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7856EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7856EHC.

Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) Australia, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

Associated Documents

- 7856NFG - this document
- 7856EHC - export health certificate for the export of cooked pig meat (originating from Great Britain) to Australia
- 7856IMC - Internal Movement Certificate for the movement within GB of cooked pig meat (originating from Great Britain) for further processing, storage and export to Australia;

These can be obtained from APHA CSC upon request.

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATES**

Export health certificate 7856EHC may be used for the export from Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) of cooked pig meat from pigs born, raised and slaughtered in Great Britain and the meat cut, processed/cooked and stored only in GB establishments approved for exports of pork to Australia. Northern Ireland has negotiated their own certificate for the export of pig meat to Australia (limited to fresh cooked pork at the moment) and any queries and certification of exports of fresh pig meat from N. Ireland to Australia should be consulted with DAERA.

Export of cooked pig meat in **composite products (e.g. pizzas containing dairy components)** has been agreed with Australia. Until a single certificate for the composite product has been agreed with Australia, such products must be certified and accompanied by both the relevant cooked pork certificate (as above) and the 6969EHC export health certificate for the export of dairy and dairy based products to Australia; both certificates must be completed and signed by the same Official Veterinarian. The OV must ensure that any particular requirements in the specific import permit, such as a requirement that milk is of bovine origin only, if applicable, are met as the 6969EHC certificate may allow for milk from other species to be certified.

Export of products containing cooked pig meat of non-GB origin (currently limited to pig meat cooked in Denmark which has been certified prior to its movement to GB as compliant with Australia's import requirements under a specific certificate template) is also allowed from GB under export health certificate 8021EHC. More information is available in the guidance notes associated with the 8021EHC export health certificate.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

The exporter must apply to the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for an Import Permit. The contact details are as follows:

Website: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/>

Tel: 0061 3 8318 6700

Email: imports@agriculture.gov.au

NOTE: the certifying OV must check that import permits include cooked pig meat and, in the case of pizzas containing dairy product, the dairy component. It is also important for the OV to confirm any other the requirements of the import permit for dairy, e.g. to see if there are any restrictions for the dairy component (e.g. Bovine milk only) and ascertain which of the 3 sections of 6969EHC should be certified. Further information on certification of dairy components is included in the guidance notes (6969NFG) of the certificate for export of dairy and dairy based products to Australia (6969EHC). The milk/product used might have been imported into the UK so assurances relating to the country of collection and/or processing of the milk might have to be obtained from the competent authority of the country/ies in question.

3. APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENTS FOR EXPORT OF COOKED PIG MEAT TO AUSTRALIA

All establishments in the supply chain, e.g. slaughterhouses, cutting premises, cooking establishments, manufacturing premises and cold stores intending to export cooked pig meat (and composite products containing cooked pig meat) to Australia require specific approval.

Under no circumstances should meat be exported from plants which are not specifically approved to do so.

Food Business Operators in GB wanting to obtain specific approval for export of cooked pig meat to Australia should apply via the APHA CSC at Carlisle at the following address: product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk. APHA will refer the application to FSA/FSS for assessment of compliance with EU and Australian requirements and recommendation to Defra for listing for export of cooked pig meat to Australia. Defra will update the Australian authorities of any new listings of GB establishments as eligible for export of cooked pig meat to Australia.

OVs must confirm premises/ establishment approval by sight of the relevant documents of approval or by reference to the Customer Service Centre (CSC) for International Trade at Carlisle.

There is no requirement for specific approval of establishments in connection with dairy ingredients; approval is only required for the cooked pig meat component. However, additional certification that the dairy components meet the expected Australian requirements is needed under the 6969EHC certificate.

4. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

The above certificates may be signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government, Welsh Government, who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes, or who

holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation. OV/AVIs should sign and stamp the certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificates must be sent to the issuing office (in GB - APHA, Customer Service Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) within seven days of signature.

The OV/AVI should keep copies for his/her own records.

5. ORIGIN OF SLAUGHTERED ANIMALS

Paragraph IV(a) of 7856EHC refers: This paragraph may be certified on the basis of a completed Internal Movement certificate (7856IMC)

6. EU REGULATIONS 852/2004, 853/2004 AND 854/2004 (AS AMENDED) (THE EU 'FOOD HYGIENE PACKAGE')

Paragraphs IV(b), IV(e) and IV(f) may be certified on the basis of the application of the oval health mark or identification mark on the exported meat or packaging thereof, indicating that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with the above Regulations and the Food Standards Agency or Food Standards Scotland Manual for Official Controls.

For the purposes of this certificate, approval by Defra means recognition by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR, Australia) that the plants involved are recognised as approved by Defra. This also means that the plants are already approved establishments under the Food Standards Agency or, in the case of standalone cold stores/ cutting plants and processing establishments approved/registered under the Local Authority. Additionally, for the purpose of compliance with the Australian requirements, specifically approved and listed by Defra for export of cooked pork to Australia following an assessment of compliance by FSA/FSS and their recommendation to Defra for listing for export to Australia.

7. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCES

Paragraph IV(c) refers. OVs may certify this paragraph on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Customer Service Centre for International Trade, Carlisle.

8. CUTTING PARAMETERS

Paragraph IV(d) refers. Operators and certifying OVs must ensure that the cutting parameters required by DAWR for meat exported to Australia are complied with. It is also a DAWR requirement that these cutting parameters must be incorporated into company Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and HACCP plans.

9. SPECIFIC LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

Paragraph IV(n) refers. Operators and OVs should note the DAWR requirement for the identification number of both the slaughtering establishment and the establishment where the meat was prepared (if different) to be visible on the meat intended for export, or packaging thereof.

Food Business Operators under Local Authority registration must ensure that the registration number for export is included in the labelling of the product/package.

10. ADDITIONAL BIOSECURITY MEASURES

In addition to approval under the EU Hygiene Regulations, DAWR also requires all establishments to have in place additional SOPs and control points for export of cooked pig meat to Australia under the agreed certificate 7856EHC.

All movements of meat intended for export to Australia from slaughterhouses to separately located cutting premises, cooking/processing establishments and cold stores must be accompanied by an Internal Movement Certificate (7856IMC).

11. OFFICIAL SUPERVISION AT ESTABLISHMENTS COOKING/PROCESSING COOKED PIG MEAT

(In addition to the FSA/FSS assessment and recommendation to Defra for approval and listing for export of cooked pig meat to Australia of these type of establishments under Local Authority supervision)

An FSA/FSS authorised Official Veterinarian must supervise the cooking and processing of product for export to Australia. The OV must be familiar with the procurement arrangements for pig meat eligible for export to Australia, the cooking/preparation parameters, additional biosecurity SOPs and HACCP that need to be in place. The OV must ensure that product destined to Australia is sourced from eligible establishments and certified as compliant with Australian requirements, and that it is identified, processed/prepared, stored and segregated at all times from meat/products not eligible for export to Australia.

OV presence is required on all days where product for export to Australia is being cooked/prepared. A daily checklist confirming that the Australian requirements have been met must be filled in; it must appropriately identify those days of production/packing and batches that comply with certification requirements for Australia.

13. APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENTS HANDLING / ASSEMBLING PRE-COOKED PIG MEAT FOR EXPORT TO AUSTRALIA & OFFICIAL OVERSIGHT AND CERTIFICATION AT SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS

Local Authorities are responsible for the general registration (as opposed to approval) of establishments which handle or assemble food which has been pre-cooked or pre-processed and does not require any further cooking/processing, e.g. pizza manufacturers. The Local Authority issues a registration number for such establishments and this number must be included in the labelling of the product and in the export health certificate.

However, all establishments in the supply chain including cold stores, intending to export cooked pig meat (and composite products containing cooked pig meat) to Australia require further specific approval/listing for export to Australia.

Establishments handling / assembling pre-cooked pig meat do not need to be assessed/recommended for approval by FSA/FSA. However, they must apply for approval so that they are included in the list of establishments eligible for export of cooked pig meat to Australia AND, in addition, they must be subject to official oversight and certification by an Official Veterinarian during manufacturing of product for export intended for export to Australia (as described below).

Under no circumstances should meat be exported from plants which are not specifically approved to do so.

An Official Veterinarian must be responsible for oversight of product for export to Australia and:

- Be satisfied that the cooked pig meat has been received only from GB cooking establishments approved for export of cooked pig meat to Australia and that they were accompanied by the relevant internal movement certificate (7856IMC) for the internal movement of cooked pork for further preparation/export to Australia.

- Confirm that the sourcing and treatment of pig meat in the product prior as attested in the 7856IMC meets Australia's requirements for cooked pig meat.
- **If the product contains dairy components, the OV must ensure that the Australian requirements of the 6969EHC for dairy are also met and certified.** The product must be accompanied by both the 7856EHC (cooked pig meat) and the 6969EHC (dairy certificate) when exported to Australia.
- The OV must be familiar with the procurement processes for cooked pork (and dairy components, if applicable) to Australia of and must be satisfied that product eligible for export to Australia has been **segregated at all times during unpacking, storage, handling/preparation and packing** and that he/she is satisfied that there **has not been any substitution or adulteration** by products of animal origin from other sources. The OV must decide on the level of oversight during handling/preparation of product for export to Australia, use his/her personal experience and familiarity with the processes for export to Australia in the establishment and be in possession of any evidence, declarations and sight of internal movement certificates (7856IMC) as he/she considers necessary before certifying product as eligible for export to Australia.
- **Notifiable disease clearances:** Paragraph IV(a) of 7856EHC refers. OVs may certify this paragraph on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Customer Service Centre, Carlisle.
- An **Internal Movement Certificate (7856IMC)** must be provided for product dispatched to cold stores (if not co-located with the manufacturing establishment) from which final certification for export will be provided.
- The OV is responsible to confirm that all the attestations in the 7856EHC export certificate and any additional requirements in the import permit (and the 6969EHC export certificate for dairy, if applicable) are met before certifying product for export to Australia.

14. FINAL COMPLETION OF CERTIFICATE 7856EHC PRIOR TO DESPATCH

Prior to final certification of the consignment, OVs must ensure that they have a completed copy of the relevant 7856IMC confirming that the cooked pig meat complies with the import requirements of DAWR Australia. The OV must make any enquiries as he/she considers necessary to confirm that the product is correctly identified, labelled and attested for export to Australia.

15. DISCLAIMER

These certificates and guidance notes are 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 Customer Service Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/585995/contacts-international-trade.pdf