

EXPORT TO GHANA OF MEAT/ MEAT PRODUCTS OF PORCINE ORIGIN PRODUCED IN THE EUROPEAN UNION FROM ANIMALS RESIDENT IN EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7029EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7029EHC.

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.

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 7029EHC may be used for the export of fresh/ frozen meat or meat products of porcine origin produced in the European Union from animals resident in European Union Member States to Ghana.

2. **IMPORT PERMIT**

Exporters are advised to contact the veterinary authorities of Ghana prior to export for the latest information on requirements for any import documentation.

3. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or a Local Veterinary Inspector (LVI) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government Rural Directorate, the Welsh Assembly Government Department for Rural Affairs or by the Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland, who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate export panel for export purposes.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DARD, Dundonald House, Belfast.

The OV should keep a copy for his/her own records.

4. **SRM AND MSM**

Paragraph IV a) refers. In the case of fresh meat originating from the EU, absence of specified risk materials may be certified on the basis of compliance of the premises with the controls laid down in Regulation (EC) 999/2001 and the presence of an EU health or identification mark. In addition, the use of ruminant material for the production of mechanically separated meat is prohibited under Annex 6 of Regulation (EC) 999/2001.

5. **FITNESS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

Paragraphs IV b) and c) may be certified on the basis of the EU oval mark and evidence that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with Regulations (EC) Nos 852/2004, 853/2004 and 854/2004, as transposed into national legislation.

6. **RESIDUES AND OTHER UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES**

Paragraph d) may be certified on the basis of the microbiological monitoring required by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 and on basis of the results of the national surveillance scheme for residues, which cover all EU approved meat establishments. The national surveillance scheme implements Council Directives 96/22/EC, 96/23/EC and Regulation (EC) 854/2004, which are transposed into national legislation by The Animals and Animal Products (Examinations for Residues and Maximum Limits) Regulations 1997.

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

Paragraph IV f) (in the case of fresh meat) or IV g) i. (in the case of meat products) refers: OVs may certify either paragraph IV f) or IV g) i. on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the local Animal Health Divisional Office (or equivalent in Northern Ireland).

8. **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 Central Operations for Exports in Carlisle via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalhealth/about-us/contact-us/centrops.htm>

SPECIMEN