

EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO MEXICO**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS****IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 6366EHC and its continuation 6366CON. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 6366EHC.

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.

The certificate will be pre-printed with all the information included at the time of application for export. There must be no hand written entries or amendments in the certificates, other than signatures and the dates of signatures.

1. Scope of the Certificate

Export health certificate 6366EHC may be used for the export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to Mexico.

Please note that the export health certificate 6366EHC is in two parts, 6366EHC PART A and 6366CON PART B. Both parts must be signed, dated and stamped on the day of shipment.

2. 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, the Welsh Government or by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland (DARD), 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 the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) Specialist Service Centre - Exports - 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.

3. Obtaining an import permit

The exporter/agent should be aware of the requirements of the importing country particularly with respect to the requirement for an import permit. The import permit number should be given in the health certificate at paragraph IV.e).

4. Schedules, volume measures and antibiotic dilutions

Paragraphs I and II. a) and b) refer: A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified and to give the required information concerning the semen. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraphs I and II. a) and b), and paragraphs I and II. a) and b) must be annotated "See attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and must be signed, dated and stamped by the Official Veterinarian (OV).

The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule or in paragraphs I and II. a) and b) must be deleted with diagonal lines or the sections not used crossed out, e.g. (ii).

Section II (b) should be completed with the total volume stated in litres in addition to the information requested in this section, e.g. 2954 x 0.25 ml (millilitres/mililitros) (TOTAL = 0.7385 LITRES/LITROS)

Preservative/antibiotic dilutions -section II (d) refers:

The antibiotics used and their concentration must be entered at this sections. The combinations acceptable by Mexico are the following:

- gentamycin (250 µg), tilosyn (50 µg), y lincomicina-espectinomycin (150/300 µg);
- penicilin (500 IU), estreptomycin (500 IU) y lincomycin-espectinomycin (150/300 µg);
- amikacyn (75 µg) y dibekacyn (25 µg).

5. Clinical Examination

Paragraph V.b) refers: in order to sign this paragraph, a clinical inspection of the donor bull(s) is required on the day of collection in accordance with Council Directive 88/407/EEC (as amended).

6. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

Paragraphs V.c) and V.d) refer: OV's may certify paragraph V.c) and relevant parts of paragraph V.d) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle or the issuing office of DARD in Northern Ireland.

7. Laboratory tests

The OV must ensure that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DARD.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the AHVLA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at AHVLA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional AHVLA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the AHVLA or VSD to determine to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

8. Tests for Bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD)

Paragraphs V.f) and V.g) refer: Although the opening clauses of these two paragraphs specify negative results for all the tests carried out, the serological tests for BVD are to determine the bull's serological status, so these if these paragraphs can be certified even if serology is positive. One of the two alternative options with regards to virus isolation test OR virus antigen test must be crossed out (even if both could be applicable/certifiable) as indicated.

9. Leptospirosis

Paragraph V.h) refers: The Mexican import requirements do not specify which serotypes to test for. It is suggested that the following serotypes are tested to the standard indicated - L.canicola, hardjo, icterohaemorrhagiae, grippotyphosa, and pomona (negative means less than 50% agglutination at a dilution of 1:100). Delete as applicable, including the alternative which is not applicable in the first option (treatment within 180 days prior OR after collection).

10. **Sealing of the transport container**

Paragraph V.u) refers: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number on the seal must be entered at paragraph V.u) on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, the additional liquid nitrogen used must meet the requirements of the certificate - see paragraph V.u). Topping up should be done in the presence of an Official Veterinarian (OV) who must apply a new tamperproof seal. The OV must endorse paragraph V.u) on the health certificate with the new seal number, giving name and signature and dating and stamping the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in any ink colour **other than black**.

11. **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 AHVLA Specialist Service Centre - Exports - at Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/imports-exports/international-trade/>