

## EXPORT OF CATTLE FOR BREEDING OR PRODUCTION TO NORTHERN IRELAND

### NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

**ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:** 5151EHC and 618NDC

#### **ADVICE TO EXPORTERS:**

Exporters should contact DAERA on Tel: 02890 524 404 or Fax: 02890 525 472 for a Specific Import Licence and details of any additional assurances required by Northern Ireland, for each consignment of animals.

**PLEASE NOTE** - DAERA may require a **TB test** to have been undertaken on the cattle to be exported. Further details will be found in the Import Licence.

1. **SCOPE**

Export health certificate 5151EHC may be used to accompany cattle exported for breeding and production to Northern Ireland. Only cattle over 15 days of age may be exported.

Currently cattle may only be exported from holdings.

2. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND RETURN OF COPY OF CERTIFICATE TO APHA**

This certificate may be signed by a Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government, or Welsh Government who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) 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 faxed or emailed (preferable option) to the APHA Centre of International Trade (CIT) Carlisle on the **day of signing**, to enable the production of a TRACES message (as a replacement for the ANIMO message).

In the case of an export not proceeding, the EHC must be immediately returned to the APHA CIT Carlisle;

If the consignment date/time of departure has changed significantly, or a different vehicle is used, the exporter must notify the APHA CIT Carlisle.

3. **IMPORTED CATTLE**

With the exception of cattle in transit from another Member State to Northern Ireland accompanied by a valid health certificate listing the premises of destination in Northern Ireland, cattle imported from Member States must be accompanied on re-export for breeding by certificate 5151EHC. It is a legal requirement for the original import health certificate to remain at the address in Great Britain to which the animals were consigned, for one year from the date of import. In case of cattle imported to a market or collection centre, a validated copy of the export health certificate which accompanied animals entering Great Britain may be used to support the health assurances relating to cattle exported to Northern Ireland.

4. **NUMBER OF ANIMALS**

Paragraph I refers. The number of animals should be completed both in letters and figures.

5. **IDENTIFICATION MARKS**

Paragraph II refers. Cattle born after 01/01/1998 must be tagged in both ears with the holding number and an individual number so that the individual animals can be readily identified as being those

described on the accompanying health certificate. Cattle born before 01/01/1998 must bear at least one ear tag with the holding number and the individual number on the animal.

6. **SCHEDULES**

Paragraph II refers. A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in paragraph II, and paragraph II must be annotated "see attached schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number. The schedule must be stapled inside the health certificate and the Official Veterinarian should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule and certificate. One corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule or in paragraph II should be deleted with diagonal lines.

7. **AGE**

Paragraph II refers. Official Veterinarians should note that the date of birth of the animals exported must be given at paragraph II on the attached schedule.

8. **EXAMINATION**

Paragraph V (a) refers. The examination should be carried out within 24 hours of loading. Animals may not be certified for export if there are signs of infectious and contagious disease, which includes infestation with external parasites and active lesions of ringworm.

9. **DISEASE CLEARANCE**

Paragraph V (b) refers. In the case of animals loaded for export from their premises of origin, Official Veterinarians may certify paragraph V (b) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade in Carlisle on form 618NDC.

**Tuberculosis**

The Northern Ireland import permit requires cattle to originate from Officially Tuberculosis Free (OTF) herds. For the purposes of the certificate, OTF means any herd which is not under whole herd (TB2) restrictions. Therefore, cattle cannot be exported via *slaughter markets\** which admit cattle from TB restricted herds, even if the cattle intended for export originate from OTF herds. This is because such a market or 'gathering' will not be 'OTF'. However, this restriction only applies to gatherings or markets receiving cattle from TB restricted herds on the day.

**NOTE: Animals not subject to individual TB (i.e. TB34) restrictions can be certified for export as long as the herd of origin is not under TB2 restrictions.**

**Brucellosis**

The Northern Ireland import permit requires cattle to originate from Officially Brucellosis Free (OBF) herds. For the purposes of the certificate, OBF means any herd which is not under whole herd (BS2) restrictions. In the case of cattle exported directly from markets, the Officially Brucellosis Free (OBF) status of the holding(s) of origin may need to be ascertained if domestic policy allows animals from BS2 restricted herds to be moved to markets.

**NOTE: Animals not subject to individual Brucellosis (i.e. BS26/27) restrictions can be certified for export as long as the herd of origin is not under BS2 restrictions.**

\* These markets, also known as TB slaughter markets, are markets approved to receive cattle from TB restricted herds subject to a clear 60-day pre-movement TB test.

10. **PROHIBITION OF VACCINATION AGAINST FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE**  
Official Veterinarians may certify paragraph V(c) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA Centre for International Trade in Carlisle on form 618NDC.

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

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

12. **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#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>