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**EXPORT OF MEAT/MEAT PREPARATIONS/MEAT PRODUCTS OF FARMED WILD BOAR ORIGIN TO SINGAPORE - 7695EHC.**

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

Associated Documents: 7695EHC and 618NDC

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7695EHC. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7695EHC.

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 7695EHC may be used for the export of frozen meat derived from farmed wild boar, and preparations and products derived from such meat, from the United Kingdom to Singapore.

The export of fresh (chilled) pig meat from the United Kingdom to Singapore is not permitted.

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

In Great Britain, this certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an authorised Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed to the appropriate panel for export purposes by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government. In Northern Ireland, this certificate may be signed by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD).

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) Centre for International Trade 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 IMPORT PERMIT**

It is the responsibility of the exporter/agent to obtain a valid import permit from the Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) in Singapore. The import permit should be compared with the certificate 7695EHC and, if there are any discrepancies, exporters are advised to contact the AHVLA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DARD, Dundonald House, Belfast. The permit may be cancelled at any time depending on the current disease status of the United Kingdom.

4. **APPROVAL BY AVA**

Paragraph IV. g) refers: The Director General of the Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Services (AVA) recognizes the approval of the premises by the competent authority in the United Kingdom, operating through the Food Standard Agency (FSA). Any premises that is authorized to place the oval EU mark on its products or store EU oval marked products is, therefore, recognised as approved.

Defra is required to provide AVA with a list of such premises approved for export to Singapore. This is done by reference to the UK Food Standards Agency website.

5. **EC OVAL HEALTH MARK**

The Singapore authorities require that consignments of meat/meat preparations/ meat products intended for export to Singapore must be produced in EU approved plants and bear the EC oval mark.

6. **DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT**

Paragraph I. refers: As required by the Singapore authorities, a full description of the packaging must be given and must fully describe the consignments such that substitution with product which has not been inspected is not possible. Provided that the consignment is identified by batch codes, serial numbers or shipping marks, for example, then it is not necessary for the OV to be present at the time of loading.

7. **DATE OF SLAUGHTER OF ANIMAL**

Paragraphs 2(d) and IV (a) refer: These paragraphs can be certified on the basis of evidence contained in commercial documents, internal movement certificates, or statements from OVSS at slaughterhouses and/or cutting plants.

8. **PARAGRAPHS IV. b), c) and d)**

Paragraphs IV. b), c) and d) can be certified on the basis of oval marks which demonstrate compliance with EU Regulations (EC) 853/2004 and 854/2004.

9. **DISEASE CLEARANCE - 618NDC**

Paragraphs IV. e) and IV. f) refer: OVs may certify paragraphs IV. e) and IV. f) on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the AHVLA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle (or issuing office of DARD in Northern Ireland).

Please note that in paragraph IV. f), freedom from trichinellosis in pigs on UK holdings is based on negative results from all tests performed nationally since 1979.

10. **NO PARAGRAPH IV(i)**

Note that paragraph notation in the certificate reads IV. h) to IV. j), with paragraph IV. i) omitted.

This is intentional as roman numeral 'i' is often used to number indented paragraphs.

Use of both the letter and the roman numeral 'i' could potentially lead to confusion where advice is related to specific paragraphs given in these Notes for Guidance.

11. **LABELLING OF PACKAGING AND CARTONS**

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore requires that every basic packaging unit and every carton of meat and meat product imported into Singapore must be labelled with the following particulars to conform to their regulations:

- i. Description of meat product;
- ii. Country of origin of meat product;
- iii. Brand name of meat product (if any);
- iv. In the case of processed meat, name or designation number of the processing establishment in which and the date the meat was processed (if applicable);
- v. In the case of frozen/chilled meat products, the name or designation number of the slaughter-house in which the animals used in production of such meat were slaughtered and the date of slaughter;
- vi. The name or designation number of the establishment in which, and the date on which the meat was packed;
- vii. The batch number, where the meat was canned (location) and the canning code; and
- viii. The net weight of the meat product as contained in each basic packaging unit and the outer carton thereof.

12. **PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF CHEMICAL PRESERVATIVES OR FOREIGN SUBSTANCES INJURIOUS TO HEALTH**

Paragraph IV(h) refers: In the case of conjoined premises, OVs may certify the lack of use of chemical preservatives based on familiarity with procurement arrangements, production procedures and the examination of producer / slaughterhouse records. Freedom from foreign substances injurious to health can be certified on the basis that under Regulation (EC) 178/2002, which set out the general principles and requirements of food law in the EU, it is illegal to export food stuffs which are injurious to human health to another ('Third') country without the express permission of the importing country. In this instance, such permission has not been provided.

In the case where the production facility is remote from the slaughterhouse where the pigs from which the meat product was derived were slaughtered, this paragraph may be certified on the basis of a declaration from the Official Veterinarian at the slaughterhouse(s) that the pig meat meets the requirements for export to Singapore. The Official Veterinarian at the slaughterhouse(s) involved will need to make the necessary checks regarding preservatives as described above.

13. **PROHIBITION ON SWILL FEEDING**

Paragraph IV. (j) refers: OVs may certify paragraph IV(j) on the basis that the feeding of swill to pigs is prohibited by Article 9 of The Animal By-Products Regulations 2003 and by equivalent legislation in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

14. **UK RESIDENCY OF SLAUGHTER PIGS**

Paragraph IV(k) refers. In the case of conjoined premises, UK residence for animals can be certified on the basis of familiarity with procurement arrangements and the examination of producer / slaughterhouse records.

In the case where the production facility is remote from the

slaughterhouse where the pigs from which the meat product was derived were slaughtered, this paragraph may be certified on the basis of a declaration from the Official Veterinarian at the slaughterhouse(s) that the pigs were born and reared in the United Kingdom since birth.

15. **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 Centre for International Trade at Carlisle, via the link below:

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

In Northern Ireland, contact the DARD trade administration team:

e-mail - [tradeadminpost@dardni.gov.uk](mailto:tradeadminpost@dardni.gov.uk) . Phone - 0289 0520989