

IMPORTANT

Exporters and certifying Official Veterinarians (OVs) are advised that the conditions for export of pig meat to the People's Republic of China (PRC) are complex and demanding. Clearances for certain non-notifiable diseases such as PRRS on premises of origin are not straightforward and special procedures have been introduced to facilitate these declarations.

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](mailto:product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk) or by phone at 03000 200 301 or DAERA in Northern Ireland at [VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk) or by phone at 028 90520931.

In an attempt to simplify the procedures, these notes 7006NFG have been split into five separate parts as follows:

- 7006NFG - Part 1: Introduction and General Principles (read first)(this document)
- 7006NFG - Part 2: Farm Assurances
- 7006NFG - Part 3: Slaughterhouses and cutting plants
- 7006NFG - Part 4: Standalone cutting plants
- 7006NFG - Part 5: Final certification at exporting cold stores
- 7006NFG - Flow diagram of export chain

Associated Documents

- The Protocol for veterinary and health requirements for export of pig meat to the People's Republic of China (included in 7006NFG - Part 1);
- 7006ANNA - PAS quarterly veterinary food chain information (FCI) and health declaration for herds of origin;
- 7006ANNE - Owner/manager FCI declaration to slaughterhouse operator;
- 7006ANNC - Owner manager support declaration for PAS/farm veterinarians completing 7006ANNA;
- 7006IMC - Internal movement certificate;
- 7006EXA - Guidance on completion of the interactive pre-certificate (application for export/EHC to CSC Carlisle or DAERA).

These five parts and all other associated documents may be downloaded from the website of the United Kingdom Export Certification Partnership (UKECP) via the following link: [www.ukecp.com/export-health-certificates](http://www.ukecp.com/export-health-certificates) . The documents can be found using the search parameters 'China', 'meat' and 'porcine'.

Alternatively, these can be obtained from APHA CSC or DAERA upon request.

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## 7006NFG - PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES

### 1. SCOPE OF EXPORTS TO THE PRC

Export health certificate 7006EHC may be used for the export of frozen pig meat and pig meat products (BUT EXCLUDING TROTTERS, LUNGS, STOMACH AND INTESTINES [primitive guts (runners) for sausage casings excepted] AND MECHANICALLY SEPARATED MEAT) from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of CHINA (PRC).

The term 'meat products' as mentioned in the present measures refers to any part of the slaughtered animals fit for human consumption, including the body, meat, viscera, by-products, and products made of the aforementioned products as raw materials, excluding canned products.

Export health certificate 7006EHC cannot be used for the export of processed products, nor can 700EHC be used for the export of composite products.

The definition of feet or trotters includes the foot/trotter to the level of, and includes, the carpal bones for the fore foot/trotter. For the hind foot/trotter this includes the foot/trotter to the level of, and includes, the tarsal bones for the hind foot/trotter. The definition of lungs does not include the trachea to the level of the tracheal bifurcation. The definition of stomach and intestines excludes the oesophagus.

Negotiations to extend the scope of the 7006EHC certificate to include trotters are continuing.

### 2. IMPORT PERMIT

Prior to making arrangements to export pig meat to the PRC, exporters are advised to ensure that the necessary import permit and any other import documentation are available.

Import permits are issued from the local office of the PRC Quarantine and Inspection Service. Application is usually made by the Chinese customer or local import company in China. The permit is specific to the UK exporter and is normally valid for a maximum of 6 months.

It will take approximately 20 working days for the permit to be available after the application has been made.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MEAT PLANTS AND COLD STORES TO EXPORT TO THE PRC

All slaughterhouses, cutting premises, manufacturing premises and cold stores intending to export eligible pork and pig meat products to PRC require specific inspection and approval prior to export taking place. Establishments should contact APHA CSC or DAERA in the first instance for information on the approval process.

All establishments approved for export to PRC must comply fully with EU requirements. Establishments with an outcome of 'Improvement necessary' or 'Urgent improvement necessary' in their most recent EU compliance audit are not eligible to export to PRC.

In GB, approval inspections are carried out by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to check compliance with PRC requirements. These are carried out by DAERA in Northern Ireland. Recommendations for approval by the FSA and DAERA are forwarded by Defra to the veterinary authorities of the PRC for consideration.

Once listed by the PRC as approved to export, establishments are subject to quarterly audit inspections by the FSA or DAERA to ensure ongoing compliance against the EU and Chinese export requirements.

Each establishment in the supply chain must be included on the current list of approved establishments maintained by the PRC Veterinary authorities. The list is available from the APHA CSC at the following address: [product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk) .

In England and Wales, further details on procedures for approval of establishments to export to PRC can be obtained from APHA CSC.

Establishments in NI should contact DAERA.

#### **Additional Requirements for Establishments Approved to Export to PRC**

Copies of all relevant documents including the current Chinese protocol for the import of pig meat from the UK, Chinese labelling Regulations and the FBO's SOPs including their SOP for segregation/separation and OV records must be kept in the FSA/FSS/DAERA office at the FBO establishment. These documents must be readily available for audit. The FBO must also have copies of relevant standards and procedures.

The certifying OV at the slaughterhouse must have access to Veterinary Certification and producers' declarations from supplying farms to ensure that s/he (the OV) has the knowledge to certify that the pigs originate from farms which comply with the Chinese requirements. This knowledge can be gained from personal knowledge of procedures at the slaughterhouse and / or from reference to records provided by the abattoir.

#### **Segregation/Separation:**

All PRC export-eligible animals (i.e. pigs that originate from premises declared free from specified diseases) must be lairaged, slaughtered and processed separately from animals not eligible for export to the PRC.

All PRC export-eligible carcasses from which the meat for export to the PRC is derived must be stored separately in chillers and segregated from other ineligible carcasses prior to further processing for export.

All PRC export-eligible meat must be processed, wrapped and packaged separately from other meat not eligible for export.

In order to ensure PRC's requirements for traceability and segregation, meat eligible for export to PRC must be clearly identified throughout the entire export chain.

The certifying OV at the slaughterhouse must be fully familiar with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for segregation/separation.

These written procedures must explain how this requirement is achieved and maintained in the slaughterhouse from the lairage to point of dispatch and (if co-located) in the cutting plant from the intake of meat to despatch.

**4. COMPLIANCE WITH IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF THE PRC**

In order to certify the health attestation that the consignment is in compliance with the import conditions of the PRC, OVs must be familiar with the following documents:

- The Protocol between Defra and The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China on veterinary and health requirements for pork to be exported from the United Kingdom to China (hereafter referred to as 'The Protocol'); and in the case of export of trotters

**5. THE PROTOCOL**

The Protocol has 16 Articles. For the purposes of certification of exports of pig meat, Articles 4 - 10 refer.

Articles 1 and 2 and Articles 11 - 16 may be certified by the OV on the basis of information already supplied to AQSIQ by the UK competent authorities, together with operating and administrative procedures described in these Articles as agreed between Defra and AQSIQ.

Article 3 regarding National disease freedoms may be certified on the behalf of the Department on the basis of written authority from the Department at the final premises of dispatch.

**Article 4(a) - origin of the animals from which the exported meat is derived:**

The UK origin of the pigs from which the meat was derived can be certified on the basis of completed electronic or paper internal movement documents completed by the OV at supplying slaughterhouses and cutting plants indicating compliance with PRC requirements.

- Please refer to 7006NFG - Part 2: Farm Assurances for full details.

**Articles 4(b) and 4(c) - premises of origin freedom from non-notifiable diseases**

- Please refer to 7006NFG - Part 2: Farm Assurances for full details.

**Article 5 - approval of premises exporting to the PRC**

See Section 3 above. All establishments in the export supply chain must hold prior approval to export to the PRC.

**Article 6 - compliance with EU Hygiene Regulations / fitness for human consumption**

- Please refer to 7006NFG - Part 3: Slaughterhouses and cutting plants for full details.

**Article 7 - segregation of slaughter for non-eligible animals and provision of a dedicated area for storage**

- Please refer to 7006NFG - Part 3 for slaughterhouses and cutting plants, Part 4 for standalone cutting plants and Part 5 for exporting cold stores for full details.

**Articles 8 and 9 - wrapping, packaging and storage of exported goods**

- Please refer to 7006NFG - Part 3 for slaughterhouses and cutting plants and Part 4 for standalone cutting plants for full details.

**6. ADVANCE PROVISION OF SPECIMEN COPIES OF OV SIGNATURES AND STAMPS**

The PRC requires that all OVs carrying out final export certification using 7006EHC must first provide specimen copies of their signatures and stamps to China before exports take place. Signatures must be linked to the cold store of despatch.

Please refer to 7006NFG Part 5 for further details on procedures for advance notification.

**7. ELECTRONIC PRE-CERTIFICATION**

The Official Veterinarians (OV) providing final certification for consignments to PRC are required to submit a weekly notification table to APHA at the following email address - [product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk) The OV must submit the electronic table to APHA by 12pm each Monday and should include all relevant data for any certificate signed by the OV for the previous week. Data entry must be accurate, in the agreed format and match the consignment details otherwise acceptance from the Chinese authorities may not be granted. The OV is responsible for ensuring that all data submitted to APHA is correct and APHA cannot be held responsible if a consignment is held or delayed if inaccurate data has been provided. APHA send all notification tables to the CIQ for their approval. A template copy of the weekly notification table can be supplied by contacting the above email address.

**8. DISCLAIMER**

These notes are provided on the basis of information available at the time. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the information against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country.

For further advice exporters should contact the APHA Customer Service Centre (CSC) Carlisle at [product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:product.exports@apha.gsi.gov.uk) or by phone at 03000 200 301 or DAERA in Northern Ireland at [VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:VS.Implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk) or by phone at 028 90520931.