

EXPORT OF PORCINE SEMEN TO THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA - 8753EHC
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 together with export certificate 8753EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8753EHC.

Exporters are 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 8753EHC may be used for the export of fresh or frozen porcine semen from the United Kingdom to the Republic of North Macedonia (RNM).

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Prior to making arrangements to export porcine semen to the RNM, exporters are advised to contact the Veterinary Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy of the RNM for up to date information on requirements for any import documentation.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

In **England, Scotland and Wales**, this certificate must be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government as such and holding the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ (V)) authorisation.

In **Northern Ireland** (NI), this certificate must be signed by a Veterinary Officer/Inspector (VO/VI) of the Department or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed as an OV to the appropriate export panel for export purposes by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). For the purposes of these notes VOs, VIs and AVIs shall be referred to as OVs unless a specific reference is required.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in ink of a different colour to that of the printing.

In **England, Scotland and Wales**, a certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the APHA Centre for International Trade (CIT) at Carlisle within seven days of signing.

The OV should also keep a copy of the signed certificate and any supporting documents for at least three years after signature or receipt/dispatch of the consignment, whichever is later.

4. COMPLETION OF PART I - DETAILS OF DISPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.4. - Local Competent Authority

The certifying Official Veterinarian should enter the name of the local office of the APHA or DAERA in whose administrative area the premises from where the semen to be exported is located.

I.6. - Person responsible for the load in the EU

This box to be filled in only if it is a certificate for a transit commodity. Otherwise mark N/A or strike through with diagonal lines.

I.7 & 1.8 - Country / Regional ISO Codes

ISO 3166 is the commonly accepted International Standard for country codes.

The ISO Code for the whole of the United Kingdom is 'GB' and this should be entered at Box I.7. Box I.8 should be marked N/A (not applicable).

The ISO Code for North Macedonia is 'MK' and should be entered at Box I.9. The certifying Official Veterinarian should make enquiries to verify the destination North Macedonian Regional Code, which should be entered in Box I.10.

I.15. - Identification

The registration number of transport vehicles, flight number or name of the vessel must be provided. In case of unloading and reloading, the consignor must inform the BIP of entry into the RNM.

I.28. - Schedules

Date of semen collection should correspond with the format *dd/mm/yyyy*. The approval number must correspond with the approval number of the semen collection centre where the semen was collected.

A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals certified. The schedule must contain the same information as that required in Box I.28 of the certificate and this box must be annotated "See Attached Schedule". Each page of the schedule must bear a page number and the health certificate reference number and be signed, dated and stamped by the OV.

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. The top stapled corner of the schedule and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedule or in Box I.28 should be deleted with diagonal lines.

5. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

OVs may certify paragraph II.1.1(b), II.2.2 and II.2.3 on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA CIT at Carlisle or via disease clearance procedures in DAERA.

Paragraph II.1.1(a) should be deleted by the certifying OV.

6. LEGAL STATEMENT – RETAINED EU LAW

Existing EU legislation, with which the UK already complies, is incorporated into UK domestic law as 'retained EU law' under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

References in guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this retained EU law. Under the Withdrawal Act, the UK ensures that current EU standards remain in force, without amendment, as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

7. RETAINED COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 90/429/EEC (as amended)

The semen collection centre must be approved by Defra or DAERA in accordance with retained Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended) and must operate fully in compliance with the provisions laid down in the said Directive.

The certifying OV must be fully conversant with the provisions of retained Council Directive 90/429/EEC for imports of semen of domestic animals of the porcine species.

OVs may certify paragraphs II.3.1, II.3.2, II.3.3 and II.3.9.1, as these are a requirement of the legislation.

For the export of porcine semen to RNM, if boars have been approved to enter an EU approved stud, they should be compliant.

8. COMPLETING THE CERTIFICATE

8753EHC is based on the model animal health certificate for imports of porcine semen into Great Britain and so closely follows the wording of Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended).

OVs should however note the various **either/or** options at paragraphs II.2.4, II.3.4.2, II.3.5, II.3.6, II.4.2 and II.4.4 regarding the vaccination status of the donor boars and the outcome of test results and delete the non-applicable paragraph as appropriate.

II.5.6 relates to the period of residence of the donors in the semen collection centre.

9. EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN NORTH MACEDONIAN BOOK OF RULES AND EU LEGISLATION

Several paragraphs in the certificate (II.2.1, II.2.4 and II.7.1) make reference to certain articles of the North Macedonian Book of Rules on veterinary health requirements for the placing on the market etc. of semen for artificial insemination. In every case, there follows a declaration of equivalence with the corresponding Articles of retained Directive 90/429/EEC.

Accordingly, OVs may certify these paragraphs without the requirement to be personally familiar with the North Macedonian Book of Rules.

10. **DISCLAIMER**

It is the responsibility of the exporter to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country.

If the permit or advice do not match the assurances provided on 8686EHC, in the case of export from Great Britain, the exporter should contact the APHA CIT at Carlisle at product.exports@apha.gov.uk or by phone at 03000 200 301.

For export from Northern Ireland, exporters should contact the DAERA Trade Administration Team for meat and dairy exports by e-mail at: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk or by telephone at 028 77442 060.