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EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO THE CUSTOMS TERRIORY OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMC UNION (EAEU)

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT

Certificate 8741EHC has been agreed between the United Kingdom and the five member countries of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) which reflects the requirements laid down in the legislation of the EAEU. The five member countries of the EAEU are the Russian Federation, Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV's) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8741EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8741EHC.

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 8741EHC may be used for the export of bovine semen from the United Kingdom to the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union, the member countries of which are the Russian Federation, Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Please note, that there are also supplementary certificates to be certified for exports to Kazakhstan or Russian Federation, and this includes:

- a supplementary certificate **8741aSUP** covering assurances for Schmallenberg virus **for exports to Kazakhstan;**
- a supplementary certificate **8471bSUP** covering assurances for Schmallenberg virus **for exports to the Russian Federation;**
- There is an additional supplementary certificate **8471cSUP** covering assurances **for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) for exports to the Russian Federation.** Vaccination status of donor animals maybe certified based on a centre vet declaration and/or review of the vaccination records. See section 10 of this guidance for further information on CBPP testing.

The supplementary certificates must be certified in addition to the Export Health Certificate. Note, there are two supplementary certificates for exports to the Russian Federation.

There are currently no supplementary certificates for the other three EAEU member states, however they can be made available should the importing country demands one. The information should be obtained by the exporter when the application is made for an import permit and passed to APHA CIT.

All parts of the certificates must be signed, dated and stamped.

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, or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

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, Environment and

Rural Affairs (DAERA).

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 Plant and Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade at Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, 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.

General information (Sections 1-3 refer)

4. **Country of transit (Section 1.7):** This refers to any country or countries, including European Union Member States, through which the consignment will pass.

5. **Certificate No: (Section 1.8):** This MUST consist of the prefix 'GB' (ISO Country Code for the UK), followed by a unique number in CENTAUR format, i.e. year/AHDO number/sequential number. The prefix 'GB' is pre-printed on the certificate. The unique number MUST be printed on the certificate; if this number is entered in manuscript, the certificate will be INVALIDATED.

6. **Country of origin (Section 1.9):** This is the country in which the semen was collected, ie the United Kingdom.

7. **Point of entering the customs terrirory (Section 1.12):** The OV must ask the exporter for this information.

8. Schedules

Section 3 refers: A separate schedule may be used to identify the animals/semen certified. This schedule must contain the same information as that required in section 3 and section 3 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) in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK.**

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 section 3 must be deleted with diagonal lines.

Veterinary certification (Section 4 refers)

9. Notifiable disease clearance (form 618NDC)

Paragraphs 4.1 1st indent, 2nd indent, 3rd indent (for brucellosis and tuberculosis), 6th indent and paragraph 4.2(a) refer: OVs may certify these paragraphs on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle or the issuing office of DAERA in Northern Ireland.

With regard to paragraphs 4.1 3rd indent (for paratuberculosis), 4th indent and 5th indent, OVs may certify these paragraphs based on his or her knowledge of the semen collection centre or from examination of the semen collection centre records or from supporting certification/evidence from the centre veterinarian.

10. Laboratory tests and completion of Sections 4.2 and 4.6

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

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the APHA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge,

Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at APHA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuick, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional APHA 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).

If tests for bluetongue are required for paragraph 4.2, samples must be sent to the Pirbright Institute. Guidance on submission of samples, including the submission forms to use, can be found at: http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick_media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the APHA 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.

For **paragraph 4.6**- The date of sampling mentioned must be **within 12 months prior to the date of first collection** of semen intended for export. In the case of bulls which have not yet completed their first 12 months residency on the centre, the date of sampling for the pre-entry tests may be used and mentioned. World Organisation of Animal Health (WOAH, formerly known as the OIE) recommended test methods mentioned in the WOAH Manual, linked below, must be used, with the exception for chlamydiosis in cattle.
Terrestrial Manual Online Access - WOAH - World Organisation for Animal Health

With regard to testing donor bulls for **chlamydiosis**, the APHA laboratories do not offer a specific test for *C.pecorum*, the serotype usually found in cattle. However, the antibody ELISA offered for *C.abortus*, the causative organism of Enzootic Abortion of Ewes, uses a multi-species conjugate and is suitable to be used for also testing cattle. It should be noted that chlamydiosis in cattle is not an WOAH-listed disease and there is therefore no WOAH recommended test. However, the EAEU authorities have indicated that use of the *C.abortus* ELISA will be acceptable to them.

For paratuberculosis, bespoke sampling and testing (e.g. using the ELISA or faecal culture) may be required.

Tuberculosis testing may include the comparative intradermal tuberculin test using avian and bovine PPD/tuberculins. It must be noted that any positive bovine reaction in accordance with the UK interpretation (i.e. a reaction of more than 2mm) must be reported to APHA/DAERA. The Tuberculin test is a WOAH approved test method.

With regard to bluetongue testing in paragraph 4.6, sampling and testing is required even if paragraph 4.2(a) (bluetongue freedom) is certified. Tests may include PCR, Virus Isolation test for antigen testing or a serological test, such as ELISA, Virus Neutralisation or AGID tests. Samples must be sent to the Pirbright Institute. Guidance on submission of samples, including the submission forms to use, can be found at: http://www.pirbright.ac.uk/files/quick_media/Diagnostic%20Price%20List.pdf

In the case of bulls which are seropositive for Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD), an aliquot of semen must be tested for virus isolation test; the date of sampling of the semen must be within 12 months prior to the date of first collection of semen intended for export.

With regard to testing bulls for leptospirosis, bespoke sampling and testing (e.g. using the PCR, MAT or ELISA) may be required. Leptospirosis testing is not required if bulls were vaccinated against leptospirosis prior to semen collection or were treated for leptospirosis twice with

dihydrostreptomycin (25mg per kg of live body weight) at an interval of 14 days. The second injection being given within 24 hours of semen collection.

For exports to Russia and under 8471cSUP, bespoke sampling and testing for CBPP (e.g using PCR, Western blot or CFT) may be required. The Russian Federation has confirmed that each batch of bovine semen to be exported must be tested for CBPP within the 21 days prior to collection.

11. Sealing of the transport container

Section 1.5 refers: The semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamper-evident 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 section 1.5 on the health certificate.

If it is necessary to top up the container, topping up should be done in the presence of an Official Veterinarian (OV) who must apply a new tamper-evident seal. The OV must endorse section 1.5 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.**

12. Disclaimer

The 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 APHA Centre for International Trade at Carlisle, via the link below:
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening

or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.