

**EXPORT OF BOVINE SEMEN TO GUYANA**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTER**

**Associated Documents: 6942EHC and 372DMR**

1. **Scope of certification**

The certificate 6942EHC covers the export of frozen bovine semen to Guyana. This certificate should be used for semen collected at an approved Semen Collection Centre.

2. **Isolation**

Paragraph IV. 2) refers. Prior to entering the approved Semen collection Centre, all bovine animals must be subjected to a period of isolation of at least 28 days in special accommodation approved by the competent veterinary authority.

3. **Laboratory tests**

Paragraphs IV. 3), 4), 5), 6), and 7) refer. Samples must be sent for testing to the laboratories of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA). The majority of pre-export tests are carried out at the Central Veterinary Laboratory (VLA Weybridge site, Addlestone, Surrey). Some tests are carried out at regional VLA laboratories. For operational reasons the laboratories involved may change periodically, for example tests for *Campylobacter* and *Trichomonas* are now only provided at Veterinary Laboratories Agency laboratory at Itchen Abbas, Winchester, SO21 1BX - Tel. 01962 779 966. Accordingly, Veterinarians should check with the VLA to establish to which laboratories samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to be received well in advance of the export date. If in doubt as to the length of time a test is likely to take, Veterinarians should seek the advice of the relevant laboratory.

4. **Treatment**

Paragraph IV. 9.1) refers: the semen for export must be treated during processing by the addition of antibiotics to produce the following concentrations in the final diluted semen:

**EITHER**

Not less than: 500 IU per ml streptomycin, 500 IU per ml penicillin, 150 ug per ml lincomycin, 300 ug per ml spectinomycin;

**OR**

An alternative combination of antibiotics with an equivalent effect against *Campylobacters*, *Leptospires* and *Mycoplasmas*.

5. **Bluetongue**

Paragraph IV. 10.2 refers. Under EU Regulations, there are a number of options under which semen can be traded if the donor animals are in a restricted area/zone. Details of these options can be found at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/traces/pdf/bt-germplasm-nfg.pdf>

6. **Sealing of the transport containers**

Note that the semen must be secured within a cryogenic container by a tamperproof seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The number of the seal should be given at paragraph III. c) on the health certificate. If it is necessary to top-up the container, this should be done in the presence of an official veterinarian who should apply a new

tamperproof seal and endorse Paragraph **III.** c) with the new seal number, giving his signature and name and dating and stamping the endorsement in the margin of the certificate in ink of a colour not black.

7. **Veterinary Officer's Countersignature**

After completion of section **IV.** by the Authorised Veterinary Surgeon (AVS) at the AI centre, the completed health certificate must be presented to the local Animal Health Divisional Office (AHDO), for completion of Section **V.** by a Veterinary Officer of the Department. The Veterinary Officer must be familiar with the operation of the Semen Collection Centre (AI Centre) and refer to official records, if appropriate, before the certificate can be signed. **Official freedom from FMD means freedom in accordance with the OIE code.** The DVM should then retain a copy for his/her records.

8. **Disclaimer**

The DEFRA disclaimer (Form 372DMR) will be issued to the exporter with this certificate for his/her information. 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 International Animal Health Division via the appropriate address in the link given below.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/general/contacts.htm>

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
1A Page Street  
London  
SW1P 4PQ

Tel: 020 7904 6353