

**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Animal Health Division**

Doc. No.	<u>Trader Notice</u>	Version	Issue Date
AHD_TN 02/2020	Export of Equine Animals from Ireland to the United Kingdom	01	31/12/2020

To: Operators exporting Equine Animals from Ireland to the United Kingdom

Subject: Export of Equine Animals from Ireland to United Kingdom from January 1st, 2021

1. Background:

Under the current Tripartite Agreement (TPA) between Ireland, France and United Kingdom (UK):

- Equine animals, except those for slaughter, may move freely between Ireland and UK without veterinary animal health certification, accompanied by a valid identification document (horse passport).
- High health status horses may move between Ireland, France and UK without veterinary certification, accompanied by a valid equine passport and a commercial document (DOCOM), with movements notified via the EU Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES).

In addition to TPA movements, other equine animals currently travelling to mainland Europe must be accompanied by an intra-trade animal health certificate (ITAHC). The equine operator completes consignment details on TRACES and submits these details to the local Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Regional Veterinary Office (RVO) for certification.

At the end of the current Brexit Transition Period, the TPA will cease to exist.

From January 1st, 2021, each equine exported from EU, including Ireland, to Great Britain (GB) will require an export health certificate (EHC) signed by an Official Veterinarian.

From January 1st to June 30th, 2021, animals may enter GB via any point of entry. From July 1st, 2021, animals must enter GB via a BCP.

From January 1st to June 30th, 2021, documentary checks on imports into GB will be conducted remotely by the UK authorities. Risk-determined physical and identity checks by the UK authorities may take place at place of destination.

The European Commission has issued three model certificates for exporting equines from EU to GB.

Two models of export certificates will be using initially by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). These are listed on TRACES as follows:

- **(GB) Temporary or permanent admission of a registered equine from the EU_GBHC168E**

This certificate is for exports of equines from Ireland to GB.

- **(GB) Re-entry after temporary export of registered or unregistered equine_GBHC167E**

This certificate is for export to GB of equines previously temporarily imported (for less than 90 days) from GB to Ireland.

The health certificate for movement of equines to mainland EU is located in TRACES under TRACES tab → **Intra Trade Animal Health Certificates**.

From January 1st, 2021, health certificates for the export of equines to GB will be available under TRACES tab → **Export Health Certificates**.

DAFM Regional Veterinary Office (RVO) processing of requests for an EU Intra-Trade Animal Health Certificate requires submission of supporting documentation from the equine operator and Private Veterinary Practitioner (PVP). Similar controls will apply to export certification to GB.

2. Procedure for Equine Exporters

Procedures for exporters include:

- a) Register both with DAFM and on TRACES - Contact: BrexitRegistration@agriculture.gov.ie
Further information for exporters is available from:
[Brexit and the Agri-Food Sector – are you ready? \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie).
Queries may be forwarded to: Brexitregistration@agriculture.gov.ie
- b) **Minimum 5 working days advance notice** to RVO to enable staff rostering for certification.
- c) Contact RVO Superintending Veterinary Inspector (SVI) to agree arrangements **in advance** of submitting EHC Part I to RVO (**Appendix 1** RVO Contact details).
- d) Log into TRACES.
- e) Under TRACES tab → **Export health certificates**, select appropriate export health certificate:
(GB) Temporary or permanent admission of a registered equine from the EU_GBHC168E
or
(GB) Re-entry after temporary export of registered or unregistered equine_GBHC167E
- f) Complete Part I ('Consignment') of the Export Health Certificate (EHC) online on TRACES. (Guidance notes are available in **Appendix 2**).
- g) **One certificate is required per horse.**

- h) Notify local RVO **by email** (**Appendix 1** RVO Contact details) when EHC Part I complete.

Subject Line: Export of Equines to GB.

This notification should include TRACES-assigned certificate reference number and any supplementary information requested by RVO.

- i) Engage the services of a **GB-based import agent** to submit **advance notification** to the UK **Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS)**.
- j) Submit advance notification to IPAFFS **at least 24 hours, and up to 30 days, before arrival**.
[IPAFFS will issue a Unique Notification Number (UNN) to the GB import agent]
- k) **Add UNN** to **Box 1.6** of the EHC prior to submitting to RVO.
- l) It is the responsibility of the equine operator to ensure equines are correctly identified.
- m) Exporter must arrange with PVP to inspect animal/s and certify health requirements. (**Appendix 3** Template PVP certificate).

Details for one or more horses may be included in this PVP certificate.

- For temporary/permanent export of registered equines, PVP certificate should issue on day of, or last working day before, loading animal/s for transport to GB.
 - For re-entry to GB of registered equines temporarily imported (for less than 90 days) from GB to Ireland, PVP certificate should issue on day of, or last working day before, loading animal/s for transport to GB.
 - For re-entry to GB of unregistered equines temporarily imported (for less than 90 days) from GB to Ireland, PVP certificate should issue on day of loading animal/s for transport to GB.
- n) RVO SVI may, on a risk-determined basis, determine that, for certain consignments, it is necessary to conduct on-site inspection of animals.
The exporter must have premises available where horses may be unloaded and examined. Stabling is also required in the event that a horse that cannot travel needs to be removed from the consignment.
- o) If RVO SVI determines that, based on compliance history, PVP certification is sufficient and on-site RVO inspection of animals is not required, the exporter will be required to submit to RVO:
- Valid passport for each horse.
 - Signed, dated and stamped PVP Health Certificate.

RVO will complete document check and cross-check with details entered by exporter in TRACES.

3. DAFM RVO Export Certification

Part II of the EHC is completed by RVO Official Veterinarian.

For **export of equines from Ireland to GB**, the EHC must issue on day of loading, or last working day before loading, of animal for despatch to GB.

For re-entry to GB of equines previously imported temporarily (for less than 90 days) from GB, this re-entry certificate must issue on the **day of loading [for registered/unregistered equine]** of the animal for despatch to GB or **last working day before loading [registered equines only]**.

The final Export Health Certificate signed and stamped by RVO must:

- a) Accompany the horse during transport to GB.
- b) Be emailed by exporter to GB-based import agent to upload into UK import system IPAFFS.

DAFM Fees: DAFM Veterinary Inspection Fee for equine export certification to GB will be **€12.50 per horse**. In light of Covid-19 restrictions, it will not be possible to collect cash/cheque payments for certification. Each RVO will forward, on a fortnightly basis to Animal Health Division a summary of certificates issued, and invoices will issue to exporters accordingly.

Additional Information

1. Procedure for Movement of Equines between Ireland (IE) and Northern Ireland (NI)

Following the Transition Period, without a TPA, equine movements between IE and NI would require health certification. However, a Bipartite Agreement between IE and NI has been agreed by DAERA and DAFM to allow movement of equines, other than for slaughter, to continue from IE to NI and NI to IE from January 1st, 2021 without veterinary certification

2. Procedure for Horse Movements via GB Landbridge

Equine operators routinely transport equine animals from Ireland via UK landbridge to access mainland Europe. After the Transition Period, equines transported from Ireland via UK landbridge to another EU Member State must comply with Customs procedures and controls for re-entry into EU.

UK Government has agreed to continue accepting transit of horses via UK landbridge accompanied by a TRACES intra-trade animal health certificate or DOCOM.

Ireland and France have agreed a Bipartite Agreement to facilitate continued movement of high health status horses between our two Member States from January 1st, 2021, accompanied by a DOCOM, as currently facilitated under the Tripartite Agreement.

Generation of the ITAHC or DOCOM on TRACES will serve as advance notification to UK government of these animals entering GB. Separate notification via UK system IPAFFS **will not** be required.

For equine animals travelling to other Member States via UK landbridge accompanied by ITAHC, the exporter should complete details under the Route Tab on TRACES → **Section I.26 Transit through 3rd Country** including details of **Exit Point** in Ireland and onward **Entry Point** into mainland EU.

Appendix 1

RVO Contact Details for Export Certification of Equines to GB:

RVO	E.mail	Telephone
Mayo	Mayo_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie	094 9035300
Cavan, Monaghan	CavanDVO@agriculture.gov.ie MonaghanDVO@agriculture.gov.ie	0761 064439
Cork	Cork_north_dvo@agriculture.gov.ie Cork_west_dvo@agriculture.gov.ie	021 4851400
Sligo, Leitrim, Longford	DrumshanboRVO@agriculture.gov.ie gerard.murray@agriculture.gov.ie	071 9682000
Wexford, Carlow, Wicklow East	Wexford_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie CarlowDVO@agriculture.gov.ie Wicklow_East_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie	0761 064413 051 312300
Galway	Galway_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie	<u>091 507600</u>
Limerick, Clare	limerickdvo@agriculture.gov.ie	045 873035
Dublin, Kildare, Laois, Wicklow West	kildaredvo@agriculture.gov.ie	045 873035
Meath, Louth	brendant.smith@agriculture.gov.ie johnflarkin@agriculture.gov.ie	046 9079030 0761 064411
Donegal	Donegal_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie	074 9145990
Roscommon	Roscommon_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie	0761 064439
Tipperary	Tipperary_North_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie Tipperary_South_DVO@agriculture.gov.ie	0761 064439
Kerry	Kerry_dvo@agriculture.gov.ie	021 4851400
Offaly, Westmeath	TullamoreExports@agriculture.gov.ie	0761 064439
Waterford, Kilkenny	WaterfordEquineExport@agriculture.gov.ie	0761 064413 051 312300

Appendix 2

Animal Health Information for Export of Registered Equines to Great Britain ¹ Animal Health Information for Re-entry of Registered/Unregistered Equines to Great Britain ²

Veterinary Practitioner to issue certificate on Headed Notepaper

1. Details of Equidae:

AGE	SEX	Colour	BREEDING & (if available) NAME	PASSPORT NUMBER

2. Premises of Origin:

Premises Registration Number:

3. Health Information:

I, the undersigned, have verified that each animal is correctly identified in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/262 (Equine Passport Regulation).

I, the undersigned, certify that each animal described above meets the following requirements:

- (1) Each animal has been examined today and found free of clinical signs of disease and free of obvious signs of ecto-parasitic infestation
- (2) Each animal was not vaccinated against African Horse Sickness¹ **Or**
Was vaccinated against African Horse Sickness on (Date)³
- (3) To the best of my knowledge, each animal has not been in contact with equidae suffering from infectious or contagious disease during the 15 days prior to this certification.
- (4) At time of inspection, each animal was fit to be transported the intended journey in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 (See attached guidance).

Signed.....⁴

Name (Block Capitals).....⁴

Date.....⁴

Veterinary Practice Stamp ⁴

¹Certificate to issue day of, or last working day before, loading animal/s for transport to GB.

²For re-entry to GB of registered equines temporarily imported from GB to Ireland, certificate to issue day of, or last working day before, loading animal/s for transport to GB.

²For re-entry to GB of unregistered equines temporarily imported from GB to Ireland, certificate to issue day of loading animal/s for transport to GB.

³Delete as appropriate.

⁴Signature and stamp should be a colour of ink that does not readily photocopy (e.g. Blue, not Black).

Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine

Guidance in respect of Point 3(4) of certificate

Fitness for Transport (Reference: Annex 1 Chapter I of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005)

1. The following animals shall not be considered fit for transport:

1. **Animals that present injured** e.g. animals with fractures, wounds, bruising, lameness, swelling.
2. **Animals that present with physiological weakness** e.g. weak due to disease, injury, starvation, fatigue.
3. **Animals that present with clinical signs of underlining pathological process** e.g. emaciation, diarrhoea, respiratory problems, nervous signs, anorexia.

2. The following additional guidelines should be used when assessing fitness for transport:

1. **Unable to move independently without pain or unable to walk unassisted:** Animals should be able to move normally and without pain and should not need to be forced to move.
2. **Severe open wound or prolapsed:** Animals should not have a wound that enters a body cavity, or a wound that is bleeding or infected. Animals should not have an external prolapse. Animals with internal prolapse (umbilical, inguinal) may be transported if the prolapse is not likely to cause pain or distress during transport.
3. **Females for whom 90% or more of expected gestation period has passed or females who have given birth within the past week:** Animals in final 10% gestation should not be transported.
4. **Newborn mammals in which naval not completely healed:** Umbilicus should be dry and shrivelled and underlying skin healed. If umbilicus is wet or infected, animal should not be transported.

Appendix 3**Guidance Notes Part I of Export health Certificate**

1.2	Certificate Reference Number Exporter may assign own reference number
Box 1.2a	TRACES Reference Number Will be automatically generated by TRACES system in the format EXPORT.IE.2021.0001234 .
Box 1.5	Consignee Country: United Kingdom (GB).
Box 1.6	Unique Notification Number (UNN) UNN issued by UK Import system must be included in this section .
Box 1.6	For re-entry certificates when returning to GB horses temporarily imported into Ireland from GB serial number of the export health certificate that accompanied the horse on entry into Ireland should be included here
Box 1.7	For equines exported from Ireland to GB, ISO Code is IE.
Box I.15:	Transport Identification: Registration (Container & lorries), flight number (aircraft) or ship name. In the case of unloading/reloading, exporter must inform GB competent (DEFRA).
Box I.16:	<u>Not to be completed</u> during period <u>January-June 2021.</u> From July 1 st 2021, equine animals much enter GB via BCP.
Box I.21:	Seal number not required.
Box I.25	Identification system: The animal must bear individual identifier to link the animal to the identification document (horse passport). Identification system (e.g. transponder) and anatomic location should be identified. Passport details should be stated and competent authority that issued/validated passport. Age: Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy). Sex (M = Male, F = Female, C = Castrated).