



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Animal Health Regulation

Fish EHCs

Narrative – certifiers

July 2021

Slide 1



- This narrative accompanies the Animal Health Regulation (AHR) fish Export Health Certificates (EHCs) webinar
- The narrative should be used alongside the briefing notes for FCCOs and OVAs on Vet Gateway
- Please note that information on the new AHR EHCs will be updated over the following months and we will be issuing updated guidance and information which will be available on Vet Gateway

Slide 2

Update – AHR

- EU making changes to its animal health laws - Export Health Certificates (EHCs) and Notes for Guidance used to move goods to Northern Ireland or export to the EU are being updated
 - EHCs for composite products changed in April - a small number of new EHCs were introduced at that time
 - 40 EHCs on Form Finder from 30 June so you can familiarise yourself with them
 - Further EHCs will be available on 29 July 2021
 - Briefing notes on Vet Gateway about the most significant changes to the new EHCs
 - For more detailed information see Notes for Guidance for the relevant EHC
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- The EU is making changes to its animal health laws, therefore Export Health Certificates and the Notes for Guidance used to move goods to Northern Ireland or export to the EU need to be updated.
 - EHCs for composite products changed in April, and a small number of new EHCs were introduced at that time as well.
 - The remaining new EHCs for all products of animal origin, live animals and germinal products will need to be used from 21 August.
 - 40 EHCs were made available on Form Finder from 30 June so traders can familiarise themselves with them.
 - Further EHCs will be available on 29 July 2021.
 - We published separate briefing notes for FCCOs and OVAs on vet gateway on the most significant changes to the new EHCs
 - For more detailed information please see the Notes for Guidance for the relevant EHC

Slide 3

Timings - EHCs

- The new EHCs will need to be used for all goods exported to the EU from 21 August
 - The existing EHCs will be switched off on 20 August - so long as they are signed before 11.59 pm on August 20, current EHCs may be used until 20 October 2021 for goods in transit to the EU
 - Products exported on the new EHCs from 21 August may require changes to Support Health Attestations earlier than August 21, so they reflect conditions of the new EHCs
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- Traders can start to use the new EHCs once they are available on EHC Online.
 - The new EHCs will need to be used for all goods exported to the EU from 21 August.
 - The existing EHCs will be switched off on 20 August. So long as they are signed before 11.59 pm on August 20, the current EHCs may be used until 20 October 2021 for goods in transit to the EU.
 - Products exported on the new EHCs from 21 August may require changes to be made to Support Health Attestations (SHA) earlier than August 21, so they reflect conditions of the new EHCs.

Fish, crustacean and molluscs

- [8361](#) replaces 8270 – this now to be used for live fish, live crustaceans and products of animal origin from those animals intended for human consumption
 - [8364](#) replaces 8249 – this is now to be used for live bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods and products of animal origin from those animals intended for human consumption
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- The new EHC [8361](#) replaces 8270 and is to be use for live fish, live crustaceans and products of an animal origin from those animals intended for human consumption
 - The new EHC [8364](#) replaces 8249 and is to be used for live bi-valve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods and products of animal origin from those animals intended for human consumption

Main changes – fish EHCs

- The most significant change is who is permitted to certify the EHC
 - If the product is of aquaculture origin, and **is intended for further processing in the EU**, and the species is listed in the legislation, an OV rather than a Food Competent Certifying Officer must certify
 - The list of species covered by this requirement is included in the Annex to EU regulation 2018/1882
 - Examples of listed fish and shellfish include named species of Salmon (e.g. Atlantic) and Trout (e.g. Rainbow), all decapod crustaceans, and European Flat Oysters
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- The most significant change concerns who is permitted to certify the EHC.
 - Our interpretation of the EU rules is that if the product is of aquaculture origin, and **is intended for further processing in the EU**, and the species is listed in the legislation, an OV rather than an FCCO must certify the EHC
 - Therefore, an OV must certify when Part.II.2 of the EHC is not deleted.
 - The list of species covered by this requirement is included in the Annex to EU regulation 2018/1882.
 - Examples of listed fish and shellfish include named species of Salmon for example Atlantic and Trout for example Rainbow, all decapod crustaceans, and European Flat Oysters.

Main changes – fish EHCs

- Also covered by this regulation certain fish, or shellfish that may act as a vector species, as they live in proximity to a listed species,
 - For example, the common edible cockle is named as a disease vector species for the European flat oyster and would require OV certification where they are in contact with (co-habiting or sharing a water supply) with European flat oysters
 - There is also a requirement for veterinary oversight of aquaculture premises to certify the animal health status of the site and in certain circumstances
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- In addition, where certain named fish, or shellfish may act as a vector species, as they live in proximity to a listed species, they are also covered by this regulation.
 - For example, the common edible cockle is named as a disease vector species for the European flat oyster and would require OV certification where they are in contact with so co-habiting or sharing a water supply with European flat oysters.
 - There is also a requirement for veterinary oversight of aquaculture premises to certify the animal health status of the site and in certain circumstances - for example the export of un-eviscerated listed dead fish from aquaculture- a requirement for clinical investigation within 72 hours of loading by an OV.

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Useful Links

Description	Useful Link
Traders mailbox	traders@defra.gov.uk
GOV.UK Form Finder	www.gov.uk/export-health-certificates
Vet Gateway - FCCOs	http://apha.defra.gov.uk/FCCOs/index.htm
Vet Gateway – OVs	http://apha.defra.gov.uk/official-vets/index.htm
Briefing note update on new fish EHCs – FCCOs	http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/fcco/Briefing-Note-0121.pdf
Briefing note update on new EHCs – OVs	http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/ov/Briefing-Note-2921.pdf
AHR composite products Briefing note	http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/ov/Briefing-Note-1021.pdf
Composite Products decision tree	http://apha.defra.gov.uk/external-operations-admin/library/documents/exports/ET207.pdf

- This slide includes useful links that will help you when certifying the new fish EHCs
- It also includes the [trader mailbox email](mailto:traders@defra.gov.uk) for questions about the Animal Health Regulation and the new EHCs

We are the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. We're responsible for improving and protecting the environment, growing the green economy, sustaining thriving rural communities and supporting our world-class food, farming and fishing industries.

We work closely with our 33 agencies and arm's length bodies on our ambition to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, and to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.



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