



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

## APHA Briefing Note 18/2022

# Guidance for colour format of non-printed additions to Export Health Certificates (EHCs)

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## Purpose

To provide information to Official Veterinarians (OVs) on the requirements in relation to the colour of handwritten additions to Export Health Certificates (EHCs)

## Background

Export Health Certificates (EHCs) are outlined in EU legislation and COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/2235 sets out the requirements for completing certificates for consignments of animals and goods intended for human consumption.

This note aims to clarify the colour requirement for handwritten additions to the EHCs and the colour requirement for the official stamps and signature.

## Contents

Article 5 of IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/2235 includes the following:

“the certificate must bear the signature of the official veterinarian or the certifying officer and the official stamp; the colour of the signature and the colour of the stamp, other than embossed or watermarked stamp, must be different to the colour of the printing”

The EU Commission has confirmed that for handwritten information added on paper certificates, the colour of signature must be different to the colour of the printing, and that beyond this there is no specific colour requirement. Therefore, handwritten information

(such as page numbers) which is added to the EHC can be the same colour as the Certifying Officer's stamp/signature.