



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 37/21

Update on Animal Health Regulation: dual running with some AHR EHCs put on hold

Date issued: 26 August 2021

Purpose

1. To provide an update to Official Veterinarians (OVs) on the new Animal Health Regulation Export Health Certificates (EHCs). This includes information on dual running of EHCs and some AHR EHCs that have been removed from EHC Online for now.

Background

2. The EU is making changes to its animal health laws, therefore EHCs and the Notes for Guidance used to move goods to Northern Ireland or for export to the EU need to be updated.
3. The new Animal Health Regulation (AHR) EHCs were due to be used from 21 August 2021 for goods moved to Northern Ireland or exported to the EU from GB. However, the EU has confirmed a delay to the date the new EHCs must be signed until 15 January 2022. This includes EHCs for all products of animal origin, live animals, germinal products and composite products.

Dual running of EHCs

4. All existing and most of the new AHR EHCs are available and traders can decide which ones they wish to use until 15 January. We are encouraging exporters to begin the process of moving towards using the new EHCs in a manner and time suitable to their business but in readiness for full switchover from 15 Jan 2022.

5. A small number of new EHCs have been removed from EHC Online for now. This is because the EU will be amending some EHCs, and some are subject to ongoing discussions with the EU regarding GB's disease freedom status. See below for the list of the new EHCs that have been removed from EHC Online. We have informed traders that they should continue to use the existing EHCs for these products until the new certificates are made available again. They will be available well in advance of 15 January 2022.
6. If traders have already started using any of the new EHCs placed on hold, and their consignment has already been certified they do not need to do anything. The EHC will still be valid for entry into the EU or Northern Ireland. If traders have made an application for one of the EHCs below but the certificate has not yet been issued, their application will be deleted and they will need to apply again, using the equivalent current EHC.
7. Changes to the rules for the certification of composite products, which took effect in April 2021, continue to apply. Traders have been informed they should continue to use the new AHR composite EHCs if they have been doing so since April. If their composite product used an EHC prior to 21 April 2021, they can now continue to use that EHC until 15 January 2022.

Timing

8. The new AHR EHCs will need to be used for all goods exported to the EU from 15 January 2022. Current EHCs signed before 15 January 2022 can be used until 15 March 2022 for goods on route to the EU.

AHR EHCs

Dairy

9. These dairy AHR EHCs have been removed from EHC Online for now because of concerns raised relating to the residency requirements for animals contributing the milk within the product. We have written to the EU about this issue and will make the certificates available for use again once we have received clarity on their intentions, or revised certificates have been published.
 - 8353 - dairy products intended for human consumption derived from raw milk or that are not required to undergo a specific risk-mitigating treatment
 - 8354 - dairy products intended for human consumption that are required to undergo a pasteurization treatment
 - 8358 – colostrum-based products intended for human consumption

Live animals

10. The AHR EHCs below have been removed from EHC Online for now as the certificates require that the third country of origin to be officially recognised as free of bluetongue in EU law to allow the OV to certify the BTV freedom attestation. We are in discussions with the EU about recognising our bluetongue freedom and the EHCs will be made available once our status has been confirmed.

- 8446 – bovine animals
- 8447 - bovine animals intended for slaughter
- 8448 - ovine and caprine animals
- 8449 - ovine and caprine animals intended for slaughter
- 8452 – camelid and cervid animals

Further information

11. There is information on the key changes to the AHR EHCs available in [this briefing note](#).

12. Further information on composite products – see this [briefing note](#).

13. Defra held webinars for OVs last month on the AHR and new EHCs. Please see the POAO and germinal products [slides](#) and [narrative](#) and the [fish slides](#) and [narrative](#) from these webinars.

14. If you have any questions about the AHR and new EHCs please contact: traders@defra.gov.uk