

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DARD)

### INTRA-COMMUNITY TRADE IN BOVINE ANIMALS FOR SLAUGHTER FROM AN EU APPROVED ASSEMBLY CENTRE FOR EXPORT TO A SLAUGHTERHOUSE IN ANOTHER MEMBER STATE – USING AN AVI AT THE PREMISES OF ORIGIN

#### NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF EXPORTERS

##### 1. KEY DOCUMENTS

Please ensure animals entering the Assembly Centre are accompanied by fully completed documents:

- **Intra Trade Animal Health Certificate (ITAHC)**
- **Veterinary Service Support Certificate (VS SPT(1) (AC) AVI**
- **MC2L movement licence and cattle Passport(s) issued by a DVO.**

The following key documents must be read and understood prior to export of animals of the bovine species for slaughter.

- |                             |                     |                             |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| • <b>NFG EXP (AC) AVI</b>   | 64/432 F1 Bovine SL | this document               |
| • <b>VS SPT(1) (AC) AVI</b> | 64/432 F1 Bovine SL | VS support certificate (PO) |
| • <b>TD (AC) AVI</b>        | 64/432 F1 Bovine SL | Transporter's declaration   |

You should contact your AVI as soon as possible to give them time to apply to the local DVO for the necessary paperwork.

##### 2. SCOPE

**NFG EXP (AC) AVI** must be used for bovine animals for **SLAUGHTER** exported from the EU approved Assembly Centre direct to a slaughterhouse in another Member State.

##### 3. OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

All bovine animals exported from Northern Ireland must be officially tagged (identified) in accordance with The Cattle Identification (No.2) Regulations (NI) 1998, as amended (see Annex A for guidance) and be accompanied by a DVO issued MC2L movement licence and Passport(s). **You must check that the Passports were signed and dated by the previous herd keeper.** If they were not, **you** must sign and date them. You should ensure that all United Kingdom tags are prefixed by the letters 'UK'. A record should be kept of the ear-tag numbers of animals entering and leaving the Assembly Centre.

Please note: industry representatives in certain EU countries require that tags bear a bar code to enable number checking with a bar code reader. Exporters are strongly advised to clarify individual importing country requirements before commencing the export process.

##### 4. ADDITIONAL GUARANTEES FOR INFECTIOUS BOVINE RHINOTRACHEITIS (IBR)

Additional guarantees for Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR) are required for export to a number of EU Member States by virtue of Commission Decision 2004/558/EC (as amended).

For exports to those Member States which are free without vaccination i.e. Denmark, Austria, Sweden, Finland, the Bolzano Province of Italy and the administrative units of Regierungsbezirke Oberpfalz and Oberfranken in the Federal State of Bavaria, the requirements at Article 3 of Commission Decision 2004/558/EC have to be complied with.

For exports to Member States which have embarked on a control programme using vaccination i.e.

the Czech Republic and Germany (apart from Regierungsbezirke Oberpfalz and Oberfranken in the federal state of Bavaria) and Italy (the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia and the Autonomous Province of Trento), the requirements at Article 2 of Commission Decision 2004/558/EC have to be complied with. See Annex B attached for further information on specific requirements.

## **5. WELFARE**

Council Regulation 1/2005 lays down the provisions for the protection of animals during transport. The Regulation is enforced in Northern Ireland by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) Regulations (NI) 2006. Article 3 of the EU Regulation requires that animals must be fit for the intended journey before the journey starts *and must remain sufficiently fit throughout the journey* and that no person shall transport them in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering. This means that animals should be healthy enough to tolerate the entire journey they are about to make (including loading, unloading and any journey breaks) with no or very little adverse effect on them and that the journey should not cause the animals any suffering or injury.

Animals not considered to be fit for transport include those that:

- are unable to move independently without pain or to walk unassisted;
- present a severe open wound, or prolapse;
- are pregnant females for whom 90% or more of the expected gestation period has already passed, or females who have given birth in the previous week;
- are new-born mammals in which the navel has not completely healed;
- are pigs of less than three weeks, lambs of less than one week and calves of less than ten days of age, unless they are transported less than 100 km. In addition, for journeys of 8 hours and over, calves must be over 14 days of age.

The certifying AVI will reject any animal where, in his or her professional judgement, there is doubt over its fitness on the intended journey. Further detailed guidance on the fitness requirements can be obtained from the DARD website [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk) or from your local DVO.

## **6. TRANSPORTER AUTHORISATION AND VEHICLE CERTIFICATION**

Articles 10 and 11 of Council Regulation 1/2005 require transporters of animals to be authorised, and Article 18 requires that the vehicle or trailer used to transport animals on long journeys has a certificate of approval.

### **For journeys over 65km (approx. 40 miles), transporters must:**

- Hold a transporter authorisation.
- If transporting horses, farmed animals or poultry, ensure drivers and attendants are in possession of a certificate of competence (from January 2008).
- Demonstrate that they have appropriate staff and equipment to transport animals in a proper way and to have no record of serious infringements of animal welfare legislation in the preceding 3 years.
- Complete an Animal Transport Certificate for each journey.

### **For long journeys (over 8 hours) transporters must also:**

- Be in possession of a long journey transporter authorisation.
- If the vehicle is used for transporting farmed animals and horses, get it inspected and approved.
- Ensure contingency plans in case of emergencies are in place.
- Ensure the Journey Log has been completed (for journeys of unregistered horses and livestock).

Application forms and further details of the requirements for authorisation and certification are

available from the DARD website [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk) or from your local DVO.

## **6. JOURNEY LOGS**

Journey logs are required for all journeys **exceeding 8 hours to other EU Member States**. These must be submitted to the DVO for approval prior to departure. The format of the log is laid down in Annex II of Council Regulation 1/2005. Calves must be over 14 days of age before undertaking a journey of 8 hours and over.

## **7. CANCELLATION OR CHANGES TO THE CONSIGNMENT DETAILS FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION**

If the consignment is

- cancelled, **or**
- its date/time of departure has changed significantly, **or**
- a different vehicle is used, **or**
- all the animals are not loaded,

The exporter **must** notify the issuing local DVO by fax, giving details of changes, so that a replacement TRACES message can be sent.

## **8. NON EXPORTS FROM EU ASSEMBLY CENTRES**

Cattle **must not** remain in your Assembly Centre for more than **6 days**.

If, for any reason cattle that have been 'moved' into your Assembly Centre on an MC2L movement licence (irrespective of whether or not the animals physically travelled to your Assembly Centre) are not exported **you must apply to your local DVO for an MC2L movement licence in order to move the animal into an ordinary herd.**

It is imperative that all animals are 'cleared' from your Assembly Centre following each Assembly.

**BOVINE ANIMALS - OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION**

All bovine animals exported from Northern Ireland must be officially identified (tagged) in accordance with The Cattle Identification (No.2) Regulations (NI) 1998, as amended. The regulations governing the identification of cattle have changed on three occasions in the last ten years. The following table summarises the various formats approved for animals identified in Northern Ireland and the age groups of cattle to which they may be applied. **Please note:** Tattoos **are not** an acceptable form of Identification. All animals **must** be identified in accordance with the below Guidelines.

<b>VALID IDENTIFICATION FORMATS FOR THE EXPORT OF BREEDING/PRODUCTION ANIMALS TO ANY EU MEMBER STATE</b>	
<b>From 10 November 2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Double tagged (one tag in each ear) bearing the same unique identification number, which must be 14 characters long.</li> <li>• Pair of plastic all-numeric ear tags.</li> <li>• Primary &amp; Secondary tag must bear DARD logo (required under EU rules). UK Country Code (2 letters) Geographic Identifier (Always 9) (1 digit)</li> </ul> <div style="margin-left: 20px;">       { District Identifier (2 digits)        { Herd Identifier (4 digits)        Animal Number (4 digits)        Check digit (1 digit)   <b>E.g. UK 9040056 0067 7</b> </div> <p>All animals going for breeding or production to any EU Member State must have 14 character ear tags. Ear tags with less than 14 characters must be replaced with 14-character tags. (Please note that animals born before 1 January 2000 currently have ear-tags with the prefix 9 (country identifier) left out of the sequence. Any replacement tags ordered for these animals will be packed out to 13 digits and will also be eligible for EU trade.)</p>
<b>VALID IDENTIFICATION FORMATS FOR THE EXPORT OF SLAUGHTER ANIMALS TO ANY EU MEMBER STATE (unless 14-character format is required by importer)</b>	
Animals born or imported on or after <b>1 January 2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Double tagged (one tag in each ear) bearing the same unique identification number.</li> <li>• Pair of plastic all-numeric ear tags.</li> <li>• Primary &amp; Secondary tag must bear DARD logo (required under EU rules). UK Country Code (2 letters) Geographic Identifier (Always 9) (1 digit)</li> </ul> <div style="margin-left: 20px;">       { District Identifier (2 digits)        { Herd Identifier (1-4 digits)        Animal Number (1-4 digits)        Check digit (1 digit)   <b>E.g. UK 90456 67 7</b> </div> <p><b>14 character tags are also acceptable for these animals.</b></p>
Animals born or imported on or after <b>1 January 1998</b> and before <b>1 January 2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Double tagged (one tag in each ear) bearing the same unique identification code.</li> <li>• Pair of plastic alphanumeric ear tags.</li> <li>• UK style ear tag which includes 3-6 digits for the Herd Number and 1-4 digits for the Animal Number plus a check letter as follows: <b>UK 581234- 2643- M</b> <b>UK 491030-2002-L</b></li> </ul>

	<p><b>UK 493-1-A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary &amp; Secondary tag must bear DARD logo (required under EU rules).</li> </ul> <p><b><i>NB: From 1 January 1998 until 14 September 1998 cattle were permitted to be identified with a single metal and matching plastic tag.</i></b></p>
<p>Animals born or imported on or after <b>1 August 1996</b> and before <b>1 January 1998.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single metal alphanumeric ear tag in right ear.</li> <li>UK style ear tag which includes 3-6 digits for the Herd Number and 1-4 digits for the Animal Number plus a check letter as follows:</li> </ul> <p><b>UK 56999-1234-A</b>  <b>UK 569-1-B</b>  <b>UK 491234-1234-C</b></p> <p><b><i>NB: For export, an animal must be tagged with an additional distance reading plastic tag (in the left ear) bearing the same alphanumeric number.</i></b></p>
<p><b>RULES FOR REPLACING LOST TAGS</b></p> <p><b>If identification is lost or has become illegible, tags may be replaced as follows:</b></p>	
<b>AGE GROUPS</b>	<b>REPLACEMENT/RETAG</b>
<p>Animals born or imported on or after <b>1 January 2000</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Double plastic all-numeric ear tags.</b></li> <li>If one ear tag is lost a replacement ear tag must be inserted.</li> <li><b>If both tags are lost the animal must be re tagged using double plastic all numeric ear tags.</b></li> <li>The keeper must notify the DVO on an MCIA in cases where the animal has been retagged.</li> </ul>
<p>Animals born or imported on or after <b>1 January 1998</b> and before <b>1 January 2000</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Double plastic ear tags must be applied (may be all-numeric or alphanumeric)</b></li> <li>If one ear tag is lost a replacement ear tag must be inserted.</li> <li>If both tags are lost the animal must be re tagged using double plastic alphanumeric or all-numeric ear tags.</li> <li>The keeper must notify the DVO on an MCIA in cases where the animal has been retagged.</li> </ul>
<p>Animals born or imported on or after <b>1 August 1996</b> and before <b>1 January 1998</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Double plastic ear tags must be applied (may be all-numeric or alphanumeric)</b></li> <li><b>If subsequently retagged with double plastic tags and:</b></li> <li>If one ear tag is lost an identical replacement tag must be inserted.</li> <li>If both ear tags are lost the animal must be re-tagged using double plastic alphanumeric or all-numeric ear tags.</li> <li>The keeper must notify the DVO on an MCIA in cases where the animal has been retagged.</li> </ul>

**NOTE:** Insertion of replacement tags must take place within 28 days of discovery and in any event before the animal moves off the holding.

**ADDITIONAL GUARANTEES FOR IBR****1. For exports to Denmark, Austria, Sweden, Finland, the Bolzano Province of Italy and the administrative units of Regierungsbezirke Oberpfalz and Oberfranken in the Federal State of Bavaria:**

- (a) the animals to be exported must come from a holding on which, according to official information, no clinical or pathological evidence of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis has been recorded for the past 12 months;
- (b) the animals to be exported must have been isolated in a facility approved by the competent authority for 30 days immediately prior to movement and all bovine animals in the same isolation facility must have remained free of clinical signs of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis during that period;
- (c) the animals to be exported and all other bovine animals in the same isolation facility referred to in (b) above must have been subjected with negative results to a serological test (carried out on blood samples taken not earlier than 21 days after their arrival at the isolation facility, for the detection of antibodies against the entire BHV1;
- (d) the animals to be exported must not have been vaccinated against infectious bovine rhinotracheitis.

**2. For exports to the Czech Republic and Germany (apart from Regierungsbezirke Oberpfalz and Oberfranken in the federal state of Bavaria) and the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia in Italy and the Autonomous Province of Trento in Italy:**

- (a) the animals to be exported must come from a holding on which, according to official information, no clinical or pathological evidence of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis has been recorded for the past 12 months;
- (b) the animals to be exported must have been isolated in a facility approved by the competent authority for 30 days immediately prior to movement and all bovine animals in the same isolation facility must have remained free of clinical signs of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis during that period;
- (c) the animals to be exported and all other bovine animals in the same isolation facility referred to in (b) above must have been subjected with negative results to a serological test carried out on blood samples, taken not earlier than 21 days after their arrival at the isolation facility, for the detection of the following antibodies:
  - (i) in the case of vaccinated bovine animals, antibodies against the gE-glycoprotein of the BHV1, **or**
  - (ii) in the case of unvaccinated bovine animals, antibodies against the entire BHV1.