

**GUIDANCE FOR CERTIFYING OFFICERS, CENTRE VETS AND DAERA FIELD STAFF
DOCUMENTS AND PROCESSES TO SUPPORT CERTIFICATION
FOR MOVEMENTS AND EXPORTS OF
GERMINAL PRODUCTS
FROM AND TO
APPROVED GERMINAL PRODUCT ESTABLISHMENTS.**

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document provides guidance to support the movement of germinal products within NI and from NI to GB, exports to EU and Third Countries. It assumes the establishments have been approved and comply with Reg (EU) 2020/686. It refers mostly to bovine germinal products though generic guidance can be extended to other species.

Another team manages approvals; for approvals queries, please contact applications.aiabp@daera-ni.gov.uk

List of approved establishments <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/artificial-insemination-ai>

2. DEFINITIONS

Abbreviation	Description	Comment
AGPE	Approved Germinal Product Establishment	EU Approved establishments: European Commission's TRACES NT platform
AHL	Animal Health Law	Applicable from 21/4/21
AIABP	Artificial Insemination and Animal By-Products	DAERA Branch that regulates registration and approvals of germinal product establishments. Regulates internal NI movements of germinal products.
aPVP	Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioner	PVP authorised by DAERA to certify specific commodities.
CO	Certifying Officer	A person authorised under Official Controls Regulations (OCR) to certify certain animals and animal products.
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	
GP	Germinal Product	
OD	Owner`s Declaration	https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/germinal-products
PVP	Private Veterinary Practitioner	

TC	Third Country	As establishments are approved under current EU legislation, which is applicable in NI, exports to countries that are not Member States of the European Union are termed Third Countries.
Trade Exports		DAERA Programme that regulates certification of animals and animal products for exports outside NI and authorisation of certifying officers.
VSSPT	Veterinary Service Support Certificate	A VSSPT provides disease clearance for the diseases described within it. It does not provide blanket disease clearance for the donor or establishments. The CO must establish all disease statuses not included on the VSSPT from official authorities outside NI e.g., TB, Br, EBL and herd/flock PVPs as appropriate e.g., BVD, IBR.

	3. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION
	<p>After 20/4/21, all exporting establishments must be approved and collect, process and store germinal products in compliance with Reg (EU) 2020/686. Check the requirements for commodity-specific establishments and donors: Reg (EU) 2020/686 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/686/2023-04-10/eng</p> <p>Before 21/4/21 Bovine Semen: Council Directive 88/407/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31988L0407</p> <p>Bovine Oocytes/Embryos Council Directive 89/556/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/1989/556/oj/eng</p> <p>Ovine Semen and Oocytes/Embryos Council Directive 92/65/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/1992/65/oj/eng</p> <p>FOR EU EXPORTS Specific commodity requirements are translated from the above legislation to the relevant TRACES certificate for that commodity e.g. If bovine oocytes collected 6/8/20, use BOVINE-OOCYTES/EMBRYOS-INTRA-B. If collected 11/10/21, use BOV-SEM-INTRA-A. If exporting product that was imported, check incoming certificate for the date of collection and Directive or Regulation that applied at the time of collection and select the relevant TRACES certificate for its onwards export e.g. BOV-SEM-INTRA-A or B or C</p>

4. MOVE TYPES, RELEVANT APPLICATION SYSTEMS (highlighted) AND CERTIFICATES						
PRE-COLLECTION: APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING THOSE BELOW:	MOVE TO ANOTHER NI APPROVED ESTABLISHMENT - DECS	MOVE TO GB TO STAY IN GB-DECS	MOVE TO GB AND FOR ONWARD EXPORT TO EU OR RETURN TO NI - DECS	EXPORT TO EU - TRACES	EXPORT TO THIRD COUNTRIES - DECS	OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED
<p><u>Bovine</u> TB, Br donor disease Clearances.</p> <p>Male: Email Field DVO for Disease Clearance pre-entry and AIABP for bull eligibility forms.</p> <p><u>Ovine:</u> Pre-entry/collection requirements including Scrapie statuses.</p>	<p>EHC 8797 Background cert</p> <p>This certificate must be issued when germinal products is moving after collection to another EU approved establishment in NI, for example from a semen collection centre to a germinal product storage establishment (these may be under the same management) or from one storage establishment to another within NI. This is to allow the germinal product to</p>	<p>GB cert from Form Finder</p> <p>GB cert required in <u>all</u> cases, whether the GP is moving to GB as a final or intermediate destination.</p>	<p>SUP(NI) is a supplementary certificate to be used only WITH a certificate for movement to GB in certain circumstances:</p> <p>If the GP is moving to GB and is intended to be exported onwards to EU, complete a SUP(NI) to accompany the GB certificate.</p> <p>This will provide the GB certifying officer with the information they will require to complete an ENTRY certificate for entry to EU or return to NI.</p>	<p>INTRA for that commodity.</p> <p>If moving from an approved store, use the storage INTRA for that species e.g. BOV-GERMINAL PRODUCT – STORAGE - INTRA</p>	<p>EHC for the country on Form Finder.</p> <p>If there is not an agreed certificate contact DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk</p>	<p>1. Owner`s Declarations (OD) for collections at establishments under your control as a centre/team vet. These provide movement and establishment information required to prepare VSSPTs by DAERA and information about other diseases and breeding history to the centre/team vet.</p> <p>Upload ODs to DECS (for NI, GB, TC moves/exports) or submit with the email (for EU exports) when applying for a VSSPT.</p> <p>2. Previous certificates When</p>

	maintain its export eligibility status.					you are certifying GP that was collected in another approved establishment, even if under the same management, EU law requires that copies of all previous certificates accompany your exporting certificate if using germinal product storage, processing or background certificates; regardless of destination. Refer to these on INTRAs at I.17

5. VSSPTS REQUIRED FOR MOVES IN COLUMNS AT (4) ABOVE						
<p>Female bovine donor: Email Field DVO for <i>VSSPT Screening Pre-collection</i>.</p>	<p>Requires VSSPT, will be identified by DAERA staff. No need for CO to request.</p>	<p>Requires VSSPT.</p>	<p>Requires additional SUP(NI) VSSPT for disease clearance of the dispatching establishment. This will be identified by DAERA staff.</p> <p>ALSO: If disease clearance for Reg (EU) 2020/686 requirements has not previously been issued, that is, if for example, bovine semen has not been cleared on a VSSPT for BOV/CAP or BOV-SEM-A-INTRA for a Background certificate, or entered NI on an INTRA or ENTRY cert, request a VSSPT for the INTRA for that commodity. There is no need to request a VSSPT in this case for the GB cert as the VSSPT for the INTRA will satisfy the requirements of the GB certificate and the EU requirements for the INTRA cert.</p>	<p>All INTRAs require a VSSPT. Email Field DVO to request this.</p>	<p>Where Guidance for the EHC states to seek 618 NDC, this is addressed in the VSSPT from DAERA. The requirement for a VSSPT will be identified by DAERA CSB staff.</p>	

			<p>In other words, you may require a VSSPT for the SUP(NI) (for disease clearance of the dispatching establishment) AND a VSSPT for the commodity e.g. BOV-SEM-A-INTRA if the product has not previously had disease clearance.</p>			

6. OTHER FACTORS THAT IMPACT ON CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT DOCUMENTS REQUIRED						
Evidence not available from centre or certifying vet.	Bovine -TB and Br	Imported GP	Reference Certificates that refer to compliance with Reg (EU) 2020/686 via the relevant INTRA/ENTRY cert.	Processing	Ovine	
Some certificates have statements relating to on-farm diseases that are not notifiable. For collections from imported live animals, note not all requirements for prospective germinal product donors are included on incoming INTRA certificates for breeding and production. Evidence to support these must be sought from herd/flock vets as appropriate,	As well as Reg (EU) 2020/686, the previous Directive 88/407 Annex B Chapter I (before 21/4/21) also requires male donors to comply for donor TB and Br diseases including never having been in a herd of a lower health status in their lifetime until the end of collection. This means that the herd cannot have been restricted for reasons of TB infection while the donor was resident there. Before Animal Health Law was	Check import certificate for evidence to support onwards movements and exports. If imported to NI from the EU and is now being exported onwards to the EU from NI on an INTRA, see the date of issue of the incoming certificate and the legislation that was applicable on it; select the relevant INTRA – A/B/C.	EHC 8797 Background; Supplementary (to GB certs): SUP(NI) GP; GP-Storage-INTRA and GP-Processing-INTRA certificates are similar in that they require the CO to check and certify compliance with the relevant regulations and INTRA/ENTRY for the commodity. The CO should indicate which INTRA/ENTRY is applicable in the relevant section in Part II of these reference certificates depending on: 1. Where collected- NI, EU or a Third Country – the GP would have entered the EU on	GP may be moved on a round trip to a processing centre on a Self-Declaration per Reg (EU) 2020/6/6 Article 32. All donor and establishment AHL criteria apply. The Self-Declaration must accompany the GP to and from the Processing Establishment. The move must be notified in TRACES. GP moved into your processing establishment and not for return to the establishment that dispatched it to you should be exported from your establishment on	Scrapie disease clearances are required amongst others referred to on the INTRA/EHC.	

<p>whether relating to farms/establishments within NI or elsewhere.</p>	<p>introduced 21/4/21, female donors were required to be from a TB and Br free herd, see Council Directive 89/556 EEC.</p> <p>Since 21/4/21 Reg (EU) 2020/686 requires that both male and female donors come from a herd not infected with TB or Br and never have been in a herd with a lower health status.</p> <p>Semen to produce embryos must come from male donors that meet the requirements of AHL, including TB /BR lifetime freedom until the end of the semen collection period.</p>		<p>an ENTRY certificate</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Date of collection and 3. Type of GP. <p>The germinal product must have had disease clearance before it can be certified as complying with an INTRA. If the GP was not collected at the dispatching establishment and has an accompanying INTRA/ENTRY certificate, then disease clearance has taken place and the incoming certificate can be used to support onwards certification.</p> <p>If disease clearance has not taken place, a VSSPT for that commodity must be requested before the CO can indicate on any of the above certificates that it complies with the INTRA for that commodity.</p>	<p>BOV-GP-PROCESSING-INTRA. Likewise, if you export germinal product for processing that is not for return to your establishment it should be certified on an INTRA, not sent with a self-declaration.</p>		

7. SUMMARY EXPORTS TABLE – DOCUMENTS REQUIRED PER DESTINATION

DESTINATION	OWNER DECLARATION Y/N	VSSPT	Bovine - TB, BR Lifetime evidence for donor required Y/N	CERTIFICATE		COMMENTS
A. IF DESPATCHING FROM A COLLECTION/PROCESSING CENTRE/TEAM AND NOT FROM A SEPARATE STORE (FIRST MOVE AFTER COLLECTION/PROCESSING) TO:						
NI	Y OD FOR THE RELEVANT INTRA e.g., for bovine semen OD for BOV-SEM-INTRA-A	VSSPT EHC 8797	Y	EHC 8797		
GB	Y OD FOR THE RELEVANT GB CERTIFICATE	VSSPT FOR GB CERTIFICATE	Y	GB CERT FOR COMMODITY E.G 2112, 2113		
GB AND ONWARDS TO EU/RETURN TO NI	Y OD FOR GB CERTIFICATE OD FOR RELEVANT COMMODITY FOR INTRA REFERRED TO ON SUP(NI) e.g., for bovine semen OD for BOV-SEM-INTRA-A	VSSPT for SUP (NI) (the supplementary cert to the GB cert) AND *VSSPT if the product has not been cleared already.	Y	GB CERT FOR COMMODITY WITH SUP (NI)		*Apply for a VSSPT for the relevant commodity and its INTRA e.g. BOV or OV-SEM-A-INTRA. This is described in a footnote in the SUP(NI).
EU - SEMEN	Y OD FOR BOV-SEM-INTRA-A	VSSPT BOV-SEM-A-INTRA	Y	BOV-SEM-A-INTRA		

EU – OOCYTES/ EMBRYOS	Y 2 ODs FOR OOCYTES/ EMBRYOS: <i>OD PART 1</i> PRE- COLLECTION <i>OD PART 2</i> AT COLLECTION	VSSPT SCREENING PRE-COLLECTION VSSPT BOV- OOCYTES/EMB- INTRA-A	Y	BOV-OOCYTES/ EMB-A-INTRA		
EU - PROCESSING	Y OD FOR THE COMMODITY E.G. BOV-SEM-INTRA-A	VSSPT FOR THE COMMODITY E.G. BOV-SEM-INTRA-A Whether using INTRA or Self-Declaration.	Y	BOV-GP- PROCESSING- INTRA – see exception.		PROCESSING EXCEPTION: Instead of intra, a Self-Declaration may be issued/ received at a processing establishment if GP is moving from an <i>AGPE</i> for processing and is intended to be returned to the sender. If the GP received at your establishment is for processing at your establishment and for onwards export to the EU, not for return to sender, issue the PROCESSING- INTRA.
THIRD COUNTRY	Y OD FOR TC CERT	VSSPT FOR TC CERT	Y	TC CERT		
B. IF DESPATCHING GP RECEIVED FOR PROCESSING THAT WAS NOT COLLECTED BY YOUR ESTABLISHMENT						

<p>EU - PROCESSING</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>VSSPT FOR BOV-GP- PROCESSING-INTRA</p>	<p>Y EMAIL EVIDENCE TO LOCAL OFFICE</p>	<p>BOV-GP- PROCESSING- INTRA</p>		<p>Instead of INTRA, a SELF-DECLARATION may be issued/ received at a processing establishment if GP is moving from an <i>AGPE</i> for processing and is intended to return to sender.</p> <p>If the germinal product for processing is not to be returned but is for onwards export the GP must have been sent to you with an INTRA e.g., BOV-SEM-A-INTRA. On dispatch from your establishment, after processing, issue BOV-GP - PROCESSING-INTRA. The certificate that accompanied it to you should allow you to indicate within the PROCESSING-INTRA to which certificate it complies to allow the CO to certify it onwards.</p>
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	C. IF DESPATCHING FROM A STORE AND THE GP ALREADY HAS BEEN CERTIFIED TO THE STORE (if not contact TradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk):					
NI	N	VSSPT EHC 8797	Y UPLOAD EVIDENCE INCOMING CERTIFICATE - TO DECS	EHC 8797		
GB	N	VSSPT FOR GB CERTIFICATE	Y UPLOAD EVIDENCE - INCOMING CERTIFICATE - TO DECS	GB CERT FOR COMMODITY E.G 2112, 2113		
GB AND ONWARDS TO EU/RETURN TO NI	N	VSSPT FOR GB CERTIFICATE VSSPT FOR SUP (NI)	Y UPLOAD EVIDENCE- INCOMING CERTIFICATE - TO DECS	GB CERT FOR COMMODITY WITH SUP (NI)		
EU - SEMEN	N	VSSPT BOV-GP-STORAGE- INTRA	Y EMAIL EVIDENCE - INCOMING CERTIFICATE.	BOV-GP- STORAGE-INTRA		
EU - OOCYTES/ EMBRYOS	N	VSSPT BOV-GP-STORAGE- INTRA	Y EMAIL EVIDENCE - INCOMING CERTIFICATE	BOV-GP- STORAGE-INTRA		
THIRD COUNTRY	N	VSSPT FOR TC CERT	DEPENDS ON TC CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS	TC CERT		THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TC DONOR AND AGPE REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING BEING APPROVED BY THE TC.

8. LINKS TO LOCATIONS OF CERTIFICATES and SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

Background certificates - for movement between NI approved establishments and Supplementary certificates – to be used with GB certs to facilitate onwards exports of NI GP from GB:
<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/background-and-supplementary-certificate-and-guidance-support-onward-trade-gb-eu-third-countries-germinal-products>

GB and Third Country certificates on Form Finder <https://www.gov.uk/export-health-certificates>

EU INTRAs on TRACES <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tracesnt/login>

Owner Declarations <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/germinal-products>