



Instructions for Movement of Horses GB-NI

Since 1st January 2021, every horse entering NI from GB requires an Export Health Certificate (EHC) and a Common Health Entry Document (CHED). The animal must be able to be identified from the information provided on the CHED A.

The steps you need to follow to ensure that passage through the Point of Entry (POE) proceeds quickly are:

- Provide advance notification of horses' arrival of 24hrs or more to the POE;
- Ensure all paperwork is completed and accurate;
- Upload good quality copies of signed health certificates to TRACES NT as soon as available.

Ensure that animals **meet the criteria** regarding residency, animal health attestations and blood sampling for the appropriate export health certificate.

Animals must be **microchipped** and have a **valid passport**.

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Full microchip numbers of the animals due for movement must be used on the laboratory submission form for blood samples (using animal's name, last 4 digits of the microchip number **will not** be accepted).

Selection of the correct EHC:

8431: Equine animals not intended for slaughter to the European Union and Northern Ireland.

8432: Equine animals not intended for slaughter for transit through the European Union and Northern Ireland.

8433: Movement back to the European Union and Northern Ireland of registered horses for racing, competition and cultural events after temporary import to the GB for a period of less than 30 days.

8434: Movement back to the European Union and Northern Ireland of registered competition horses after temporary import into GB for a period of less than 90 days to participate in an event organised by the Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI).

In case of EHCs 8431 and 8432: The clinical examination must be carried out within 48 hours of departure of the registered establishment. If the horse described in Part I is a registered horse, the clinical exam may be conducted within that 48-hour period or on the last working day prior to departure from the registered establishment.

In case of EHCs 8433 and 8434: The certificate must be issued within the 48 hour period of loading or on the last working day before loading of the animal for dispatch to the Member State of destination in the Union.

(‘Registered equine/horse’ means any equine/horse registered, identified by means of an identification document issued by: (i) the breeding authority or any other competent authority of the country where the animal originated which manages the studbook or register for that breed of animal; or (ii) any international association or organisation which manages horses for competition or racing)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/horse-passport-issuing-organisations>

The **EHC should be completed** by your nominated OV as per (a) Notes for Guidance appropriate to the export health certificate, (b) consulting the ‘notes’ section at the end of the EHC and (c) consulting latest APHA briefing.

To access notes for guidance, please see links below:

8431: Certificate 8431 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

8432: Certificate 8432 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

8433: Certificate 8433 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

8434: Certificate 8434 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

APHA BRIEFING NOTES:

[APHA Vet Gateway: OV briefing notes \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apha-vet-gateway-ov-briefing-notes)

Your nominated OV should be familiar with the requirements to complete the EHC – information as to how to complete **part I** of the EHC is found here:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32007D0240>

Reminder for OV regarding part I:

- **Box I.1: Consignor:** Give the name and address (street, town and region/province/state, as applicable) of the physical or legal person who sends the consignment. It is recommended that telephone and fax numbers or the e-mail address be given.
- **Box I.5: Consignee:** Give the name and address (street, town and post code) of the physical or legal person to whom the consignment is shipped in the Member State of destination.
- **Box I.11: Place of origin:** Place from which the animals or products come.
For animals: an agricultural holding.
Give the name, address (street, town and region/province/state, as applicable) and the approval or registration number of these structures, if the latter is required by the regulation.
- **Box I.14: Date and time of departure:** For animals: please give the date and time at which the animals are scheduled to leave.
- **Box I.15: Means of transport:** Identification of the means of transport: by air, the flight number, by ship - the name of the ship, by rail, the number of the train and the rail car and by road, the number plate of the road vehicle and the number of the trailer if applicable.

For part II: The OV signing the export health certificate must ensure that they are aware of the provisions of Council Directive 2009/156/EC on animal health conditions governing the movement and importation from third countries of equidae.

OVs must use their professional judgement to determine the level of inspection required in order to ensure that no animal is exported which shows signs of infectious disease and that animals are fit to travel to their intended destination.

Reminder for OV – Completion of the final EHC

OVs must sign and stamp, with the OV stamp, the health certificate in ink of a different colour to that of the printing of the EHC.

Each page (including schedules) should be individually signed and stamped and bear the reference number of the certificate. There is no need to fan-stamp the certificate.

Ensure that the certificate contains no deletions or alterations, other than those which are indicated on the certificate to be permissible. Any corrections applied to permitted entries must be initialled and stamped (in the margin) by the certifying veterinarian. Permissible deletions are normally indicated in the 'Notes' section at the end of the certificate, with the instruction 'Keep as appropriate'.

Permitted paragraphs and sections may be crossed out by applying a 'Z' across the section or paragraph rather than crossing out line by line (and application of a stamp & initial as stated above).

All boxes in Part I of the certificate must be completed. When a box is not applicable/optional, and not filled, please score it through.

Generally, "either/or" statements must be regarded as exclusive, i.e. that only one option must be retained in the statement.

EHC 8433/8434:

As laid out in EU regulation 2020/2235, Chapter 4 of Annex I, **Consignor and Consignee should be the owner/operator originating from EU** in case of re-entry of Equine after temporary export. Please also note that EHCs 8433/8434 are only valid for registered horses.

REMINDER FOR BOTH OV & OWNER

ANIMAL TRANSPORT ATTESTATION - Animal Welfare Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (EC) is implemented under '**The Welfare of Animals (transport) Regulations (NI) 2006**'.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2006/538/contents/made>

I. General info

Every animal should be fit for the journey that is planned and all animals should be transported in conditions guaranteed not to cause them injury of unnecessary suffering. The conditions related to fitness of animals for transport during the intended journey are set out in Article 3(b) and Annex I, Chapter I of Council Regulation 1/2005.

Animals that are injured or that present physiological weaknesses or pathological processes shall not be considered fit for transport, and in particular if:

- they are unable to move independently without pain or to walk unassisted;
- they present a severe open wound, or prolapse;
- they 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;
- they are new-born mammals in which the navel has not completely healed.

An 'unbroken Equidae' means equidae that cannot be tied or led by a halter without causing avoidable excitement, pain or suffering (Note there is no age limit on this definition).

II. Long journeys:

Definition: A 'long journey' means a journey that exceeds 8 hours, starting from when the first animal of the consignment is moved. A 'journey' is defined as the entire transport operation from the place of departure to the place of destination, including any unloading, accommodation and loading occurring at intermediate points in the journey.

Further info:

- Except if animals are accompanied by their mother, long journeys should only be permitted for domestic equidae species if domestic equidae are older than four months, with the exception of registered equidae.
- Unregistered and unweaned equidae foals which are still on a milk diet must after 9 hours of travel be given a rest period of at least one hour sufficient in particular for them to be given liquid and if necessary fed. After this rest period, they may be transported for a further 9 hours.
- Domestic equidae (other than registered equidae or unbroken horses) may be transported for a maximum period of 24 hours. During the journey they must be given liquid and if necessary fed every eight hours.
- Unbroken equidae shall not be transported on long journeys (*i.e. unbroken equidae shall not be transported on the 8 hour Liverpool - Belfast crossing).
- Domestic Equidae except mares travelling with their foals shall be transported in individual stalls when the vehicle is loaded onto a Roll-on-Roll-off vessel.
- Unbroken equidae should not be transported in groups of more than 4 individuals.
- Domestic equidae older than eight months shall wear halters during transport except for unbroken horses.
- Equidae shall not be transported in multi-deck vehicles except if animals are loaded on the lowest deck with no animals on higher deck.

III. Documentary requirements

- a. Journeys under 8 hours;
 - i. Short journey transporter authorization
 - ii. Animal transport certificate
 - iii. Certificate of competence for equidae
- b. Journeys between 8 to 12 hours within UK only;
 - i. Long journey transporter authorization
 - ii. Animal transport certificate
 - iii. Approved vehicle certificate: derogated approval or full approval
 - iv. Certificate of competence for equidae
- c. Journeys over 12 hours within UK or over 8 hours to EU;
 - i. Long journey transporter authorization
 - ii. Animal transport certificate
 - iii. Approved vehicle: full approval. Registered horses are exempt from satellite navigation requirements
 - iv. Journeys not wholly inside the UK: Journey log required for horses other than registered horses
 - v. Certificate of competence for equidae

Creation of a CHED-A on TRACES → Pre-notification to DAERA

Pre-notification must be submitted at least 24 hours before arrival at the port of entry in NI (minimum of 4 hours in exceptional circumstances).

The information on part I of EHC must be inputted onto the CHED.

Box I.1 Consignor → named person, with a full address & phone number in GB who is sending the animals.

John Smith, Doncaster, UK is not acceptable.

Acceptable: John Smith, Wescott Farm, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 XXX

Box I.6 Consignee → named person, with a full address in NI who is receiving the animals.

Acceptable: John Smith, XX Orchard Road, Ballymena, BTXX XXX

(Consignor & consignee can be the same person registered to 2 addresses, 1xGB and 1xNI)

For example - Mr. Alan Black is **responsible for the consignment (Box I.8)** – i.e. the transporter

i.e. consignor – person in GB – John Smith, EX22 XXX

consignee – person in NI – John Smith, BTXX XXX

responsible for consignment – Alan Black

Box I.9 Accompanying documents:

If possible, the **completed EHC** should be uploaded to the CHED (acceptable to upload in several parts) – if not possible, a draft EHC would be accepted. The EHC number must be recorded as a minimum requirement.

Further documents that would be helpful to identify the animal → **Passport** (marking chart with microchip displayed) or **DNA Sampling Form** (foals – marking chart with microchip displayed).

Box I.31 Description of Consignment:

While the individual identification (microchip) number is not marked with a red asterisk / deemed to be compulsory on the TRACES-NT website → **the operator responsible for the consignment shall complete the relevant part of the CHED, providing the information necessary for the immediate and complete identification of the consignment and its destination** (under Article 56 of Regulation 2017/625) I.E → A microchip number.

CHED REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE IMMEDIATE & COMPLETE IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

DAERA needs to be able to match the CHED-A to the animal that is arriving into NI, this can be done by: (gold standard = upload all 3 requirements below to the CHED)

Box I.9 → Record EHC number and upload completed EHC if possible.

And either:

Box I.9 → Upload passport – markings page with microchip displayed.

OR box I.31 → Insert full microchip number.

Without a microchip number being made available to DAERA, the CHED is not useful (i.e. DAERA has been pre-notified that a live animal is arriving but do not know what live animal).

Note: Uploading good quality, legible, electronic copies of EHCs related to each animal to TRACES NT will facilitate checks in advance of arrival and speed up transit through the port. Upload the electronic copy of each EHC to TRACES NT as soon as it is available. Late submission of health certs may lead to delays on arrival at the POE due to delayed documentary checks.

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