

**DAFM Information Resources relating to movement of equines between Ireland and the UK/ UK as Landbridge to mainland EU:**

Link below to gov.ie **Brexit Notice** on equine movements between Ireland and UK and DAFM **Trader Notice** for equine operators:

<http://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f8290-movement-of-equines-between-ireland-and-the-uk-after-the-transition-period-ends>

**Webinars**

DAFM Brexit webinars are available to view at: [www.gov.ie/agriculture/brexit](http://www.gov.ie/agriculture/brexit)

Just click on the website link and follow via pathway – [Webinars and ‘how to guides’] + [Watch back past webinars]

The equine webinar is No 7 in this listing: **How to Move Horses between Ireland and Great Britain after Brexit.**

Alternatively, a direct Youtube link to the webinars: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLDJeTLwBCHdpAwDytDS8dCsff8CepqxLJ>

**Email Contacts:**

For further enquiries, please contact [BrexitCall@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:BrexitCall@agriculture.gov.ie)

This email address is monitored between the hours of 08.00 and 19.00, from Monday to Friday, as is our Information Line – tel. (076)106 4443.

You can also check whether the information you need is available on DAFM Brexit page at [www.gov.ie/agriculture/brexit](http://www.gov.ie/agriculture/brexit).

If you have a query in relation to a specific import consignment please contact the **Border Control Post** to which you are importing:

- Dublin Port BCP can be contacted at (01) 615 7792 or [BCP.DubPort@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:BCP.DubPort@agriculture.gov.ie)
- Rosslare Euro Port BCP can be contacted at (053) 911 4157 or [RosslareBCP@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:RosslareBCP@agriculture.gov.ie)
- Dublin Airport BCP can be contacted at (01) 615 7650 or [BCP.DublinAirport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:BCP.DublinAirport@agriculture.gov.ie)

Equine operators should also contact Department of Revenue to clarify if Customs/VAT controls apply.

## FAQ Relating to the Movement of Equines Ire/UK:

### **Border Control Posts (BCP)**

*Is there an appointment system at Irish BCP's for equine departures?*

There is no DAFM appointment system for exit from ROI. Information on procedures for export certification of horses to GB is included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document).

*How many horses (what percentage) are checked for ID, passport etc. at ports?*

100%

*What would be the outcome if an equine microchip could not be scanned/found at BCP check?*

If the Health cert is valid and contains the CHIP number then it is assumed the certifying vet has read and confirmed the CHIP as fully functioning, then the information from the passport is used to cross check the ID. If there are discrepancies on the ID then further clarification is sought from the agent and OV.

*Are all Revenue officers, DAFM staff and other relevant personnel working at the ports equipped with chip scanners and trained how to use them, and check against the paperwork?*

DAFM staff in the Live Animal BCP are equipped with scanners and know how to use them

*What measures are in place to ensure equines are not queueing for extensive periods at BCPs (in Ireland)? Are there areas for horses to be unloaded and walked in the event of an issue like a delayed sailing or not being permitted abroad?*

BCP import team do not want to have to unload at the BCP. Stabling facilities are available, but the aim is to complete checks whilst equines remain on board. The only equines to be unloaded from lorries are those that need to be detained due to serious non-compliance. There is the backup of the RVOs; where technically an equine can journey to its place of destination and be under the control of the RVO, which essentially is the case for all temporary imports.

*Calais BCP is processing only three equines an hour within defined business hours; is there any suggestion of increasing capacity at Calais?*

DAFM has received no indication yet of plans to increase capacity at Calais BCP.

*Will more ports and services be open to those trying to move equines? Some routes/ferries are not processing equines – is this likely to change?*

Port of Rotterdam is expected to be approved as a BCP for horses.

Ferries that transport equines must be approved for live animal transport by DAFM. Ferry operators are reviewing on an ongoing basis the sailings and routes needed by commercial operators. Please contact ferry operators directly to clarify current status re ferry sailings and routes that accept equines.

*Are changes set to happen on 1/7/21 re un-registered horses in relation to quarantine arrangements?*

Currently, equines may enter GB via any point of entry. No quarantine rules apply on entry into Ireland from GB or on entry into GB from Ireland.

GB may, if needed, on a risk-determined basis, inspect equines at place of destination on arrival into GB. From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, horses must enter GB via a designated Border Control Post. UK government will release details of these locations in due course.

## **Health Certificates**

All horse movements from Ireland to GB require export certification irrespective of the purpose of travel. The exporter must also register with DAFM and TRACES. Information on procedures for export certification of horses between Ireland and GB are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document).

Please contact your local Regional Veterinary Office to confirm arrangements for export certification.

Please also contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie) to clarify if this movement is classed as an economic activity and if Type 2 transport authorisation is required.

*Please also contact Revenue officials to clarify if Customs and VAT controls apply.*

*Where does a vet get the relevant PVP certification template from for horses traveling to the UK?*

Details are in the Trader notice linked from the front page of this document.

## **Timelines**

*Is there a specific timeframe required from the date of export health certificate issue to departure date?*

DAFM Export certification for registered equines must issue on the day of travel to GB or the preceding working day, e.g. on Friday for weekend sailings

*Could the processing of health papers be reduced to 24 hours?*

DAFM requests that a minimum of five working days' notice be given to the local Regional Veterinary Office to ensure resources are available to deliver export certification services.

Certification for registered equines must issue on the day of travel to GB or previous working day, e.g. DAFM can issue certification on Friday for weekend sailings.

The UK import system IPAFFS requires a minimum of 24 hours' notice of the consignment entering GB.

*Is it possible to attain 30-day return papers for competition horses?*

A re-entry certificate is available for registered equines travelling to GB for racing/competition/cultural events which return to Ireland within 30 days.

*Will it be possible to complete a two-day turnaround for leisure/ non-commercial competition purposes (Ire/GB) (e.g. weekend travel)?*

Certification for export of registered equines to GB must issue on the day of loading or previous working day. If travelling on a Sunday for example, certification may issue on the Friday.

Information on procedures for export certification of horses between Ireland and GB are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK. Contact your local regional veterinary office to confirm arrangements for export certification. DAFM requests that operators give a minimum 5 working days notice to ensure DAFM has resources in place to provide certification in time for departure.

Please also contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie) to clarify if the movement is classed as an economic activity and if Type 2 transport authorisation is required.

*Contact Revenue officials to clarify if Customs and VAT controls apply.*

*Can a mare be transported on overnight ferry, covered, and return straight away using a temporary CHED?*

Horses returning from GB to Ireland must be imported with an export health certificate issued in GB and meet associated residency and blood testing requirements. Contact the GB official veterinarian in good time to confirm procedures required.

*If a horse is shipped to UK on temporary basis does it need a Coggins test prior to re-import if it is re-imported within 30 days of export?*

For queries in relation to horse imports, please contact the Border Control Post you intend using, contact details on page one of this document.

### **Temporary Movements**

*Could it be possible to differentiate between high value competition horses and permanent exports?*

For export of equines from Ireland to GB, export certification is required for all categories of equines. Registered equines travelling to GB require a certificate for export of registered equines. This model of certificate covers both temporary and permanent movements. No residency/segregation/blood testing requirements apply to the export of registered equines.

*If a horse travels to UK for racing/competition purposes twice in a 30 day period, are all documents completed twice?*

**Each time an equine is exported from Ireland to GB or from GB to Ireland, export certification will be required specific to that journey.**

*If travelling to the UK to compete/ show (temporary movement) what health certification is required?*

Export certification is required and notification to the UK authorities. For registered equines moving from Ireland to GB, blood tests are not required. Information on procedures for export certification of horses to GB is included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document). Please contact your local Regional Veterinary Office to confirm arrangements for certification.

Please contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie) to clarify requirements in relation to animal transport.

Registered horses exported temporarily (<30 days) to GB for racing/competition/cultural events may return to Ireland on a re-entry certificate; no blood testing applies. Horses temporarily exported to GB for breeding purposes will require export health certification from GB to Ireland when returning to Ireland, including blood testing. Information on GB procedures for export certification of horses from GB to Ireland are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice

on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document). Please contact an Official veterinarian in GB in good time to arrange certification.

*If transporting to the UK for a show / training with an Equine Health certificate issued before departure within the correct timelines. While there I opt to travel within the UK to an additional / alternative show at a different location. Am I free to move around the UK on the original health certificate?*

If travelling with a registered equine to racing/competition/cultural events in GB, a re-entry into the EU certificate may be used when returning to Ireland, if in GB for < 30 days. This certificate does not include restriction on the number of competitions during that period. The export certificate from Ireland to GB should accompany the equine at all times when in GB. It is important to plan ahead and contact GB Official Veterinarian (OV) who will be certifying your equine/s for return to Ireland to check in advance procedures for export certification when returning to Ireland and also check with that OV re travel arrangements during time in GB. A health certificate when issued is valid for a single journey from GB to Ireland.

Previously paperwork for transporting to the Continent was attained from Dublin (Live Trade). Will getting paperwork from RVO's complicate sharing loads with equines from 3 or 4 counties for private transporters (not commercial transporters) with leisure competition ponies (children) for temporary transport?

The process for certification for movement of horses to EU Member States transferred from Live Trade team to Regional Veterinary Offices in April 2020. Please contact [horseexports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:horseexports@agriculture.gov.ie) for details of procedures that now apply, which include equine operator completing consignment details on TRACES prior to submitting to the Regional Veterinary Office team for certification.

Please consult with your local Regional Veterinary Office re managing the process for certification of mixed consignments.

If moving horses to GB, export certification will apply. Information on procedures for export certification of horses between Ireland and GB are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document).

Please also contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie) to clarify if this movement is classed as an economic activity and if Type 2 transport authorisation is required.

*In addition, please contact Revenue officials to clarify if Customs and VAT controls apply.*

*If the planned travel route (i.e. Rosslare to France) must be changed last minute due to weather conditions for example, can the same paperwork be used for a different route?*

The certification requirements for movement of horses from Ireland to EU Member states differs to certification requirements for export of horses to and from GB, as GB is outside the EU.

Information on procedures for export certification of horses between Ireland and GB are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document), which also includes details of the requirement to notify UK import system if moving horses to GB.

*Customs and VAT controls may also apply, please consult with Revenue officials.*

If planning to travel to Fishguard/Dover for the purpose of onward travel to France, it would be possible to travel with an intra-trade animal health certificate, providing the UK is included in the certificate route plan as a Third Country transit movement, with advance notification to the Border Control Post of entry into France. Further details on landbridge movements are included in the Brexit Notice (linked from the first page of this document).

For further enquiries, please contact [Brexcall@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:Brexcall@agriculture.gov.ie)

### **Costs**

*What exactly is covered by the €12.50 per equine fee and who pays that, the owner of the equine that is exported to GB or the transporter?*

This fee for DAFM veterinary export certification services is paid by the exporter who must be registered with DAFM (and with TRACES) before applying for certification.

*What's the average cost for an Export health Certificate issued by British vet required for an equine returning to Ireland (within the 30 days timeframe)?*

This fee is determined by each individual GB official veterinarian. Information on GB procedures for export certification of horses from GB to Ireland are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document).

## ***Bipartite Agreements***

*Explain the Bipartite Agreements from (1) Mainland Europe and (2) between North and South on the island of Ireland?*

BPA between Ireland and Northern Ireland applies to horses, except those for slaughter, moving between Ireland and Northern Ireland. No pre-notification or certification required.

BPA between Ireland and France permits movement of high health status horses between both Member States accompanied by a commercial document known as a DOCOM, veterinary health certification is not required.

## **Temporary Movements which transition to Permanent Movements (or vice versa)**

*What happens if you bring an equine to the UK to compete/show and it is sold before the due return date to remain in the UK?*

The certificate for export from Ireland to GB allows for both temporary and permanent movements.

*Please contact Revenue officials re. Customs/VAT implication associated with change in ownership.*

*What are the health certificate implications for a horse that travels to the UK (GB) to be sold at public auction, is unsold and therefore must return?*

An equine being exported for a sale must have an export health certificate from Ireland and comply with GB import requirements. Information on procedures for export certification of equines between Ireland and GB are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document). An equine attending in GB for sales purposes only would require an export certificate from GB to Ireland, with blood testing/segregation requirements. Contact the local GB Official Veterinarian well in advance of travel to discuss arrangements for export certification from GB to Ireland, to allow enough time to plan. Details of requirements for export certification from GB to Ireland are included in the Brexit Notice.



## **Selling at Public Auction**

*What is the advice for vendors selling equines at public auction in Ireland that may in turn be purchased by a UK (GB) bidder in relation to health certs?*

DAFM Regional Veterinary Office teams have agreed to provide export certification services at sales events.

*Equine operators should also engage with Department of Revenue to clarify procedures and time frame for managing Customs/VAT requirements for horses sold to GB.*

*If I send a horse to public auction which is bought by a UK resident, what paper work is required by the vendor, the buyer and the sales company before the horse can ship out? Do I as the vendor need to have an account with TRACES ?*

An equine being exported for a sale must have an export health certificate from Ireland and comply with GB import requirements. Information on procedures for export certification of equines between Ireland and GB are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document).

Please contact sales event management to clarify procedures involved at sales event.

*Please also contact Revenue officials to clarify if Customs and VAT controls apply.*

## **Landbridge Movements**

What is the procedure for travelling equines to Europe, pausing in the UK (for example to take in a competition) and proceeding to Europe for further competitions before returning to Ireland?

The UK government is permitting horses to travel from Ireland via GB landbridge to mainland Europe accompanied by an intra-trade animal health certificate (ITAHC) or in the case of high health status horses travelling to France, a commercial document (DOCOM).

However, if planning to stop over in GB for competition purposes, contact the local GB Official Veterinarian to clarify the status of stop overs for the purpose of competition, as you may be required to comply with import requirements into GB, rather than travelling with an ITAHC.

### ***Not Studbook Registered***

*Could the situation for equines with ID documents (not studbook passports) be clarified regarding health cert requirements?*

Information on GB procedures for export certification of horses from GB to Ireland are included in the DAFM Brexit Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK (linked from the first page of this document). Supplementary government-issued travel ID is required for export of unregistered equidae from GB to EU; the Official Veterinarian in UK issuing the export certification will be in a position to advise.

For export certification requirements for export of horses from Ireland to GB, please contact your local Regional Veterinary Office or [horseexports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:horseexports@agriculture.gov.ie) , including your contact telephone number.

### ***Transporting Foals***

*Where are bloods processed in the UK for export certification?*

DEFRA have advised DAFM that one laboratory is currently approved for testing for Equine Infectious Anaemia for export certification- APHA Weybridge.

*What bloods are required for a foal travelling with its dam?*

Re. foals at foot, the European Commission position is that each foal must have an individual certificate. DAFM is engaged in ongoing discussions with European Commission and UK authorities re export/import of foals-at-foot.

*Will there be further discussions between the department of Agriculture / The EU and DEFRA to find a workaround to the current restrictions around travelling foals?*

There are ongoing discussions with European Commission and UK authorities re. export / import of foals-at-foot.

If resident in Northern Ireland and travelling horses to shows in the UK via Dublin what health/customs apply?

Re movement of horses from NI to GB via Dublin, please contact DAERA authorities.

## **Semen/Embryos**

*What are the requirements for stallion owners sending semen to Northern Ireland?*

Under the NI Protocol things remain the same i.e. semen to NI travels on the usual EU intra-community equine semen certificate.

What are the requirements to import semen, ova or embryos from the UK?



Equine Semen, Ova  
and Embryos.docx

Information note attached on the import of equine semen.

The semen must come from an approved establishment and be accompanied by the correct model Health Cert. 24 hours prior notification must be provided through submission of part I of CHED on TRACES NT and all documents must be submitted directly to the competent authority at the BCP of re-entry 24 hours in advance via [DAFM's Imports Control Web Portal](#).

With chilled semen, if arriving into Dublin airport BCP we recommend using an agent such as Swissport and not a freight integrator (Fedex/DHL/TNT/UPS) to avoid potential delays at the BCP. In addition, we recommend with time-sensitive products, to arrange arrival between 9-5.

For further enquiries, please contact the Border Control Post to which you are importing:

- Dublin Port BCP: (01) 615 7792 or [BCP.DubPort@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:BCP.DubPort@agriculture.gov.ie)
- Rosslare Euro Port BCP : (053) 911 4157 or [RosslareBCP@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:RosslareBCP@agriculture.gov.ie)
- Dublin Airport BCP: (01) 615 7650 or [BCP.DublinAirport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:BCP.DublinAirport@agriculture.gov.ie)

*What are the requirements transporting frozen semen (private transporter) travelling from mainland EU to Ire via UK with empty horse trailer; returning using the same route with equines on board (permanent movement) and different EU approved semen - what paperwork is involved?*

Semen advice as above. For export of equines from Ireland to EU travelling via GB landbridge, please refer to DAFM Information on landbridge movements included in the DAFM Brexit Notice and Trader Notice on movement of equines between Ireland and UK. Please also contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie) re. animal transport requirements.

*Please contact Revenue officials to clarify if Customs and VAT controls apply.*

## **Transporter and Vehicle Certification**

Please contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie) with any additional queries.

*Is a truck that is examined and certified in NI and ROI eligible to go to GB or do we have to take the trucks to GB for certification? Can you get your lorry approved in the North?*

Vehicle approval is available in Northern Ireland. Please contact DAERA for details. This approval will cover vehicles travelling to GB.

Do UK regulations re Transporter Authorisation and driver CPC apply to non-commercial (pastime) travel? If you are a private individual moving your own horses to the UK for temporary movements do you require driver and/or vehicle certification?

Certification requirements do not apply if an operator can satisfy the competent authority that travel is not associated with an economic activity. For further queries on animal transport, please contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie)

Is it possible the Type 2 certification and certification for EU trucks can be recognised in the UK and visa versa, the UK trucks and drivers /groom certification recognised in the EU?

This has been raised with the Commission and rejected. Ongoing exploration of solutions to alleviate the issues are being explored. For further queries on animal transport, please contact [animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie)

## **Bipartite Agreements**

*How are the new Bipartite Agreements from (1) Mainland Europe and (2) between North and South on the island of Ireland working?*

BPA between Ireland and Northern Ireland applies to horses, except those for slaughter, moving between Ireland and Northern Ireland. No pre-notification or certification required.

BPA between Ireland and France permits movement of high health status horses between both Member States accompanied by a commercial document known as a DOCOM, veterinary health certification is not required.