



Devon Cattle Breeders' Society

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Guidance on Export of Semen

To Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and USA

There are opportunities to sell UK Devon genetics to other countries with active populations of pedigree registered Devon Cattle, principally Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and USA. Uruguay also has a Breed Society and Canada has several herds which are registered with the Devon Herd Book, USA.

With the World Congress taking place in June 2016, and many international Devon cattle breeders visiting with potential interest in acquiring Devon genetics, it is important that UK breeders who are interested in selling genetics, take the necessary steps now to understand *if they have the potential to trade genetics internationally, and what actions they need to take now to put themselves in the best position to do business.*

Exporting of genetics, be it semen or embryos, is strictly controlled by the laws and regulations of the importing country. The regulations are specific to the country. Therefore requirements can vary from country to country.

The UK Export Certification Partnership is a DEFRA/industry partnership that negotiates export health certificates on behalf of the UK and helps to draft export certificates that are needed before semen or embryos can be exported. You can find advice on their website www.ukecp.com.

In order to collect semen that is export-compliant it MUST be collected at a licensed centre. UK Sire Services, Devon is an independent UK licensed collection centre and the only licensed centre in the south of England.

We are grateful to UK Sire Services for providing the following Check List to assist Devon Cattle Breeders, who may be considering collecting semen in the near future, understand the requirements and the steps that must be taken to collect export compliant semen.

This Check List is written specifically for export to Australia, New Zealand, USA and Brazil. Other requirements may apply for other countries not listed.



Further advice is available from UK Sire Services
www.uksireservices.com
Telephone 01803 863560. Contact Rob Wills

Preliminary Health Screening.

If you have identified a bull whose genetics you would like to trade internationally, you will put yourself in a much better position to do business if you have undertaken health screening in advance of collection. In this way, even without having straws to sell today, you can at least discuss business with potential buyers with the confidence that at the time of testing the bull meets the health criteria for destination country x y or z.

STEP 1 – TB History

Has the bull ever been on a HOLDING whilst that HOLDING was under TB restriction?

YES: the bull will not qualify. He is, and will always be ineligible for export.

NO: The bull complies with the requirements with regards bTB. Go to STEP 2

STEP 2 – IBR

Has the bull been vaccinated for IBR?

YES: the bull will not qualify (he will be IBR positive due to vaccination.)

NO: Get your vet to test your bull for IBR (ELISA test). If result negative, Go to STEP 3

STEP 3 – Schmallenberg (only applies to USA and Brazil)

You will almost certainly not know if your bull has been exposed to the disease unless you test.

Get your VET to test your bull for Schmallenberg virus (VNT test). Is the reading positive?

YES: the bull will not qualify for export of semen to USA and Brazil, but can still qualify for export to New Zealand and Australia.

NO: the bull complies for export to USA and Brazil (as well as New Zealand and Australia)

No, No, No?

When you can answer **NO** to all three steps, you know that you can confidently say to potential buyers that **at the time of testing** the bull will comply with all health requirements of country x y z.

STEP 4 – Collect semen

At a licensed collection centre – i.e. UK Sire Services.

At the time of collection, your bull will also be tested by UK Sire Services for Johnes, Bluetongue and Leptospirosis. The results of these tests, whether positive or negative, will not affect the bull's eligibility for export of semen but the licensed centre is required to test and declare the result as part of compliance with the export license.

PATRON: HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.T., G.C.B., A.D.C

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