



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



The Scottish
Government

The EU pet travel scheme: the new pet passport

What's changing?

- A new EU pet travel Regulation was published in June 2013 and introduced a new pet passport.
- Every passport issued from 29 December 2014 must be in the new format (576/2013 Passport).
- Any passport issued before 29 December 2014 will remain valid for the lifetime of the pet or until the treatment spaces are filled (998/2003 Passport).

Any 998/2003 passports that remain unissued after 28 December 2014 must be disposed of securely. You must clip the corners and dispose of them as confidential waste. If you prefer, and are happy to pay for postage, you can send them to the APHA Specialist Centre for International Trade (Carlisle).

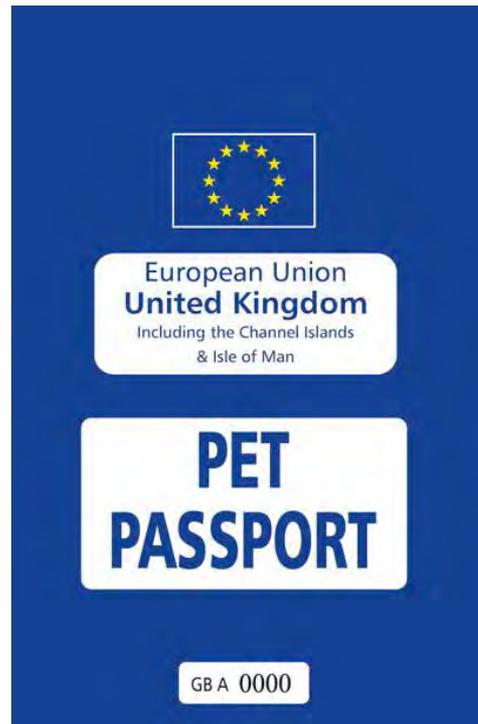
When are you likely to see a passport?

- When you issue one to clients looking to take their pet abroad
- When a client arrives for a first check-up with a new pet

It is important that the pet is accompanied by the correct style passport for the date of issue

Scope of passport

- To highlight that for the purposes of the EU pet travel scheme the definition of the UK includes the Channel Islands and Isle of Man the front cover of the passport will be updated.



Explanatory notes

- Identifies those sections that are only required in certain circumstances
- Provides information on the format of entries



Explanatory notes for completing the passport

- In each Section of the passport the following format shall be used to indicate
 - a date: dd/mm/yyyy
 - a time: 00:00
- Section III, point 5: information required where the animal has a clearly readable tattoo applied before 3 July 2011 and is not marked by the implantation of a transponder.
- Section V: only required
 - before movement into another Member State in accordance with EU animal health legislation; or
 - where the animal re-enters the Union after a movement to territories or third countries in accordance with EU animal health legislation (to be completed before the animal leaves the Union); or
 - in accordance with national legislation.
- Section V, "VALID FROM²ⁿ": information not required for booster vaccinations.

ISO Country Code + Number

Explanatory notes for completing the passport

- Section VI: only required where the animal re-enters the Union after a movement to certain territories or a third countries in accordance with EU animal health legislation (to be completed before the animal leaves the Union).
- Section VII: only required before movement into certain Member States in accordance with EU animal health legislation.
- Section VIII to XI: may be required by territories or third countries of destination which accept the passport.
- Section X: only required where the animal is accompanied by a health certificate in accordance with EU animal health legislation.
- Section XII: additional information required under national legislation.

ISO Country Code + Number

Owner's details

- The signature of the owner is now a required field in the passport, whilst a telephone number is optional
- The owner, as named in the passport, must be aged over 16

998/2003

I. OWNER

1. Name: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____

Post-code: _____
City: _____
Country: _____

2. Name: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____

Post-code: _____
City: _____
Country: _____

3. Name: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____

Post-code: _____
City: _____
Country: _____

Page 1
out of X

ISO Code MS + Number

576/2013

I. DETAILS OF OWNERSHIP

1. Name: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____

Post-Code: _____
City: _____
Country: _____
Telephone number*: _____
Signature: _____

2. Name: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____

Post-Code: _____
City: _____
Country: _____
Telephone number*: _____
Signature: _____

* optional

ISO Country Code + Number

Description of animal

- This page remains unchanged.
- Pet passports can only be issued to domestic dogs, cats and ferrets.
- Passports should not be issued to any other species nor to F1 hybrids of wild cats/dogs with domestic animals.

576/2013

II. DESCRIPTION OF ANIMAL

*PICTURE OF THE ANIMAL
(optional)*

1. Name*: _____

2. Species: _____

3. Breed*: _____

4. Sex _____

5. Date of Birth*: _____

6. Colour: _____

7. Any notable or discernable features or characteristics: _____

* as stated by owner

ISO Country Code + Number

Marking of Animal

- In recognition of the fact that a pet may already be microchipped when the pet passport is issued, it is possible to record the date of reading rather than application.
- A laminated sheet will be provided and needs to cover this page.
- Once laminated, the microchip number cannot be changed. If a mistake is made on this page before the lamination is sealed then the incorrect entry can be amended but must be signed and stamped by the OV. If a mistake is not identified until after the lamination is sealed then a new passport will need to be issued.
- In cases where a microchip is only working intermittently we recommend that a new chip is inserted. In these cases a new passport should be issued with both microchip numbers recorded on this page and covered by the lamination. In the OTHERS section of the passport you should write: "On (date), I scanned and read microchip number (original). Upon gaining a reading, I inserted microchip number (new) on the same day, in accordance with Defra requirements."

998/2003

III. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMAL

1. Microchip Number:

2. Date of Microchipping:

3. Location of Microchip:

4. Tattoo Number:

5. Date of Tattooing:

The identification must be verified before any new entry is made on this passport

ISO Code MS + Number

576/2013

III. MARKING OF ANIMAL

1. Transponder alphanumeric code

2. Date of application or reading* of the transponder

3. Location of the transponder

4. Tattoo alphanumeric code

5. Date of application/date of reading of the tattoo
_____/_____/_____

6. Location of the tattoo

The marking must be verified before any new entry is made on this passport

* delete as necessary

ISO Country Code + Number

Issuing of the Passport

- The passport is issued when Sections I, II, III and IV are completed.
- In a 998/2003 passport the date of microchip implantation or reading in Section III should be before 29 December 2014.

This page must be completed by an OV and the OV stamp used

576/2013

IV. ISSUING OF THE PASSPORT

Name of the authorised veterinarian: _____

Address: _____

Post-code: _____

City: _____

Country: _____

Telephone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Date of issuing: _____

STAMP & SIGNATURE

ISO Country Code + Number

V. VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES

MANUFACTURER & NAME OF VACCINE	BATCH NUMBER	VACCINATION DATE ¹ VALID FROM ² VALID UNTIL ³	AUTHORISED VETERINARIAN
		1 2 3	 
		1 2 3	 

* At least name, address, telephone number and signature.

IV. VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES

MANUFACTURER & NAME OF VACCINE	BATCH NUMBER	VACCINATION DATE ¹ VALID UNTIL ²	AUTHORISED VETERINARIAN
		1 2	
		1 2	
		1 2	

Rabies Vaccination

- A 'valid from' field has been introduced:
 - This is in recognition of the fact that the vaccine takes time to take effect and offer protection to the pet
 - This is the date from which the pet is able to travel and should be 21 days after vaccination. The date of vaccination counts as day 0 (not day 1) and the pet can travel from 21 days after vaccination. As an example, a pet vaccinated on 1 September (day 0) can travel from 22 September (day 21).
 - This box does not need to be completed for booster vaccinations, providing that vaccination took place on or before the 'valid until' date of the previous vaccine.
- When certifying these treatments OV's should ensure that all the required information is included.
- **The pet must be microchipped before being vaccinated. If the pet was vaccinated before microchipping it will need to be vaccinated again.**

This page must be completed by an OV. The following information must be included in the 'authorised veterinarian' box: name, address, telephone number and signature. You can either use or a stamp or write these details by hand. Do not use your OV stamp (as this does not contain the required information) but please write your SP number in or near the entry.

Rabies Serological Test

- Pets travelling to unlisted third countries and returning to the EU must have a blood sample taken at least 30 days after vaccination (with the date of vaccination counting as day 0) and details of a successful serological test recorded on this page of the passport.
- Some pets who travelled before January 2012 were sampled before 30 days elapsed so you should check that pets with older passports remain compliant.
- The format of this page has changed and the telephone number of the vet is also now required.

998/2003

V. RABIES SEROLOGICAL TEST

I have seen an official record of the result of a serological test for the animal, carried out on a sample taken on (dd/mm/yyyy) _____, and tested in an EU-approved laboratory, which states that the rabies neutralising antibody titre was equal to or greater than 0.5 IU/ml.

Name, date and signature of the authorised Veterinarian:

STAMP & SIGNATURE

ISO Code MS + Number

576/2013

VI. RABIES ANTIBODY TITRATION TEST

I, the undersigned, confirm that I have seen an official record stating that the rabies antibody titration test performed at an EU-approved laboratory on a sample of blood collected on the date mentioned below from the above described animal proved a response to anti-rabies vaccination at a level of serum neutralising antibody equal to or greater than 0.5 IU/ml.

ISO Country Code + Number

Sample collected on: _____

Name of the authorised veterinarian: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Date: _____

STAMP & SIGNATURE

This page must be completed by an OV and the OV stamp used.

Echinococcus treatment and 'other anti-parasite' treatment pages

- These pages remain unchanged
- The number of EM treatment spaces available has been increased to 28, which will benefit frequent travellers

576/2013

VII. ANTI-ECHINOCOCCUS TREATMENT			VIII. OTHER ANTI-PARASITE TREATMENTS		
MANUFACTURER & NAME OF PRODUCT	DATE ¹ TIME ²	VETERINARIAN	MANUFACTURER & NAME OF PRODUCT	DATE ¹ TIME ²	VETERINARIAN
ISO Country Code + Number	1	STAMP & SIGNATURE	ISO Country Code + Number	1	STAMP & SIGNATURE
	2			2	
ISO Country Code + Number	1	STAMP & SIGNATURE	ISO Country Code + Number	1	STAMP & SIGNATURE
	2			2	
ISO Country Code + Number	1	STAMP & SIGNATURE	ISO Country Code + Number	1	STAMP & SIGNATURE
	2			2	

These pages can be completed
by any veterinarian

Clinical examination (new wording):

- This section is not required for travel into and within the EU but may be required by some third countries that accept the passport and by transport companies.
- In the case of a pet being exported, check with APHA (Specialist Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) about the specific requirements of the importing country.
- An alternative form of words for certifying that an animal is fit to travel is available on the BVA website.

998/2003

IX. CLINICAL EXAMINATION

	DECLARATION	DATE	VETERINARIAN
ISO Code MS + Number	The animal is in good health and able to withstand carriage to its destination		STAMP & SIGNATURE
	The animal is in good health and able to withstand carriage to its destination		STAMP & SIGNATURE
	The animal is in good health and able to withstand carriage to its destination		STAMP & SIGNATURE
	The animal is in good health and able to withstand carriage to its destination		STAMP & SIGNATURE

576/2013

X. CLINICAL EXAMINATION

	DECLARATION	DATE	AUTHORISED VETERINARIAN
ISO Country Code + Number	The animal shows no signs of diseases and is fit to be transported for the intended journey		
	The animal shows no signs of diseases and is fit to be transported for the intended journey		
	The animal shows no signs of diseases and is fit to be transported for the intended journey		
	The animal shows no signs of diseases and is fit to be transported for the intended journey		

* At least name, address, telephone number and signature.

This page must be completed by an OV. The following information must be included in the 'authorised veterinarian' box: name, address, telephone number and signature. You can either use or a stamp or write these details by hand. Do not use your OV stamp (as this does not contain the required information) but please write your SP number in or near the entry.

Recap: who can complete the passport?

- Section IV: Must be completed by an OV and the OV stamp used
- Section V – Vaccination against rabies: Must be completed by an OV, but the OV stamp should no longer be used in this field. A private practice stamp may be used but it must contain the relevant information and not obscure the signature. The SP number should then be handwritten in the box.
- Section VI – Rabies serology: to be completed by an OV and certified using the OV stamp
- Section VII – Echinococcus treatment: can be completed by any veterinarian
- Section VIII – Other parasite treatments: can be completed by any veterinarian
- Section IX – Other vaccinations: can be completed by any veterinarian
- Section X – Clinical examination: must be completed by an OV, but the OV stamp should no longer be used in this field. A private practice stamp may be used but it must contain the relevant information and not obscure the signature. The SP number should then be handwritten in the box.

The veterinarian who certifies the treatment in the passport does not need to be the same veterinarian who carried it out.

Who is responsible for compliance?

- It is the responsibility of the pet owner to ensure that their pet is fully compliant with the rules of the EU pet travel scheme.
- That said, veterinarians are uniquely placed to assist pet owners and help ensure that they have a trouble-free journey.

Security features of the new pet passport

- A laminated page will be provided which needs to cover Section III (Marking of the Animal)
- In addition, where details of the rabies vaccination or tapeworm treatment take the form of a sticker these must also be covered by a laminated strip (a supply of these will be included in the pet passport)
- A unique passport number will be included on every page and APHA will continue to keep records of those passports issued to OV's.

Record keeping requirements

The following information must be retained by the issuing vet for at least three years. It is fine for this information to be held as part of the normal records of the practice where the client is registered, we will not require this information to be held separately.

- The **location of the transponder** or the tattoo, and **date of application/date of reading** as well as the **microchip number** or details of tattoo.
- The **name, species, breed, sex, colour, DOB** as stated by the owner and **any notable or discernable features of the pet animal.**
- The **name and contact information** of the owner.
- The **passport number**



How old should a pet be before travelling?

- The new EU Regulation requires pets to be at least 12 weeks old when vaccinated.
- Whilst some EU countries will allow young, unvaccinated pets to travel (subject to certain conditions) the UK does not permit this.
- This means that from 29 December 2014 no pet can enter the UK unless they are 15 weeks old (12 weeks + 21 day wait).



How many pets can one person travel with?

- Pets must be accompanied either by their owner (as named in the passport) or by a person authorised in writing by the owner.
- The owner or authorised person can only be accompanied by a maximum of five pets.
- Anyone wishing to travel with more than five pets will need to comply with the rules of the trade regime (Balai Directive). Further information is available: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-trade/imports-non-eu/iins/live-animals/iins-other-animals-balai/iin-bllv-5/>
- The only exception to this rule is where the pets are travelling to take part in a competition, show, sporting event or training for such an event. In these situations the pets must be aged over six months and written evidence of attendance/registration provided.



Important points to remember:

- Entries in the passport should be completed in a colour other than black.
- Incorrectly completed passports can lead to expensive delays for pet owners because non-compliant pets will not be allowed to re-enter the UK. Common failures include:
 - Errors in the order of preparation (e.g. the pet was vaccinated before being microchipped)
 - Microchip failure
 - Treatments that have been entered on the wrong page of the passport, or around the edge of a page
 - Missing information, such as the time at which the EM treatment was administered or the date of microchip implantation/reading
 - Errors which have been corrected but not certified by the vet (e.g. mistakes when transcribing microchip numbers)
 - Entries in the passport have not been correctly certified (e.g. the vet has not signed to confirm rabies vaccination details)
- From 29 December 2014 pets must be at *least* 12 weeks of age when vaccinated against rabies. The manufacturer's instructions may require the pet to be older (e.g. 3 calendar months)
- Before making any entries in the passport you should scan the pet's microchip. This will confirm the pet's identity and also enable you to check that the microchip is still functioning.
- Where dog owners are travelling abroad for day trips, or short visits, the EM treatment can be administered in the UK (so long as it falls within the 24-120 hour window). However, in these situations it is recommended that a follow up treatment is administered 28 days later. It is preferable that the treatment is administered in the country of final departure and you should encourage your clients to consider how they will arrange for this to take place.
- Whilst the tick treatment is no longer a legal requirement, pet owners should be encouraged to treat their pet regularly against parasites and you should discuss with them what other treatments are necessary to safeguard the health of their pet while travelling.



In the case of a suspected illegal landing

If you suspect that an animal is not compliant with the rules of the EU pet travel scheme you should contact Trading Standards.

- A postcode search facility is available at <https://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/advice>
- In Greater London (the 33 Greater London Authorities) you should contact the City of London Animal Health and Welfare Team on 020 8745 7894
- If you require further guidance please call your regional APHA office

Animals suspected of being illegal imports may include:

- Any animal imported into the UK that fails to comply with the EU pet travel rules
- Any animal found trapped in vehicles or containers that have come from another country
- Any animal notified as being illegally imported by members of the public
- A stray found in the vicinity of ports/airports where an owner cannot be found

Foreign microchips:

- A foreign microchip is not necessarily evidence that an animal has been imported (it indicates where the microchip was manufactured). The microchip may have been purchased and implanted in the UK. An animal with a foreign microchip may also have been legally imported, strayed and then re-homed.

Suspecting that a dog has been illegally imported is not the same as suspecting it has rabies

Rabies is a notifiable disease

If you encounter an animal you suspect of having rabies you should contact APHA **immediately**

To enable the case to be investigated appropriately it is important that:

- A report is made to APHA as soon as suspicion is raised
- APHA will advise you of any action you should take but it is important you do not place yourself at risk or cause any delay to the investigation. Do not carry out any procedures unless unavoidable (e.g. for animal welfare reasons).
- APHA will first determine whether suspicion can be ruled out based on available evidence including clinical signs; **they can only do this if the animal is still alive.**

An APHA postcode search facility is available at: <http://apha.gov.uk/postcode/index.asp>

Further information

- For further information on the EU pet travel scheme please see:
 - <https://www.gov.uk/pet-travel-information-for-pet-owners>
- If you need more information on the completion of the pet passport please contact the APHA Specialist Centre for International Trade via pettravel@apha.gsi.gov.uk