

To all Scottish cattle farmers

Hello

Monday 4th October – full switchover to ScotEID for all Scottish cattle

You will have received a letter from the Scottish Government informing all cattle keepers in Scotland that the Cattle Tracing System (CTS) is to be replaced. CTS is now about 25 years old, which in computing terms is rather ancient, so the time has come to replace it.

In Scotland much of the work of BCMS will be carried out by ScotEID as from Monday the 4th of October. Wales and England are currently building their own systems and will transfer in due course. ScotEID will share data with CTS until it is decommissioned and cross border data with the new systems when they come on stream, much as we do now for sheep and pig data.

ScotEID already manages cattle data using ScotMoves recording within-business cattle moves to summer grazing and winter accommodation. Also the successful industry-led BVD eradication scheme and the QMS Scotch eligibility cattle checker (SPECC), so we are very familiar with cattle registration and movement.

To replace CTS all that is being added to the current ScotMoves is for farmers to record their calf registrations, on farm deaths and passport moves from farm business to farm business. Scottish markets and abattoirs record about 80% of all of business-to-business (passport) moves within Scotland on behalf of their clients and will continue to do so. Over these past few months ScotEID have been working with abattoirs and markets who have already started to transfer their data to ScotEID.

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The new system for cattle is called ScotMoves+, the + being calf registrations, on farm deaths and passport moves. This brings the development of ScotEID to be the complete 'All Species' data system, recording Sheep, Goats, Pigs and Cattle, able to track and trace all farmed animals within Scotland and across the border in real time, which is a game changer in terms of managing disease prevention and control.

For those farmers who use farm software packages for recording cattle, we have been working with the various software companies and have prepared the software interface for them to use for sending and receiving data. Please be in-touch with your software provider to ask if any update is required for your software package.

Farmers recording both the off and on move location of their cattle on ScotMoves+, as they do currently in their farm register but not on CTS, means that ScotMoves+ will provide keepers with an online register in the future as an accurate record of cattle births, deaths and movements. ScotMoves+ also paves the way for the introduction of 'WYSIWYG' cattle EID within the next couple of years, which in turn will allow the removal of cattle passports.

Roughly half of all cattle farmers already use ScotMoves to record moves to their additional holdings for summer grazing or winter feeding, and they will not need to register for ScotMoves+, we already have your details.

For cattle farmers who don't use ScotMoves we will post a one-time passcode to use when registering online, this is to confirm who you are when you select ScotMoves+ for the first time. So please lookout for your passcode within the next couple of weeks.

As you can probably imagine, this move to a new system is complex, and with 11,500 Scottish cattle farmers it is inevitable that there will be a few wee glitches along the way. The ScotEID help team based in Huntly will be on hand to help with any complications that may arise, the telephone number is 01466 794323.

We have prepared and enclosed a comprehensive Q&A booklet for you, which I hope will help with the questions you have. This is also available online at www.scoteid.com and you can access it from your mobile phone by scanning the QR code below.

Finally, many thanks to all the farmers, our industry stakeholder group, Scottish Government and BCMS for their help and guidance along the way towards this switchover, and we will endeavour to make it as simple and hassle free as possible.

Yours faithfully



Bob Yuill
Director

QR code to scan with your mobile to see the Q & A online

