

# Common Grazing Dilemmas - No 2



Farm  
Advisory  
Service

In this series, we look at some different dilemmas facing Common Grazings and some ideas for resolution.

## Shareholders are ignoring the Common Grazing regulations

The committee are responsible for managing the grazings, basically this requires avoidance of over or under grazing.

If the total stock numbers on the grazings do not exceed the combined maximum souming the committee could opt to do nothing.

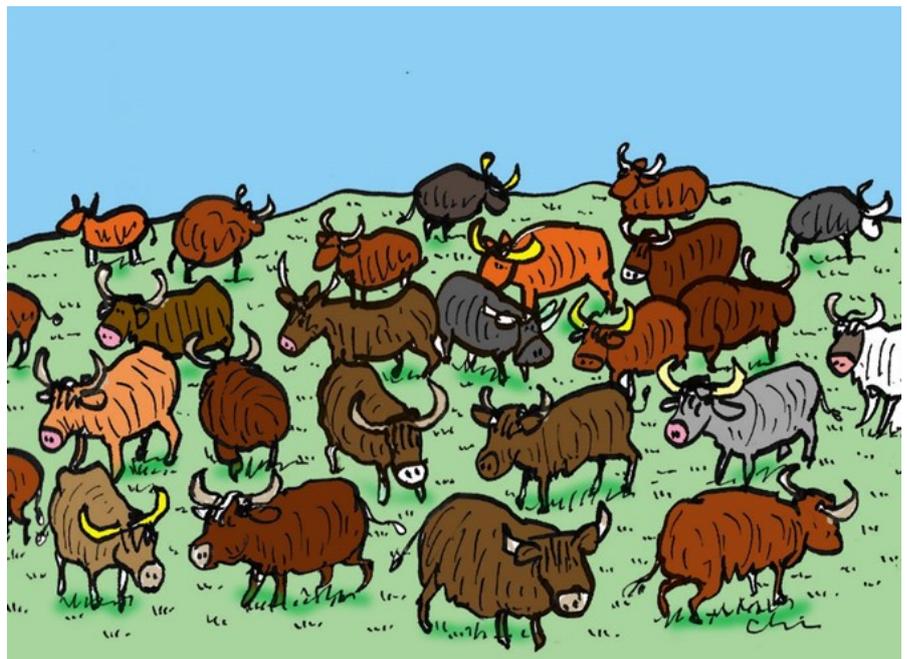
If the maximum souming is being exceeded the committee could ask the clerk to write to the owner of the cattle requesting the excess are removed.

It is also possible for the owner of the extra cattle to be asked to pay a fee for using another shareholder's unused souming with the fee being used for committee expenses or passed to the other shareholder. It is within the remit of most committees through their regulations to take this action.

In the event that a shareholder refuses or fails to remove stock when formally requested by the committee, they may report the matter to the Crofting Commission.

The Commission's authority allows it to suspend or (in extreme circumstances only) terminate a shareholders rights in the grazing after it has carried out an investigation and usually allowed the shareholder time to remedy the situation.

It may be considered good practice to re-allocate unused souming as an annual function of the committee.



If you have further questions about how to manage your own Common Grazings, visit our [common grazings page](#) on [www.FAS.Scot](http://www.FAS.Scot) or call our advice line on 0300 323 0161 or email [advice@fas.scot](mailto:advice@fas.scot)

