# News from the Farm Advisory Service:





## Cattle & sheep record keeping video series

**Do you find keeping up with livestock record keeping regulations challenging? Our video series will guide you through the key requirements to ensure your business is compliant with the legislative and traceability regulations.**

Our series includes videos on:

- Identification tagging
- Sheep & cattle movements
- Sheep tag replacements
- 13 day standstill for movements
- Medicine records

**Visit our series by using the QR code or the link below**
**www.fas.scot/livestock/**

## Scottish Suckler Beef Support Scheme 2024 is still open for applications

Apply online, it's quick, easy and reduces ear tag errors

**www.ruralpayments.org**

## The value of an Integrated Land Management Plan (ILMP)

**Would your farm or croft benefit from an experienced advisor's support to ensure profitability and sustainability? Perhaps you are a new entrant wanting a strong start. Through the Farm Advisory Service (FAS), you can choose an expert consultant to carry out an Integrated Land Management Plan (ILMP). They will provide a full review, which assesses business strengths and weaknesses and provides a financial performance analysis, and a basic habitat, biodiversity, and conservation review.**

An ILMP can drive real change. Last year, **99%** of farmers rated advisors' working practices as excellent or good, and 95% rated the report quality similarly. They saw improvements in livestock and crop production, better profit margins, and improved planning and decision-making. **80%** said they planned to implement **all recommended actions.**

The Scottish Government funds up to £2,000 to cover up to 100% of costs for businesses under five years old, and up to 80% of the cost for more established businesses. All businesses registered with Scotland Rural Payments and Services with a Business Reference Number are eligible.

To learn more and apply for funding, visit **www.fas.scot/advice-grants**. For further information and help choosing an advisor, contact **advice@fas.scot** or **0300 323 0161.**

## Most common breaches in livestock inspections

**The Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate (SGRPID) conduct livestock inspections throughout the autumn and winter months. This year's inspections are already underway and now is an opportune time to check that your livestock records comply with the legislation. The best way to avoid potential penalties is to reflect on any previous failings and to take corrective action to ensure these failings are not repeated.**

2023 Cross Compliance inspection statistics reveal that there were **814** breaches of Cattle Identification and Traceability rules and **714** breaches of Sheep and Goat Identification rules. Of these breaches **333** resulted in reductions being applied to support scheme payments ranging from 1% to 100%.

The common failings found at inspections include:

### Cattle

- Animal incorrectly tagged or missing tags.
- Failure to notify birth, movements or deaths within legislative deadlines.
- Incorrect data notified to database (birth/death/movement dates, dam ID, breed or sex).
- Animals not found on holding or in farm records.

### Sheep

- Animals missing one or both sets of tags.
- Failure to record complete movement details.
- Not maintaining a record of identification
- Failing to record death details.
- Not submitting the annual inventory by 30th January.
- Failure to tag (or tagging incorrectly) animals before leaving a holding or reaching the appropriate age.

A 28-day replacement tag letter will be issued where there are missing or illegible tags discovered at inspection. A reduction to support payments is not applied where remedial action is taken to replace missing identification within the 28 days.

***Hazel Laughton & Carol-Anne Warnock, SAC Consulting***



## Free Events

At the Farm Advisory Service we run a range of events both online and in-person.

Visit **www.fas.scot/events** to sign up or contact the advice line and we'll help you get booked on.

**WiA Caithness - New Year, New You**
**Halkirk, 9th December, 11:00am - 2:00pm**

**The Cow of the Future Part 3 - How Do We Get There?**
**Online, 10th December, 7:30pm - 8:30pm**

**Nutrient Management Workshop - Dumfries**
**Dumfries, 11th December, 11:00am - 2:30pm**

**Mungoswells Farm & Mill Organic Virtual Farm Tour**
**Online, 11th December, 7:30pm - 9:30pm**

**Sustainable Sheep Systems - Consumer & Animal Health**
**Online, 17th December, 7:00pm - 8:00pm**

## Livestock records - helping you with compliance

**To help you ensure your records comply with legisltation, see below for top tips and further information on how to ensure the inspections go as smoothly as possible.**

To get a refresh on the cattle and sheep tagging and record keeping requirements, visit the FAS Website by scanning the QR codes or visiting the links below:

### Sheep Records Top Tips



- Submit annual inventory by 30th January.
- Annual inventory is now online only and can be found at **scoteid.com/survey**
- Ask SAMU to return a list of reported movements and cross check with your records.
- Ensure all sheep are tagged in accordance with legislation.

Guides and information can be found at:
**www.fas.scot/livestock/sheep/record-keeping/**

### Cattle Records Top Tips



- Log into ScotEID and download a list of cattle on the holding.
- Cross reference this list with passports on farm.
- Cross reference with the cattle on farm.
- Check all cattle have two ear tags which comply with legislation.

Guides and information can be found at:
**www.fas.scot/livestock/beef-cattle/record-keeping/**

***Hazel Laughton & Carol-Anne Warnock, SAC Consulting***

*Scotland's Farm Advisory Service is funded by the Scottish Government. It is delivered by SAC Consulting, part of Scotland's Rural College, and Ricardo Energy and Environment.*

SRDP Farm Advisory Service

**National Advice Hub**
**T: 0300 323 0161**
**E: advice@fas.scot**
**W: www.fas.scot**

If you need more advice on any topic, the Farm Advisory Service has a range of support and help available:

### Advice line

For free telephone advice on a wide variety of topics including cross compliance, water framework directive requirements, climate change and other technical issues call us on **0300 323 0161** or email **advice@fas.scot**. The advice line operates between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

### Bespoke Advice and Grants

FAS can also help you to increase the profitability and sustainability of your farming business through Scottish Government grants including Integrated Land Management Plans (ILMPs) – worth up to £2,000.

The ILMP will identify opportunities and cost savings for your business, based on an independent and confidential assessment of your business by an experienced farm business adviser of your choosing. As part of your plan you can choose to benefit from up to two further specialist advice plans.

### Online

Our website contains articles, videos and much more at **www.fas.scot**

SAC CONSULTING Part of Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)
Scottish Government Riaghaltas na h-Alba gov.scot