Cross compliance checklist SMR 7 - Cattle identification and registration

The aim of SMR 7 rules is to maintain a robust system for the identification, registration and traceability of cattle.

Adhering to these regulations is both a legal and cross compliance obligation for all cattle keepers. Full livestock identification and traceability guidance is available on the Scottish Government website. Scottish cattle keepers record cattle births, deaths and movements on the ScotEID website under the menu option ScotMoves +. Within business moves, i.e., to and from a grazing or wintering where the 'keepership' remains the same, are also recorded on the ScotEID website using the alternative menu option ScotMoves.

To ensure you are compliant with the regulations, answer each question below with a yes, no or n/a to help check if you have adhered to the rules. If the rules are applicable to you, and you are compliant, your answers to the questions should be yes.

Picture above: Ear tagged calf

Tagging

- Have your dairy calves been tagged with one ear tag within 36 hours of birth and a second ear tag within 20 days of birth?

- Have all other calves been tagged with 20 days of birth, or before they leave the holding, if this is sooner?

- Do all animals leaving your holding have two tags?

- Have you replaced illegible or lost ear tags within 28 days of noticing the damage or loss, or before the animal leaves the holding, if this is sooner?

Note: Regularly check cattle for illegible or lost ear tags, order and replace them within 28 days.

Passports and registration

- Have you notified ScotMoves+ of births on your holding within seven days of tagging by making an application for a passport through an approved channel?

- Have you registered cattle imported from within the EU, but outside Great Britain, within 15 days of its arrival on your holding by sending the foreign passport/movement document to ScotMoves+ and making an application for a passport?

- Have you registered cattle imported from outside the EU within 15 days of tagging the animal and no later than 35 days from its release from import checks by making an application for a passport from ScotMoves+?

- Do you have a signed and valid passport for every animal in your care?

- When cattle are moved off your holding are they accompanied with their completed and signed cattle passports?

Notification of movements and deaths

- Have you notified ScotMoves+ of movements of cattle onto and off your holding within three days of the movement? This applies to external and within business movements.

- Have you notified ScotMoves+ of cattle deaths on your holding within seven days of the date of death?
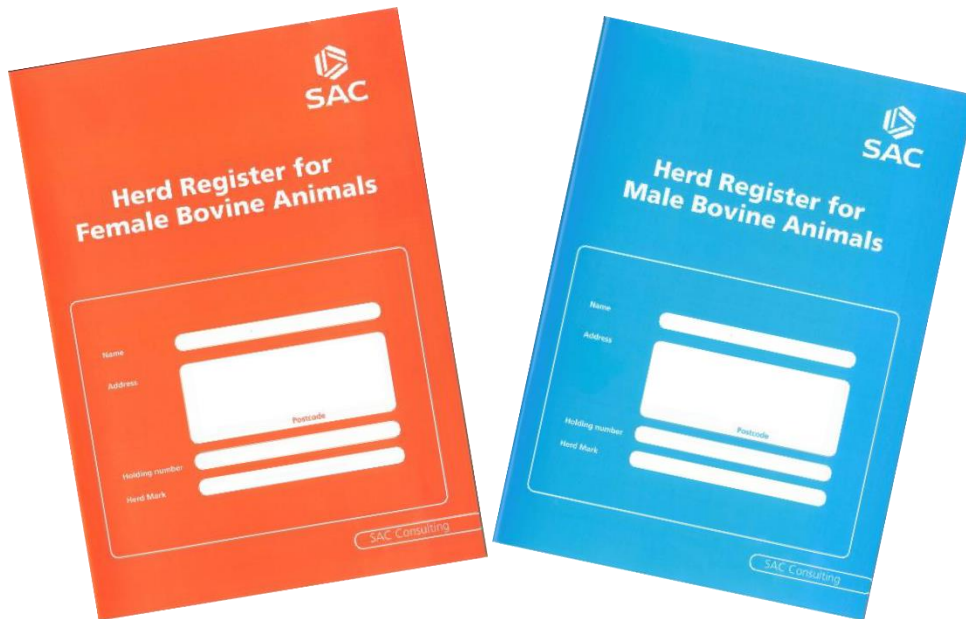
Note: If your chosen method is to complete the Death details section of the passport, you must return the passport within seven days of the date of the death

- Have you notified ScotMoves+ by returning the passport of any lost or stolen animal within seven days of becoming aware of the loss or theft?

Note: Every animal must have a valid passport; there should not be any surplus passports on the farm

On-farm records (herd register)

- Do you have up to date records in your herd register for every animal which include the following:

  - Official ear tag number?

  - Date of birth?

  - Sex?

  - Breed?

  - Dam's official ear tag number? (Not legally required for purchased animals)

  - Date of movements on and off your holding?

  - Details of where the animal has moved to or from, including details of the keepers?

  - Date of death?

Pictures above: Herd registers for bovine animals

- Have you completed your herd register within the following timescales:

  − 48 hours of movements taking place?

  − 7 days of the birth of a dairy calf?

  − 30 days of the birth of any other calves?

  − 7 days of a death?

  − 36 hours of an ear tag being replaced?

Note: Holding registers must be retained for 10 years from the end of the calendar year in which the last entry was made. Other registers (e.g. those kept at markets) must be retained for three years from the end of the calendar year in which the last entry was made.

Useful Links:

https://www.gov.scot/publications/livestock-identification-and-traceability-guidance/pages/cattle/

https://www.ScotEID.com/

https://ScotEID.com/Public/Documents/scotmoves_user_guide.pdf