

Cross compliance checklist

SMR 8 – Sheep and Goat Identification

The aim of SMR 8 rules is to maintain a system for the identification, registration and traceability of sheep and goats. For cross compliance purposes you do not need to do anything more than you are already required to do by law for the identification and traceability of sheep and goats. For a full explanation of your legal obligations, you should refer to the relevant legal provisions. A summary of these provisions can be found in 'Sheep and Goat Identification and Traceability- Guidance for Keepers in Scotland' (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/sheep-goat-identification-traceability-guidance-keepers-scotland/>).

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.

Identification and replacement of identification

- Have all intensively farmed sheep and goats born after 7 July 2005 been identified with the correct means of identification within six months of birth, or before they leave the holding of birth, whichever is sooner?
- Have all extensively farmed sheep and goats born after 7 July 2005 been identified with the correct means of identification within nine months of birth, or before they leave the holding of birth, whichever is sooner?
- Are sheep and goats under 12 months of age and are intended for slaughter in the UK before 12 months of age identified with a single electronic tag showing only the flock mark of the animal?

Note: You may chose to use two matching identifiers, with individual numbers, for these animals.

- Are all sheep and goats born on or after 31 December 2009, other than slaughter tag derogation sheep, identified with two matching means of identification, of which one must be electronic?

Note: One means of identification must be an ear tag; the second must be either, a matching ear tag, pastern tag, bolus or tattoo.

- Have you replaced any lost or illegible means of identification within 28 days of noticing their loss or illegibility or before the animal leaves the holding, whichever is earlier?

Record keeping



Picture above: Holding register

• Do you have up-to-date records for sheep and goats on every holding that you use?

• For each sheep and goat born or first identified on or after 31 December 2009 do you record the following within 48 hours of the event taking place:

- Identification code of the animal?
- Year of birth?
- Date of identification?
- Breed and, if known, the genotype?
- Individual identifier, month and year of death of an animal on the holding?

• If you have replaced any lost or illegible identification do you record the following within 48 hours of the event taking place:

- Date of replacement?
- Replacement number with cross reference to the previous mark, if known?

Note: You must not remove or replace official ear tags without permission from the Scottish Government, unless for the purpose of preventing unnecessary pain or suffering to the animal.

• Do you record the following details of the movements of sheep and goats on and off your holding within 48 hours of the event taking place:

- Date of the movement?
- Number of animals moved?
- Destination or origin of the animals moved?
- Haulier's name and vehicle registration for animals leaving your holding?
- Flock marks and the number of animals with each flock mark for slaughter animals?

• Unless the land is within the same crofting township and/or used on a seasonal basis and is less than five miles from the main holding, do you have an annual inventory of the animals kept at 1 December for each permanent holding?

• Is your inventory as at 1 December completed by 30 December?

Note: Records must be kept for at least three years from the last day when an animal referred to in the register dies or leaves the holding.