

Sheep Keepers Supplementary Guidance



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.gov.wales



Sheep identification rule changes from:
January 2016

Introduction

This leaflet is a supplementary guide to the **'Guidance for keepers'** which was issued in 2010. It explains the changes to rules on the identification, recording and reporting of movements for sheep which come into force from **1 January 2016**.

Comprehensive guidance will be issued later in 2016.



January 2016 – What is changing?

1. Identifying lambs for slaughter

- From **1 January 2016**, the non EID slaughter tag will not be permitted to identify lambs for slaughter. Lambs identified from this date onwards must be electronically tagged either with a single electronic slaughter tag (if going to slaughter within 12 months of age) or full EID (1 electronic tag and a matching non electronic tag).
- You must have used up or disposed of any non EID slaughter tags by this date.
- Lambs identified with a non EID slaughter tag prior to **1 January 2016** can continue to move with this identifier until they are deemed to be 12 months old.

Tagging options from 1 January 2016

There are 2 tagging options: To show the information printed on the tag, we have used loop type tags overleaf. A range of identifiers are approved for official identification purposes of various shapes and sizes e.g. loop, button, and flag tags and a pastern band. Pastern bands (GB), boluses and tattoos may also be used as official identifiers (in specified combinations).

1. Full EID



Displaying the country code 'UK' plus the 6 digit flock number (preceded by a zero) + a five digit animal number.

Yellow tag contains the electronic chip.

Full EID can be used in:

Lambs kept beyond 12 months of age for breeding purposes.

Store/finished hoggets intended for slaughter but kept beyond 12 months of age.

Lambs intended for live export.

2. Electronic Slaughter tag



Displaying the country code 'UK' plus the flock/herd mark of the holding where the tag was applied.

Yellow tag contains the electronic chip.

Electronic slaughter tag can be used in:

Lambs intended to be slaughtered in an UK abattoir prior to reaching 12 months of age.

Some markets / abattoirs may have made commercial decisions to only accept electronically identified lambs / sheep.

Keepers are advised to check if lambs identified before **1 January 2016** with the non-EID tags are acceptable to these markets / abattoirs.



Introduction of EIDCymru

EIDCymru is the new electronic sheep reporting system for Wales. It enables farmers, markets, abattoirs and all sheep keepers to report movements electronically and it will provide Wales with a modern robust movement reporting and traceability system to respond quickly and effectively in any disease outbreak. For further information on EIDCymru, visit the website www.eidcymru.org.

From 18 January 2016, farmers will have the option to either report movements electronically or continue to report movements on the paper movement licence.

Changes to the movement licence

Movement of sheep onto your holding:

Up to and including 17th January 2016	No change. Continue to send the white copy of the paper licence to your local authority.
18 January 2016 onwards	A new version of the movement licence must be used. The white copy of the new version of the movement licence must be returned to EIDCymru (instead of your local authority). If you need a supply of the new licence version, please contact the EIDCymru office on 01970 636959 or email contact@eidcymru.org The address is: EIDCymru, Ty Merlin, Parc Merlin, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3FF

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q.** Will I be able to insert non EID slaughter tags from **1 January 2016**?
- A. No.** Non EID slaughter tags will no longer be a tagging option from **1 January 2016**. All lambs identified from **1 January 2016** must be identified with either Full EID or a Single EID Slaughter Tag (if they are being slaughtered before 12 months of age).
- Q.** If I have identified lambs with a conventional non EID slaughter tag before **1 January 2016**, do I need to re-tag the lamb with an EID slaughter tag before moving off holding of birth?
- A. No.** Lambs identified with a non-electronic (conventional) slaughter tag prior to **1 January 2016** can continue to move with this identifier until they are 12 months old. This includes movements into England and Scotland.

Some markets / abattoirs may have made commercial decisions to only accept electronically identified lambs. Keepers are advised to check if the non-EID (conventional) slaughter tags are acceptable with markets / abattoirs.

- Q.** How do I dispose of my non EID slaughter tags if they are no longer a tagging option come **1 January 2016**?
- A.** You should destroy or dispose of surplus non EID slaughter tags in a secure manner that prevents their use. Under no circumstance can they be used to identify a lamb intended for slaughter after **1 January 2016**.

Completing your movement licence and flock

The table below illustrates the recording requirements for different movement scenarios:

Sheep	Move within ownership (e.g. tack)
Identified prior to 31st December 2009 (i.e. non EID double tags pre 31 Dec 2009 or single tags if before 22 Feb 2008)	Total number of sheep moved Total number of sheep moved
Identified after 31st December 2009 (Full EID)	Total number of sheep moved Total number of sheep moved
Lambs identified with a single slaughter tag	Total number of lambs moved Total number of lambs moved

Blue – MOVEMENT DOCUMENT

Red – FLOCK RECORD

- Moves must be reported within 3 days of receiving the animals.
- You must remove or replace damaged or lost tags, including EID tags which you know cannot be scanned, within 28 days of finding out.
- Your flock record must be updated within 36 hours.

record – Reminder

Movements direct to abattoir	Other moves (e.g. market/private sale/show)
<p>Total number of sheep moved</p> <p>Total number of sheep moved</p>	<p>Full individual number e.g. UK741234 000123 / J1234 005</p> <p>Total number of sheep moved</p>
<p>Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001</p> <p>Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001</p>	<p>Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001</p> <p>Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001</p>
<p>The total number of lambs moved</p> <p>The total number of lambs moved with each different flock number recorded e.g. UK741234 x 24; UK741235 x 26</p> <p>Total lambs moved = 50</p>	<p>The total number of lambs moved</p> <p>The total number of lambs moved with each different flock number recorded e.g. UK741234 x 24; UK741235 x 26</p> <p>Total lambs moved = 50</p>

Lambs born on your holding must be identified before they move off the holding of birth or before they reach:

- 6 months of age for sheep kept under intensive husbandry systems (i.e. housed rather than on grass).
- 9 months of age for sheep kept under extensive husbandry systems.

Contact Details

If you require further assistance on the tagging rules,
please contact the Farm Liaison Service or Livestock ID helpline:

01267 245022

If you require assistance on how to use EIDCymru,
please contact the EIDCymru Service:

01970 636959



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