



This is a summary of guidance and is not complete. The BCMS handbook provides a comprehensive guide. When tagging animals please refer to the manufacturer's instructions for specific advice and the HSE guidance on handling cattle.

## Cattle Identification and Tracing

### Tagging

- Beef – you have up to 20 days from the calf's birth to fit both tags.
- Dairy – you must fit one ear tag within 36 hours of the calf's birth. You are allowed up to 20 days from the calf's birth to fit the second tag.
- You must only use ear tags from approved manufacturers.
- All calves must be doubled tagged.
  - A 'primary' tag (yellow only) can be attached to either ear.
  - A 'secondary' tag, must be attached to the other ear and must have the same information as the primary tag. It may also contain management information.

### Registration

- All cattle must be registered on the Cattle Tracing System (CTS)
- Your application must reach BCMS within 27 days of the calf's birth.
- You should receive the passport within 14 days, if you do not, please contact BCMS immediately.
- You will not be issued with a passport if your application is late.
- If you are not issued with a passport the animal may not move off your holding alive, except under licence.
- Keep your passport safe – you may be charged for a replacement.

### Animal Deaths

- All deaths must be reported within 7 days.

#### On-farm death aged under 24 months

You must make arrangements for getting rid of fallen stock and return the passport to BCMS. The Nation Fallen Stock helpline number is 08450548888.

#### On-farm deaths aged over 24 months

You must send the passport with the animal for BSE testing. You need to phone the TSE surveillance helpline on 0800 525 890 to have the animal removed. They will return the passport to BCMS.



### Movements

- Report within 3 days.
- Make sure the passport moves with the animal if changing keepership.
- Please don't post a movement card to BCMS if using CTS On-line or SIS.
- Scottish Markets & Abattoirs will report movement on & off of your holding to BCMS – make sure you tell them the animal's correct location.



### Farm Records

Keep for 10 years. You must record:

- physical details of the animal;
- all movements within 36 hours;
- the birth of dairy animals within 7 days;
- the birth of non-dairy animals within 30 days;
- the death of an animal within 7 days; and
- replacement ear tag within 36 hours.

