

Sheep identification and flock record update



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Changes from 1st January 2015

From 1 January 2015, keepers will be required to record the individual tag numbers of sheep which were tagged before 2010 on the movement document (AML1). Sheep sent direct to slaughter or moved within the same ownership can continue to be moved by batch recording. The table below illustrates the recording requirements for different movement scenarios:

Minimum information required on [movement documents](#) and [flock records](#)

Sheep	Move within ownership (e.g. tack)	Movements direct to abattoir*	Other moves (e.g. market/private sale/show)
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	Total number of sheep moved Total number of sheep moved	Full individual number e.g. UK741234 000123/ J1234 005 Total number of sheep moved
Identified after 31st December 2009 (Full EID)	Total number of sheep moved Total number of sheep moved	Full Individual UK number e.g.UK074123600001 Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001	Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001 Full Individual UK number e.g. UK074123600001
Lambs identified with a single slaughter tag (non-EID or EID)	Total number of lambs moved Total number of lambs moved	The total number of lambs moved The total number of lambs moved with each different flock number recorded e.g. UK741234 x 24; UK741235 x 26 Total lambs moved = 50	The total number of lambs moved The total number of lambs moved with each different flock number recorded e.g. UK741234 x 24; UK741235 x 26 Total lambs moved = 50

BLUE – MOVEMENT DOCUMENT

RED – FLOCK RECORD

*movements direct to abattoir means a move from your holding to the abattoir and not via a market/dealer/co-operative.

Sheep Tagging

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.

Tagging options – Changes in Wales from 1st January 2016

There are changes to the tagging requirements following the outcome of the EIDCymru and slaughter derogation consultation in 2014.

The table below illustrates the options available now and from 1st January 2016.

When ↓	What tags →	Non-Electronic (conventional /plastic) Slaughter tag*	Electronic Slaughter tag	Full EID
Current position up until 31st December 2015		Lambs intended to be slaughtered in an UK abattoir prior to reaching 12 months of age. ✓	Lambs intended to be slaughtered in an UK abattoir prior to reaching 12 months of age. ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeding Lambs kept beyond 12 months of age • Store/finished hoggets intended for slaughter but kept beyond 12 months of age • Lambs intended for Live export. ✓
1st January 2016		This will not be an option for lambs identified after 1st January 2016. ✗	Lambs intended to be slaughtered in an UK abattoir prior to reaching 12 months of age. ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeding Lambs kept beyond 12 months of age • Store/finished hoggets intended for slaughter but kept beyond 12 months of age. • Lambs intended for Live export. ✓

- Lambs identified (in Wales) with a non-electronic (conventional) slaughter tag prior to 1 January 2016 can continue to move with this identifier until they are deemed to be 12 months old. This includes movements across the border into England/ Scotland.
- Some markets/abattoirs may have made commercial decisions to only accept electronically identified lambs. Keepers are advised to check if the non-electronic (conventional) slaughter tags are acceptable with these markets/abattoirs.

Contact Details

If you require further assistance, please contact the
[Farm Liaison Service](#) or [Livestock ID helpline](#): 01267 245022
[Customer contact centre](#): 0300 0625004

