

Within Business Holding Moves (ScotMoves) – Business Rules

Purpose

The ScotMoves system allows keepers to move cattle within their business without having to report the movement to ScotMoves+. The ScotMoves system became operational on 1 January 2017 and replaced the linked holding system within the Cattle Tracing System (CTS).

Where a keeper buys and sells cattle and moves them on and off of their main business, or moves cattle to a show, these moves will continue to be reported to ScotMoves+.

Features and benefits

The ScotMoves system is an online cattle holding register that records all movements of cattle between the holdings used by a keeper as part of their business.

The ScotMoves system provides a simple way for keepers to record the individual cattle identification information that they previously recorded in their on-farm holding register. This system is easy to use, reduces the risk of errors, and enables the location of all cattle to be determined quickly. When cattle are moved to additional holdings, keepers can simply assign them to the relevant locations within their business using the ScotMoves system.

To enable the ScotMoves system to function efficiently at business level, the following arrangements apply:

- the movement does not need to be recorded on the cattle passport
- the passport does not have to accompany the animal
- the passport does not have to be kept with the animal at the additional holding where a ScotMoves registration is in place
- any calves born away from the main holding can be identified and registered using the main holding herd mark

In addition, the ScotMoves system:

- provides the Scottish Government with access to data on cattle locations, which is essential in the event of a disease outbreak, to control and eradicate disease as quickly as possible
- enables accurate tracing of livestock and importantly rapid tracing in the event of a disease outbreak. It also facilitates the quicker easing of movement restrictions, either at national or regional level, and supports the reopening of export markets for live animals and products of animal origin
- supports Scottish industry-government disease control schemes, such as the BVD eradication programme
- does not apply to movements taking place to common grazings in registered Crofting Township.

Application to use ScotMoves

To use the ScotMoves system, keepers must register with ScotEID all additional holdings, in addition to their main holding, that they use for cattle as part of their business. Additional holdings can be added on by the keeper online, or by contacting ScotEID by phone or email.

Additional holding registrations are valid for up to 364 days.

Automated reminders are issued to alert keepers when an additional holding registration is due to expire, and to ask if they wish to renew the existing registration or set up a new one. The system also allows keepers to nominate an agent to operate the ScotMoves system on their behalf.

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), the Rural Payments and Inspections Division (RPID), Local Authority Inspectors, the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) and Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) all have access to the system.

For further information and guidance on the ScotMoves system, including how to apply and use the system, please contact:

ScotEID
7 Deveron Road
Huntly
AB54 8DU

Tel No: 01466 794323
Email: help@scoteid.com
Website: www.scoteid.com

Reporting movements through ScotMoves

When a keeper moves cattle to an additional holding, they must notify the movement through the ScotMoves system within 48 hours of the move taking place – notifications can be submitted either online using the pre-populated drop-down menu, or by email or telephone.

There are a number of steps keepers have to follow when using the ScotMoves system:

- they must register the additional holding at CPH level with ScotEID
- they can update or amend their additional holding registration at any time
- they can renew their additional holding registration before its expiry date
- they can terminate the additional holding registration at any time before its expiry date
- they must use holdings that have a permanent CPH number; keepers cannot register 7000 CPH numbers as additional holdings

Where cattle are moved to holdings that are not registered through the ScotMoves system, those movements out with the business must be reported to ScotMoves+.

Scenarios for use of ScotMoves

There are a number of scenarios in which the ScotMoves system can be used, including for example:

- summer grazing or grass park lets
- away wintering sheds
- contiguous land
- where a keeper farms on a number of holdings, either solely or with other keepers, on a permanent or long-term basis.

Not all movements are required to be notified through the ScotMoves system. The following movements may be exempt:

- movements to additional contiguous land where cattle can move freely between fields through an open gate
- movements where the animals are within walking distance and are moved on a daily basis. There may be periods during the year when cattle are not moved. Cattle do not need to be moved every day for this exemption to apply. However, it is expected that such movements will take place for the majority of the year.

In these examples, the land may be treated as a single epidemiological unit. Keepers are however required to apply to ScotEID for approval to use this exemption to not report such movements.

All other movements to non-contiguous land, summer grazing, grass park lets, away wintering sheds, or shared facilities must be notified using the ScotMoves system.

In summary, cattle keepers may register holdings in addition to their main holding with ScotEID and then notify movements between their additional holdings using the ScotMoves system.

Ineligible categories of cattle for ScotMoves

All keepers in Scotland may apply to use the ScotMoves system where they have a business need to move cattle within their business operation. However, not all cattle are eligible to be moved under the ScotMoves system. The following categories of cattle are ineligible:

- **bulls** - unless they are going to serve the keeper's own cattle at the additional holding
- **cattle with a Notice of Registration (NoR)**, i.e. cattle that do not have passports. These animals cannot be moved off their current holding except under a licence issued by ScotEID – such licences are issued only in exceptional circumstances
- **cattle with a BVD Persistently Infected (PI) status**. These animals can only be moved off the CPH on which they were identified to a slaughterhouse. In exceptional circumstances, they may be moved to another holding under a licence issued by APHA
- **cattle subject to movement restrictions** for disease control purposes, or where either the herd or an individual animal is subject to a movement restriction

Health status and separation of livestock

Where more than one keeper is using a holding under the ScotMoves system, keepers should aim to keep their cattle separate from the livestock of other keepers.

Preventing contact with animals of unknown or lower health status is essential for maintaining good herd biosecurity. Failure to observe strict biosecurity measures may have serious consequences for herd health, and in some circumstances, may affect a herd's officially recognised cattle health status. To support this, keepers can contact ScotEID to make a declaration against their ScotMoves account that their cattle will be kept separate from other keepers' livestock. Where such a declaration is in place, standstill rules will not apply when livestock are moved

To do this keepers must declare:

- that their cattle will be kept in separate fields/grazings and will not mix with the livestock of other keepers; or
- that their cattle will be in the same shed/buildings with the livestock of other keepers, but will be separated by a distinct air space

In these circumstances, standstill rules **will not apply** when livestock are moved on to or off the holding.

Where a keeper is unable to comply with this declaration because their cattle will be:

- in the same fields/grazings as the livestock of other keepers; or
- in the same shed/buildings as the livestock of other keepers and sharing the same air space

In these circumstances normal standstill rules **will apply** when cattle are moved on to or off the holding.