

ScotEID Cattle EID FAQ

WINTER ROADSHOW 2019/20



LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY
EID RESEARCH



The Cattle EID Pilot is managed by SAOS in partnership with
the Scottish Government and the Industry Working Group

ScotEID Cattle EID- FAQ

Scottish cattle keepers will record births, deaths and business to business moves on ScotEID from mid 2020, and EID tags will become mandatory in spring/summer 2021 for new-born calves.

Q: Why is CTS stopping?

A: The cost of maintaining and upgrading CTS is very expensive and the system cannot record EID WYSIWYG* numbers unless all existing cattle are renumbered.

Q: Will I still be issued with a paper passport?

A: Paper passports will still be issued to Scottish cattle keepers when services move to ScotEID. The intention is to remove the need for passports in the future, which will require agreement across Great Britain.

Q: Do I have to use EID tags?

A: We expect it will become mandatory during 2021 to use EID cattle tags for identifying new-born calves. UHF tags will be available before then and can be used voluntarily by Scottish cattle keepers.

Q: How much will a tag cost?

A: The cost of an electronic chip is nominal with some additional tag manufacturing costs.

Q: Why use UHF tags?

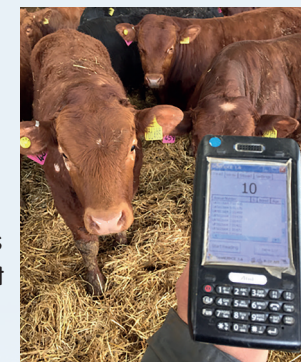
A: UHF transponders have more memory, the read range can be very short or long, many tags can be read at the same time e.g. cattle moving through a gate or a pen full of cattle, don't interfere with current LF transponders such as used on dairy farms, and they are better suited to markets and abattoirs.

Q: I'm already using LF EID tags in my cattle, do I have to change?

A: If you are using LF cattle management tags on your farm, you will not need to update your current tags to UHF. At the moment LF tags require a 'tag bucket', which are manufacturer's numbers that are cross referenced with each official ID number of the animal. The tag bucket number is not easily transferable between farms and cannot be an official ID. Scotland has opted for UHF, as well as LF when it can be used. The UHF chip has sufficient memory to record the UK ID number as WYSIWYG where the chip number and the official ID are the same, and can be used all the way through the supply chain.

Q: Do farmers need to invest in reading equipment and electronically read tags on farm?

A: There will be no requirement for farmers to electronically read tags on farm as marts and abattoirs will be doing this. There is no need for farmers to invest in reading equipment unless they wish to do so for management reasons on farm.



Q: Will tags have both UHF and LF transponders?

A: In 2021, new calf tags will have mandatory UHF EID. At present the official cattle ID number cannot be recorded on an LF tag. Many farmers in Scotland have invested in LF technology for cattle management and we are working on a solution where both LF and UHF will be within the same tag. There may be a period when only UHF with the official ID is available.

Q: Can I use up my current stock of non-EID tags before I start to purchase EID tags?

A: You can use your current stock of tags until regulations state that it is mandatory to EID new-born calves – expected summer 2021. Please do not over order non-EID tags.

Q: How can I express my views on what Scottish Government are proposing in relation to EID in cattle?

A: Scottish Government will be issuing a consultation paper which will allow you to make comment on the current proposals. We urge you to respond to this paper with all feedback – positive and constructive.

Q: Who can we speak to for more information on cattle EID or to register with ScotEID?

A: Please call ScotEID on **01466 794323** or email help@scoteid.com for any information relating to livestock traceability in Scotland, we will be happy to help.

***WYSIWYG** What You See Is What You Get – the number on the EID reader is the same as that written on the tag.

Please call ScotEID for more information on 01466 794323 or email help@scoteid.com