

Within Business Holding Moves (ScotMoves) – Business Rules

Purpose

The ScotMoves system will allow keepers who move cattle within their business to do so without having to report the movement to the Cattle Tracing System (CTS). The ScotMoves system will replace the current CTS linked holdings system.

Where a keeper buys and sells cattle and moves them on and off as part of their main business; or moves cattle to a show then these moves will continue to be reported to CTS.

Features and benefits

The ScotMoves system will be an online cattle holding register to record all movements of cattle between the holdings a keeper uses as part of their business. It will show births, deaths and movement data as reported to CTS. This will be achieved through a data exchange between CTS and ScotEID. In the future as the ScotEID data exchange with CTS is further developed, keepers will be able to use it as their holding register to record all their births, deaths and movements.

The ScotMoves system does not place any new or additional requirements on keepers. The ScotMoves system is simply a new way for keepers to record the same individual cattle identification information that they previously recorded in their on-farm holding register. The new system should be simpler to use, cut down on errors and allow the location of all cattle to be determined quickly. When keepers move cattle to additional holdings they will simply assign the cattle they want to move to those locations they are using as part of their business using the ScotMoves system.

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

1. the movement will not need to be recorded on the cattle passport;
2. the passport does not have to accompany the cattle;
3. the passport does not have to be kept with the cattle at the additional holding where a ScotMoves registration is in place; and
4. any calves born away from the main holding should be identified and registered with the main holding herd mark.

In addition:

- The ScotMoves system will provide the Scottish Government with access to data on cattle locations, which in the event of a disease outbreak will be essential in controlling and eradicating disease as quickly as possible.
- The ScotMoves system should enable more rapid and accurate tracing of livestock in the event of a disease outbreak. It could also allow for speedier easing of movement restrictions either at national or regional level and for the reopening of access to export markets for live animals and products of animal origin.
- The ScotMoves system will also support Scottish industry-government disease control schemes such as the BVD eradication programme.
- The ScotMoves system does not apply to moves taking place to common grazings in registered Crofting Township.

Application to use ScotMoves

In order to use the ScotMoves system keepers must record with ScotEID all additional holdings (to their main holding) that they use for cattle within their business. Applications can be completed online or by a paper application, and should be submitted at least 4 weeks in advance of the intended use of the additional holding. Each additional holding record will last up to 364 days.

Automated reminders will be issued to alert keepers when each of their ScotMoves additional holding records is coming to an end, and to ask if they wish to renew or set up a new ScotMoves additional holding record. The system will also allow keepers to designate an agent to operate the ScotMoves system on their behalf.

When a new additional holding record is created the ScotMoves system will send an automated notification to the land owner and to other keepers currently using the land.

The Rural Payments and Inspections Division (RPID), Local Authority inspectors, the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), the British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) and Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) will have access to the system.

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

ScotEID Information Centre
Unit 28 – Huntly Business Centre
83 Gordon Street
Huntly
AB54 8FG

Tel No: 01466 794323
Fax No: 01466 792801
Email: help@scoteid.com

Reporting ScotMoves

When a keeper moves cattle to an additional holding they must notify the move using the ScotMoves system within 48¹ hours of the event occurring – this can be done online using the populated drop down menu, by telephone/fax or by paper. There can be a time delay in movement data coming from CTS to ScotMoves, therefore on some occasions keepers will have to manually enter the identity, or scan the barcode of the passport/tag of cattle they want to notify. Over time this will become unnecessary as the data exchange between ScotMoves and CTS is enhanced.

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

- they must register with ScotEID;
- they must record the additional holding at CPH level with ScotEID;
- they can update or amend their additional holding record at any time;
- they can renew their additional holding record in advance of the expiry date; or
- terminate the additional holding record at any point before the expiry date;

¹ Currently it is 36 hours to record movements, a legislative amendment to change it to 48 hours will come into effect on 1 January 2017.

- they must use holdings that have a permanent CPH number; keepers cannot register to 7000 CPH numbers (landless keepers).

Where cattle are moved to holdings, other than those recorded with the ScotMoves system, then those moves out with the business must be reported to CTS. The CTS moves will be automatically updated to ScotMoves when they are received from CTS.

Scenarios for use of ScotMoves

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

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

Not all moves would be required to be notified on the ScotMoves system. The following moves may be exempt:

- additional contiguous land where cattle can move freely from one field to another through an open gate
- where the animals are within walking distance and are moved on a daily basis²

In these examples the land can be treated as a single epidemiological unit. Keepers will however, be required to apply to ScotEID to use the exemption to not report moves.

All other moves to non-contiguous land, summer grazing, grass park lets, away wintering sheds or shared facilities must be notified using the ScotMoves system. If you choose not to use ScotMoves you can report your moves through CTS however, the holding you are moving animals to must be registered as a cattle holding.

In summary: cattle keepers may record holdings in addition to their main (CTS) holding with ScotEID and then notify movements between their additional holdings using the ScotMoves system. These movements do not have to be reported to CTS. The ScotMoves system will be prepopulated with births, movements and deaths data from CTS, this data will be uploaded on a nightly basis.

Ineligible categories of cattle for ScotMoves

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

- cattle with a Notice of Registration (NoR), i.e. those that do not have passports. They cannot be moved off their current holding except under a licence issued by BCMS (licences are only issued by BCMS under exceptional circumstances);
- pre-96 cattle (born or reared before 1 August 1996). They cannot be moved off their current holding except under a licence issued by APHA;

² We accept that there may be times of the year when you do not move cattle. Therefore, we do not expect you to move cattle every day of the year to use this exemption, however, it is expected that it will be the majority of the year.

- cattle with a BVD PI status. They can only be moved off the CPH on which they were identified to a slaughterhouse. In exceptional circumstances they can be moved to another holding under a licence issued by APHA; or
- where cattle are under restriction for disease control purposes, or as a result of a whole herd or individual animal 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 lesser disease status is essential for the good herd biosecurity. Failure to observe strict biosecurity may have serious consequences for the health of keepers' herds, and under some circumstances, their officially recognised cattle health status. To this effect keepers can make a declaration to keep their cattle separate from other keepers' livestock which would prevent standstill rules taking effect when livestock move.

To do this keepers must declare:

- that their cattle will be 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 have a separate air space.

In these circumstance standstill rules **will not apply** when moving livestock on or off the holding.

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

- in the same fields/grazings with the livestock of other keepers; or
- in the same shed/buildings with the livestock of other keepers and will share the same air space.

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

Joint Scottish Government/Industry Working Group Members

Scottish Government Animal Health and Welfare Division
 Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division
 Animal and Plant Health Agency
 EPIC – Centre of Expertise on Animal Disease Outbreaks
 John Cameron – independent farmer
 Institute of Auctioneers and Appraisers Scotland
 Livestock Health Scotland
 National Farmers Union of Scotland
 National Sheep Association Scotland
 ScotEID
 Scottish Association of Meat Wholesalers
 Scottish Beef Association
 Scottish Crofting Federation
 Scottish Dairy Cattle Association
 Scottish Dairy Hub
 Scottish Land and Estates
 Quality Meat Scotland