



# Goats Quick Guide

## Rules for identifying Goats

### Key Points

What to do?	When to do it?
Identify your goats	Before 9 months of age (6 months if normally housed overnight) or before they leave the establishment of birth, whichever is sooner.
Replace lost tags	Within 28 days of discovering the lost or unreadable tag.
Complete your herd register	Record date of identification, movement on and off, and death within 7 days; but within 48 hours for movements to a Central Point of Recording or "CPR" (for example, an approved market or meat plant).
Complete movement documents	Movement documents must accompany goats in transit. The buyer must send a copy to DAERA within 7 days, unless the movement is from a market.
Return your Annual Inventory	Complete an inventory between 1 and 5 December each year, and return the result to DAERA by 5 January.

### Identification

- Goats** Apply two identifiers with matching numbers. An electronic identification (EID) device is not needed unless the goat is going to be exported but can be applied if you wish.
- If a tag is lost in natal herd.** Apply either (i) an official replacement tag with the same tag number or (ii) your next tag set in sequence and remove any remaining tag.
- If a tag is lost in non-natal herd.** If you can reconcile the new tag number with the old tag number on NIFAIS On-Line, you can use a yellow tag set, but if not, apply a red tag set. Record the new tag number in your herd register, and cross-reference the old and new tag numbers.
- If both tags are lost** If both tags are lost, or cannot be read, you must apply a new set of tags with a different number.

## Rules for identifying Goats

### Herd Register

- Keep an up-to-date herd register by recording:
  1. births (date of identification of newborn goats and the tag numbers applied);
  2. movements on and off your establishment, (by recording the movement document serial number);
  3. replacement tag details (new tag number, and old tag number, if required);
  4. deaths (including the tag number where possible); and
  5. your annual inventory result.

### Movement Documents

- Complete a movement document each time you move goats, including to common grazing not adjacent to your establishment.
- If moving to a CPR, you do not need to record tag numbers, but you must retain the CPR tag list in your herd records.
- If moving to a farm, or premises not approved as a CPR:
  - record tag numbers of goats (manually or with an EID reader), unless they are moving to slaughter.

### Annual Inventory

- You must complete an Annual Inventory for goats and return it to DAERA by 5 January each year.

### Retention of Records

- You must keep your establishment register, movement documents and CPR documentation for at least 3 years.
- The goat identification and movement rules are required by the Farm Sustainability Regulations ( F S S ). You may be subject to inspection and non-compliance could lead to a reduction in your FSS Payment.