

## Manual for Official Controls

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# Chapter 2.5 Animal identification

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# 1. Legislation

## 1.1 European legislation

## 1.2 Domestic legislation

### 1.1 European legislation

#### 1.1.1 Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Article 18 of (EC) No 178/2002 requires FBOs to have systems and procedures in place to ensure that the traceability of food and food-producing animals can be established at all stages of production, processing and distribution.

The FBO must be able to:

- identify any person from whom they have been supplied with a food-producing animal
- identify the other businesses to which their products have been supplied, and
- make this information available to the competent authorities on demand.

#### 1.1.2 Regulation (EC) No 853/2004

The EU Regulations require the FBO to ensure that all animals or, where appropriate, each batch of animals sent for slaughter is properly identified before being accepted into the slaughterhouse. This is to allow their origin to be traced.

Regulation: (EC) 853/2004, Annex III, Section I, Chapter IV, 3 and (EC) 853/2004, Annex II, Section II paragraph 2 a (HACCP based procedures)..

#### 1.1.3 Regulation (EU) 2019/627

During the performance of official controls, the OV is to verify compliance with the FBOs duty pursuant to (EC) 853/2004 to ensure that animals accepted for slaughter for human consumption are properly identified.

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The OV is to ensure that animals whose identity is not reasonably ascertainable are killed separately and declared unfit for human consumption.

Whenever the OV considers it necessary, official controls are to be carried out on the holding of provenance.

Regulation: (EU) 2019/627 Article 43(1).

## 1.2 Domestic legislation

### 1.2.1 Animal identification legislation

DAERA is the competent authority in NI regarding animal identification legislation.

The following table summarises the key pieces of national implementing legislation relevant to animal identification by species.

Further information on identification, registration and movement control is available on the VSAHG intranet and DAERA internet.

| Species       | Legislation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cattle        | Cattle Identification (No.2) Regulations (NI) 1998.<br>Cattle Identification (Enforcement) Regulations (NI) 1998.<br>Cattle Identification (Notification of Births, Deaths and Movements) Regulations (NI) 1999.<br>Cattle Passports Regulations (NI) 1999 |
| Sheep / goats | The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification and Movement) Order (Northern Ireland) 2009                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Pigs          | The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Deer          | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Horses        | Horse Passports Regulations (NI) 2010                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

### 1.2.2 Definition of a keeper

In the cattle identification legislation the keeper is the person responsible for the animals whether on a permanent or temporary basis. It includes slaughterhouse operators, market operators and transporters in some contexts.

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# 2. Animal identification requirements

- 2.1 Cattle ear tag requirements
- 2.2 Cattle movement document requirements
- 2.3 Sheep and goats
- 2.4 Pigs
- 2.5 Deer
- 2.6 Horses

## 2.1 Cattle ear tag requirements

### 2.1.1 Ear tags in NI cattle

All cattle born on or after 01/01/98 and reared in NI and presented for slaughter for human consumption must be identified with an approved ear tag in both ears.

Regulation: Cattle Identification (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 1998, Part II.

### 2.1.2 Single tagging

Cattle born before 1st January 1998 were required to be identified by a single ear tag of a type approved by DAERA.

### 2.1.3 Double tagging

Cattle born between 1st January 1998 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 1999 were required to be identified by a plastic tag of a type approved by DAERA in each ear, each of the pair of tags bearing the same identification code which must consist of the letters UK, the herd number, the individual animal number and a check letter. A single metal tag and matching plastic tag was permitted for animals born between 01/01/98 and 14/09/98.

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Cattle born after 1st January 2000, should be identified with an all-numeric tag, i.e. inscribed with a check digit as opposed to a check letter.

### 2.1.4 Ear tags in GB cattle

Guidance on the format of GB cattle tags can be found in the FSA Manual for Official Controls (MOC) available on the FSA website.

### 2.1.5 Ear tags in EU cattle

Cattle imported from EU member states and presented for slaughter for human consumption must be identified with a printed ear tag in each ear which shows the same official identity (double tagged) bearing:

- the country logo
- the country code, and
- an official identity of not more than 12 digits (which identifies the holding of origin and the animal).

Note: if there is any doubt regarding the validity of tags, further advice should be sought from relevant DAERA office.

### 2.1.6 Ear tags in non- EU cattle

Cattle imported from third countries which go direct to slaughter (within 20 days of arriving in the UK) are identified in accordance with third country rules. They must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate. They will have ear tags and national administrative documents of the country of origin.

### 2.1.7 Ear tags in GB import cattle ( direct slaughter )

Cattle coming from GB into Northern Ireland for Direct slaughter are exported in accordance with EU Regulation 206/2010 which list the third countries, the identification requirements and model certificates associated with movement of animals into the European Union.

Consignments of live animals will only be introduced where the consignment arrives at a Border Inspection post within 10 days of the date of issue of the appropriate Veterinary Certificate ( plus additional time at sea as certified by the master of a ship)

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Following their introduction into the Union, consignments of ungulates intended for immediate slaughter shall be conveyed without delay to the slaughterhouse of destination

Direct Slaughter GB imports will be assigned an extra 'export tag' bearing the ISO code 'GB' or the number '826'. There is also a requirement for the LHS flank of the animals to bear the letter L in the form of branding. Discrepancies in these requirements should be noted, with the animal number, date and Certificate number and emailed to [tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:tradeadminpost@daera-ni.gov.uk). If the animal fulfils all other certification and identification requirements this should not preclude its acceptability for slaughter.

GB imports for breeding and production are restricted to the holding of destination of import for 30 days, unless they have been re-identified, in which case they can move directly to slaughter. These animals will, on arrival have a 'TC' movement restriction applied but can move, under license from the local Divisional Veterinary Office direct to slaughter.

There is a requirement for these animals to move directly to the holding of destination without delay and to be re-identified with the next available tag within 14 days of their arrival.

The animal will receive a new UK 9 identifier with the GB tag, movement and Date of birth correlated on APHIS. The animal will retain its BSEI status.

Imported GB animals may be presented for slaughter with the original GB identification, or with a new identification, correlated on APHIS

Identity checks and decision making on eligibility for slaughter should take place along the existing FBO responsibility and VPHP frame work for these animals. Specific cases can be discussed with the IRM DVO

### 2.1.7 Unacceptable official identification (ear tags)

The following other forms of identification cannot be accepted as official identification:

- hand written tags
- tattoos

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- printed tags without a country code
  - tags where the code appears to have been amended or tampered with (except the addition of management information to secondary ear tags of GB animals)
  - tags with missing information e.g. one missing a number
  - unreadable ear tags.

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## 2.2 Cattle movement document requirements

### 2.2.1 Overview

All cattle born or imported into NI for further keep from an EU or third country since 1 July 1996, must be registered on APHIS. They must only be moved to the approved slaughterhouse accompanied by a valid movement declaration, either

- self-written - the MC2; or
- issued under license by DAERA - the MC2L.

### 2.2.2 MC2 details

The farmer inserts the following animal details on the MC2:

- date of birth,
- sex,
- breed and colour of coat (both by code taken from a list published by DAERA)
- official identification number as printed on the ear tag

In addition he enters:

- his name and address
- his herd number
- the destination

The farmer should also sign and date the document.

By naming a slaughterhouse as the destination the farmer is indicating his intention to have the animal slaughtered.

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### 2.2.3 MC2L details

The farmer inserts the same details on his application for the MC2L where due to disease control movement restrictions he cannot use his self-written declaration.

### 2.2.4 Cattle from GB and EU member states

All cattle imported from either Great Britain or EU member states and sent direct for slaughter must be accompanied by:

- a passport issued by the member state and
- an export health certificate for trade in live animals for slaughter.

Passports issued by EU member states vary in style. They may be titled 'movement license' or an equivalent description. They can be a computer printout.

Important: Imported direct slaughter animals are registered at the Point of Entry in Larne and must be slaughtered within 5 days of arrival. A BSEI status is applied at entry.

(See Manual of Official Controls Chapter 2.4 TSE testing)

### 2.2.5 Format of GB passports

Guidance on the format of GB passports can be found in the FSA Ops MOC available on the FSA website.

### 2.2.6 Valid GB passport

A valid GB passport has:

- all registration details complete
- an ear tag number matching the ear tags presented on the animal
- address details of the most recent holdings the animal has moved through, up to a maximum of 6 holdings (full history is available on the GB cattle tracing system.
- entries which have been signed and dated by each keeper of the animal
- no sign of having been tampered with or amended in any way.
- A heat sensitive diamond shape which will fade when held between finger and thumb (security feature in bottom right hand corner).

Note: Description will have either breed or colour.

In all cases the original documents must be presented with the animal. Photocopies or faxes of documents are not acceptable.

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### 2.2.7 Format of ROI passport

ROI passports contain the following information:

- animal identity code
- identity of dam
- date of birth
- breed
- sex
- name and address of keeper
- movement details
- TB test details

Note: They do not include animal colour in the description.

## 2.3 Sheep and goats

### 2.3.1 Sheep and Goats (RIM) Order (NI) 2009

The Sheep and Goat (Records, Identification and Movement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 provides for the enforcement of Regulation (EC) 21/2004.

### 2.3.2 Tagging requirements and movement documents

All sheep must be individually identified with an approved electronic identification (EID) tag and a conventional individual/flock number combined identifier tag when presented at the slaughterhouse. Goats must be identified with two conventional ear tags with matching numbers on presentation at the slaughterhouse.

Sheep and goats must be accompanied by a movement document from the presenting flock/herd or from a market, where relevant.

Reference: Details of requirements can be found on the Veterinary Service intranet.

### 2.3.3 Sheep from GB

Guidance on the format of GB sheep and goat tags and movement documents can be found in the FSA Ops MOC available on the FSA website.

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### 2.3.4 Sheep from ROI

Sheep from the ROI will be identified with ear tags bearing the individual identification number with country prefix “IE”. They must be double tagged with a conventional tag in the left ear, bearing a 12 digit number, and either a ruminal bolus or an electronic tag in the right ear, bearing an identical 12 digit tag number to the conventional tag. The numbers will be listed on the accompanying veterinary health certificate or associated schedule.

### 2.3.5 Sheep from GB

#### Direct slaughter sheep from GB

**Sheep imported for direct slaughter should be**

#### Breeding and Production sheep from GB

These animals must be re-identified by the flock keep with the next available tag at the holding of destination within 14 days of the date of import. They are restricted with a “TC” status on APHIS which will prevent them from moving off the holding of destination in NI until they have been re-identified.

### 2.3.6 Identity reasonably ascertainable

The identity of a sheep or goat may be considered ‘reasonably ascertainable’ if it can be traced back to its last holding.

Difficulties may arise from loss of a tag or from lack of correlation with information on the movement document or FCI.

## 2.4 Pigs

### 2.4.1 The Pigs (RIM) Order (NI) 2012

The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 relates to identification and movement control of pigs.

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### 2.4.2 Pig identification marks

All pigs arriving at the slaughterhouse must be identifiable as to their origin.

The means of identification can be applied as an eartag, an ear tattoo or a slapmark. For pigs under 6 months of age the mark can be either a full ID mark, a holding code or a curer mark (for moves direct to slaughter only). For pigs over 6 months they must be identified with an eartag with a full ID mark.

The curer mark is a code of up to 4 digits allocated to a producer by the slaughterhouse FBO and registered by DAERA against their pig holding code on APHIS. Some producers have more than one curer mark.

The protocol for the allocation of new curer numbers to producers by FBOs can be located in HP Record container AE2-20-8653 – *HP Record number* **AE1/20/436180**

### 2.4.3 ROI imported pigs

Pigs imported from ROI have an eartag or a slapmark of the ROI holding code of origin.

### 2.4.4 Movement of pigs

Pigs moving to slaughter require movement document PM1. The movement document specifies:

- the address, and holding code from, and to which, the pig is being moved
- the date the movement is taking place
- the number of pigs that the document covers; and
- the identification mark of the pigs moved

The document must be checked by the receiving FBO and reconciled with the number of pigs presented. Any missing documents or documents with discrepancies (e.g. different number of pigs stated to number presented) must be brought to the attention of the OV.

The FBO must maintain a holding register showing the origin of pigs including identification marks. This must be maintained for 3 years since the last date of entry. Movement documents can form part of the register. The FBO must complete the final part of the PM1 and retain a copy for 3 years, making it available to an inspector on request.

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### 2.5 Deer

#### 2.5.1 Requirements

While Regulation (EC) 853/2004, Annex II, Section II paragraph 2(a) applies the requirement for farmed game to be properly identified as for other red meat species, not all deer will be presented identified by official tags.

There is no requirement under NI legislation for the identification of farmed deer.

Farmed deer from GB will be uniquely identified. Their tag must show the letters UK and either the Defra herd number, or British Deer Farmers Association (BDFA) herd registration number and the animal's own unique number, for example, UK AB1234 000001.

Farmed deer from ROI for immediate slaughter come with individual ear tags, however the individual number is not always listed on the accompanying health certificate. This is an agreed concession between DAERA and DAFM made on grounds of animal welfare.

A declaration from the FBO who reared the deer stating their identity and indicating any veterinary products or other treatments administered, dates and withdrawals accompanies the animals to the slaughterhouse.

### 2.6 Horses

#### 2.6.1 Regulations

- Commission Regulation (EC) 504/2008
- Horse Passports Regulations (NI) 2010
- Horse Passport Regulations 2009 (apply in England)
- Horse Identification (Scotland) Regulations 2009
- The Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2009

#### 2.6.2 Requirements

Any horse slaughtered for human consumption or consigned for such slaughter must be accompanied by a valid passport which does not show that the animal is not intended for slaughter for human consumption i.e. Section IX Part II is not signed.

Regulation: (EC) 504/2008, Article 20

All duplicate, replacement or new passports for older horses issued after 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009, will be stamped by the passport issuing organisation that the horse is not intended for human consumption.

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### 2.6.3 Transponders

Foals born on or after 1 July 2009, and older horses not identified by means of a passport by this date, must be mandatorily implanted with a transponder in the area around the nuchal ligament. These link the horse to its passport and must be checked. Horses that are eligible for slaughter for human consumption must have the transponder safely removed before the carcass may be passed as fit for this purpose.

### 2.6.4 Record of veterinary medicine administration

A private veterinary practitioner (PVP) or other person administering any veterinary medicinal product to a horse must first check the passport to ascertain whether the horse is intended for human consumption.

For horse declared “Not intended for Human Consumption”, the PVP must record on the passport details of all vaccines administered, and if applicable, record the results of any laboratory health tests carried out for transmissible diseases in Section VII.

For horse declared “Intended for Human Consumption”, or where there is no declaration made, the PVP must record on the passport details of all vaccines administered, and if applicable, record the results of any laboratory health tests carried out for transmissible diseases in Section VII.

Additionally, the PVP must record details of any substance administered which appears in the list of medicines considered essential for horses, as required by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1950/2006. These substances have a set minimum six month withdrawal period before horses can enter the food chain.

Reference: (EC) No 1950/2006, Recital 5

### 2.6.5 Prohibited substances in food animals

The annex to Commission Regulation (EU) 37/2010 contains a list of pharmacologically active substances and their classification regarding maximum residue limits.

The annex is divided into two tables. Table 1 lists allowed substances, which may be administered to food-producing animals. Table 2 lists prohibited substances, which may not be administered to food-producing animals.

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In the event that a medicine containing any of the substances listed in Table 2 of (EU) 37/2010 is administered to a horse, the animal can never be slaughtered for human consumption.

The owner or PVP must sign Part II of Section IX of the passport to declare the horse as “not intended for human consumption”.

### 2.6.6 Phenylbutazone

Phenylbutazone is not listed in either Table 1 or Table 2 of Regulation (EU) 37/2010. The Veterinary Medicines Directorate has authorised the use of products containing phenylbutazone as an active ingredient, but their use is restricted to non-food horses.

Horses which have been treated with phenylbutazone must not enter the food chain and their passports must be signed by the owner or PVP at Part II of Section IX to indicate that the animal is not intended for human consumption.

Note: It is possible that owners may administer phenylbutazone without signing the animal out of the human food chain. OV's must be alert for other evidence of phenylbutazone having been administered.

## 3. FBO responsibility

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Cattle
- 3.3 Sheep and goats
- 3.4 Pigs
- 3.5 Horses

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### 3.1 Introduction

#### 3.1.1 Duty to ensure traceability

The FBO has a duty to ensure that all livestock accepted for slaughter in approved establishments are correctly identified.

Regulation: (EC) 853/2004 Annex II Section II, paragraphs 1&2.

#### 3.1.2 Record keeping

The FBO must keep the records relating to the movement of livestock onto the establishment as specified in the relevant species movement legislation.

Regulation: (EC)178/2002, article 17

The FBO must be able to identify any person from whom they have been supplied with a food-producing animal and have systems in place to allow for this information to be made available to the competent authority.

Regulation: (EC)178/2002, article 18

### 3.2 Cattle

#### 3.2.1 Duty not to slaughter cattle unless the identity has been ascertained

If the identity of a bovine animal is queried or unknown the FBO must:

- notify the presenter to try to resolve and to prevent recurrence
- notify the OV (as part of their HACCP based procedures)
- notify the DAERA field office of the identity/movement discrepancy
- ensure the animal is not slaughtered for human consumption unless the identity of the animal can be ascertained.

The slaughterhouse FBO can only process an animal with a single tag where specifically authorized and under license.

Regulation: Cattle Identification (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 1998, reg 6.

Regulation EC 853/2004 Annex II, Section II point 3.

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### 3.2.2 Duty to remove, secure and dispose of eartags and to kill-number for reconciliation

The FBO must:

- remove the eartags from each animal
- keep the eartags secure
- ensure the eartags removed are destroyed so they cannot be reused
- mark the animal, i.e. kill number it, such that the carcase can be reconciled with the eartags that has been removed from it.

Regulation: Cattle Identification (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 1998, regulation 12(3) and 12(6).

The Cattle Identification (Notification of Births, Deaths and Movements) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2011

### 3.2.3 Requirement to notify movement and death

Slaughterhouse FBOs are keepers and as such are required to notify DAERA of cattle moving onto the slaughterhouse, and cattle deaths. They have been given approval by DAERA to use computer software to do this.

Regulation: Cattle Identification (Notification of Births, Deaths and Movements) Regulations (NI) 1999 as amended.

Cattle that are DOA or DIL or those that have to be killed and disposed of, rather than slaughtered for human consumption, are notified as cattle deaths, with arrangements made for TSE testing, if appropriate.

### 3.2.4 Summary of arrangements FBO needs in place at a cattle slaughterhouse

The FBO requires procedures for:

- receipt of the movement document (either hard copy or secure electronic format) and retention for 3 years (these do not need to be forwarded to DAERA).
- checking the validity of the document and its content through Ab-net to the NIFAIS database

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- checking the animals are identified Properly Tagged
  - checking the movement document against animals presented to ensure tag numbers match description recorded
  - allocating and recording kill numbers
  - removal, handling and secure disposal of eartags
  - bringing discrepancies to the attention of the OV
  - detaining any animal with a query
  - notifying the presenter that an animal has been detained and working with the presenter to resolve the query, with reference to DAERA Direct or other offices as appropriate
  - Ascertaining the identity of cattle with an identity query or unknown identity
  - Where cattle are rejected at Antemortem Inspection and disposed of through rendering the FBO must notify the Renderer of the Tag Number, It is then the responsibility of the renderer to report the death on NIFAIS, thus removing it from the Lairage Herd. The death notification field will populate automatically on NIFAIS, negating the need for the FBO to send the MC1 death notification to the regional Divisional Veterinary Office. This applies to both TSE and non-TSE test-eligible cattle.

### 3.3 Sheep and goats

#### 3.3.1 Sheep and Goat (RIM) Order 2009

The slaughterhouse FBO can only accept sheep / goats which are:

- properly identified
- accompanied by a valid movement license or veterinary health certificate ( in the case of imported animals)

The FBO must endorse the movement document with their name and address and maintain movement records as required by DAERA for a Central Point of Recording (CPR). Documentation must be retained by the FBO for 3 years.

The FBO must remove all eartags from each animal and keep them in a secure place and surrender them to DAERA on request.

Any veterinary health certificate must be passed to DAERA officials.

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### **3.3.2 Summary of arrangements FBO needs in place at a sheep slaughterhouse**

FBO must have procedures for:

- receipt and retention of the movement document
- checking the movement document against animals presented
- checking the animals are identified
- entering the movement on to APHIS through a web link
- separation of animals according to age (where appropriate)
- handling eartags
- bringing discrepancies to the attention of the OV.

## **3.4 Pigs**

### **3.4.1 The Pigs (RIM) Order 2012**

Pigs moving into the slaughterhouse must be accompanied by a movement licence.

### **3.4.2 Summary of arrangements FBO needs in place at a pig slaughterhouse**

FBO must have procedures for:

- receipt of the movement document
- checking the movement document against animals presented
- checking the pigs are identified
- bringing discrepancies to the attention of the OV
- identification of pigs requiring Trichinella testing and notifying OV.

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### 3.5 Horses

#### 3.5.1 Horse passports

The FBO is responsible for:

- ensuring that every horse accepted for slaughter is accompanied by its matching passport, which has been issued by an approved issuing body and complies with the required format
- ensuring that the passport does not exclude the horse from the human food chain
- ensuring that any veterinary medicinal withdrawal periods recorded on the passport have elapsed
- scanning every horse for the presence of a transponder and if present, ensuring that the number matches that recorded in the passport.

Note: Transponders inserted prior to 1 July 2009 may not be recorded in the passport.

If they accept the animal for slaughter, the FBO must give the passport to the OV.

Regulation: (EC) 853/2004 Annex II, Section III, Paragraph 8.

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### 4. VPHTP role

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Checks on FBO procedure for cattle identity
- 4.3 Checks on FBO procedure for sheep and goats identity
- 4.4 Checks on FBO procedure for pig identity
- 4.5 Checks on FBO procedure for horse identity

#### 4.1 Introduction

##### 4.1.1 Checks and verification of FBO duties

The OV is to verify that the FBO complies with (EC) 853/2004 requirement to ensure that animals accepted for slaughter for human consumption are properly identified.

The OV must ensure that animals whose identity is not reasonably ascertainable by the FBO are killed separately and declared unfit for human consumption.

If the OV considers it necessary, they should contact the local DVO to arrange for official controls to be carried out on the holding of provenance.

Reference: See section on enforcement in this chapter.

Regulation: (EU) 2019/627, Article 43 1

##### 4.1.2 Checks by the OV

The checks by the OV vary depending on the species of livestock presented for slaughter, as detailed in the following topics. The OV can delegate some checks to MIs.

For horses, every animal must be checked against the passport by the OV. For other species there are daily checks of FBO assessment on a minimum of 10% of animals presented for slaughter with a minimum of 5 animals checked on each kill day. Where checks reveal problems with FBO procedures the OV must ensure the FBO corrects the problem. In addition to the daily checks there is at least monthly verification of all the FBO processes in relation to animal identification as part of the

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slaughter hygiene verification system. The nature and intensity of checks is ultimately determined by the OV, in order to have confidence in the FBO system.

Daily checks should be carried out at multiple stages of the process, from handling of movement documentation, through physical identity checks, to kill numbering and should include post mortem checks. The verification checks against the FBO's documented system must also cover the entire process.

Deficiencies identified during daily checks are reported by exception on the VPH 23 under 'routine inspection HYG'. Confirmation that the verification checks have been completed is on the VPH 25 slaughter hygiene verification record.

Enforcement action must be taken in accordance with hierarchy of enforcement, Chapter 7.

### ***10% Identity Checks specific to Bovine Slaughter Plants***

OVs must conduct identity checks on at least 10% of the animals presented on a given day to verify that the animal's identity tag, description and sex is accurately recorded on the movement document/APHIS/NIFAIS.

Hard copies of the 10% identity verification check records must be appropriately stored in Content Manager (CM). This will be in the bovine ID Verification Checks 10% container within the file plan for the premises. These are considered as Official DAERA documents and must be stored as such.

At the end of day the MT20b should be printed in its entirety to show the exact number slaughtered. Each animal which has been checked should be clearly identified on this document using a legible method e.g. marked with an asterisk/highlighted. The number of animals checked should be at least 10% of the total.

OVs need to sign and date the document. The completed document should be scanned and saved to the FBO's container in Content Manager, in the Bovine ID Verification Check 10% container using the naming convention "10% ID check [FBO NAME] [DATE]" .

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### 4.2 Checks on FBO procedure for cattle identity

#### 4.2.1 APHIS verification

Through Ab-net APHIS is used to check 100% of NI cattle movement documents and their content. This confirms the validity of the movement document and compares the information on the movement document with that held on APHIS.

#### 4.2.2 Imported animals

Direct slaughter imported animals are registered on APHIS through Ab-net by FBO from the information on the passport. A lairage list is then printed from APHIS for use at the FBO physical verification check stage.

#### 4.2.3 Animals without movement documents

Animals without movement documents, whether NI or imported, cannot be processed. The FBO must be asked to obtain the movement document from the supplier.

Suppliers presenting animals without movement documents should be reported to the local DVO for follow up or to the DVO Trade in the case of imported animals.

#### 4.2.4 Animal identification related statuses

Animal with identification related statuses must have additional checks performed by the FBO to confirm eligibility for slaughter.

Reference: Annex V

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### 4.2.4 Physical checks

The OV monitors the FBO's lairage operatives as they check cattle description and identity from the movement document and eartag number, and as the operative records the kill number.

Any identity discrepancy should be brought to the attention of OV and should be investigated in accordance with FBO HACCP based procedures.

Regulation 853/2004, Annex II, Section II, paragraph 3

### 4.2.5 Animal with no eartags / hand written tags / mis-matched tags etc.

The OV should verify that the FBO follows their HACCP based procedures when animals arrive which are not correctly identified.

Only animals whose identities are reasonably ascertainable can enter the food chain.

In the case of animals whose identity is not reasonably ascertainable the OV must ensure that they are killed separately and declared unfit for human consumption

Regulation: (EU) 2019/267 Article 43 1.

### 4.2.6 Animal with a single tag where double tag required

The FBO must be authorised to slaughter animals that arrive with just a single ear tag under a license. The FBO is required to keep a record of those animals slaughtered under such a license and provide that information to DAERA.

Regulation: Cattle Identification (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 1998, regulation 6.

### 4.2.7 Animal presented not on movement document

Where this is an administrative error; i.e. the presenter entered wrong details on the movement document, APHIS verification checks should be conducted on the animal presented to ensure eligibility for slaughter.

The FBO should be asked to get the presenter to amend the movement documentation. In practice the FBO may act as the presenter's agent and amend the document on his behalf. APHIS amendments should be made and noted as appropriate.

The animal can then be processed as normal.

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### 4.2.8 Animal on movement document not presented

Where an animal is listed on the movement document but the animal is not presented for identity check and kill numbering, the animal's whereabouts need to be established.

In cases where a genuine problem has resulted in the animal not being presented e.g. not able to be loaded at the farm, the farmer or the FBO acting as the farmer's agent should amend the movement document accordingly.

Where the animal has entered the lairage on APHIS, a fault report should be sent to ASU to make the corrective move back to the farm of origin.

### 4.2.9 No explanation for non presentation

Where there is no reasonable and timely explanation given by the FBO for animal(s) missing:

- a report should be sent to the local DVO indicating that the presenter has failed to comply with the Cattle Identification (Notification of Births, Deaths and Movements) Regulations (NI) 1999, regulation 7.
- Where the animal has entered the lairage on APHIS, a fault report should be sent to the APHIS Support Unit to make the corrective move back to the farm of origin.

### 4.2.10 Description discrepancy

Where the animal presented does not match the official description held on APHIS the evidence must be considered as to whether this is a minor or a serious discrepancy. Discrepancy procedures should be followed as appropriate but the animal's identity must be reasonably ascertainable to be eligible for the food chain. The OV should verify that the FBO follows his HACCP based procedures in cases where animals arrive that are not properly identified.

Reference: Annex V

## 4.3 Checks on FBO procedure for sheep and goats identity

### 4.3.1 Movement documents and identification

Total number of sheep slaughtered must be reconciled with number on the movement documents at the end of the day. Discrepancies must be investigated.

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The daily checks should be a combination of observation that movement documents are provided, ear tags are in place, that the scanning equipment is working and monitoring what has to be put on to the system manually.

Attention should be paid to the investigations and action of the FBO in resolving sheep identity queries. Discrepancies are reported to the local DVO for follow up action.

FBO procedures should be verified as part of the slaughter hygiene verification.

### 4.4 Checks on FBO procedure for pig identity

#### 4.4.1 Movement documents and identification

Movement documents are entered onto APHIS by the OV. As slap marks are not visible in live pigs the slap marking should be verified as part of carcase inspection procedures.

FBO procedures should be verified as part of the slaughter hygiene verification.

### 4.5 Checks on FBO procedure for horse identity

#### 4.5.1 OV action

FBO procedures should be verified as part of the slaughter hygiene verification.

On a daily basis, the OV must examine the identity of every horse presented for slaughter for human consumption.

Note: When there are overriding animal welfare considerations, horses may undergo slaughter at the slaughterhouse even if the legally required information concerning their identity has not been supplied. However, this information must be supplied before the carcase may be declared fit for human consumption. This also applies in the case of emergency slaughter of horses outside the slaughterhouse.

Regulation: (EU) 2019/627 43 1

#### 4.5.2 Eligibility of horses for slaughter

When checking the eligibility of horses for slaughter, factors to consider include:

- the horse must be accompanied by its passport

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- the horse description in the passport must match the animal and the transponder on the horse must match that on the passport
- any medicinal products that have been listed.

Note: Ante-mortem inspection cannot continue where the Section IX part is not presented with the passport.

For passport sections I & II check that the horse identity matches the information contained in those sections.

For passport section IX, Part IIA check that the owner declaration stating that the horse is intended for human consumption is signed and dated.

For passport section IX, Part IIIB check that the withdrawal periods for the medicines recorded in these sections has been met.

### 4.5.3 Further checks

Once the owner has presented the passport, and after the FBO has decided that it should be submitted for ante-mortem inspection, the OV should make checks to ensure that there is no visible evidence to indicate that substances with a pharmacological effect have been administered which may make fresh meat unfit for human consumption.

### 4.5.4 Withdrawal periods

Any drugs listed in part IIIB of a horses passport should have had a 6 month withdrawal period before the horse is slaughtered for human consumption. Many products will say on the label 'Not for Horses for Human Consumption' however the 6 month withdrawal period will still apply.

Note: See the VMD website relating to restricted veterinary medicines:

<http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/vet/horses.aspx>

### 4.5.5 Medicinal products. Annex IV substances

Any horse treated with an Annex IV substance can never be used for human consumption and the OV should be alert for signs of these drugs inadvertently being administered to a horse.

Reference: See Annexes 1, 2 & 3 for a sample copy of the horse passport sections II, III and IX.

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### 4.5.6 Horse passport deficiencies

If there is evidence of horse passport fraud, this should be reported to Farm Policy Branch, Room 920, Dundonald House, Belfast.

If a horse is presented with an ineligible passport, or presented without a passport, the OV must notify the Regional D/SVO who will discuss with the relevant DAERA staff available options. Such animals may have to be humanely destroyed and disposed of as category 2 animal by-product.

Any horse presented with an ineligible passport or without a passport, which is accidentally slaughtered, must be disposed of as category 2 animal by-product.

Note :Horses to which Annex IV substances have been administered are category 1 animal by-product.

Regulation: (EC)1069/2009 Article 8

### 4.5.7 Return of passports

The OV should give the passport to the FBO for return to the passport issuing organisation.

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# 5. Enforcement

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Storage and disposal of carcasses

### 5.1 Introduction

#### 5.1.1 Failure of FBO duties

In cases where there has been a clear breach of the domestic or EU requirements for the FBO to establish animal identity, action should be taken in accordance with the hierarchy of enforcement.

Serious or persistent breaches should be recommended for prosecution in the normal way.

Reference: Chapter 7 Enforcement.

#### 5.1.2 Reasons for suspicion of fraud

Several things may give the OV grounds for suspecting cattle identity fraud. Examples include:

- tampered ear tags
- shiny new ear tags
- different character fonts on the same ear tag
- extra holes in the ear with no tag
- wrong breed/sex/colour

#### 5.1.3 Official controls on farm of provenance

DAERA is responsible for enforcement of animal identification legislation. The OV should inform the local DVO of any suspect offence regarding:

- the identification of animals

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- movement records, and
- suspect fraudulent documents.

Reports should be made promptly and in writing, so that enforcement action is not prejudiced where there are time limits for action set down in the legislation.

You must keep detailed records of the incident and retain any evidence and copies of documentation that could be used in an investigation.

## 5.2 Storage and disposal of carcasses

### 5.2.1 Storage of carcasses pending investigation

The OV should instruct the FBO to inform the keeper that the carcass will not be health marked pending the outcome of any investigation of herd records.

Note: Investigation may take a period of time during which chilled carcasses could deteriorate.

The owners of carcasses that have not been health marked pending investigation must be kept fully informed of the position and given the opportunity to request that the carcass is boned and vacuum packed or frozen under supervision at their own expense until the investigation has been completed.

Reference: Chapter 7 Enforcement.

### 5.2.2 Disposal of carcasses

When the OV is not satisfied that identification and age requirements have been complied with, the carcass must not be health marked. The FBO should dispose of the carcass as follows:

- carcass containing SRM (including vertebral column in carcasses from animals suspected or confirmed of being OTM) should be slashed, stained with patent blue V E131 and disposed of as SRM (category 1 animal by-product)
- carcasses that have had all SRM removed (including vertebral column in bovine carcasses suspected of being OTM) should be slashed and stained with Black PN or Brilliant Black BN and disposed of as category 2 animal by-product. The SRM should be stained and disposed of as category 1 animal by-product.

Reference: Chapter 2.7 SRM.

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Where surrender is not forthcoming, the OV should put in writing the reasons why they are formally declaring the meat unfit for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/627 Article 45

**Note:** Where the FBO continues to refuse to dispose of meat that has been declared unfit, follow the ABP provisions relating to the treatment of meat declared unfit for human consumption in chapter 2.8 Animal By-Products.

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### 6. Annexes

Annex 1          Sample Horse passport

Annex 2          Annex U

Annex 3          Annex V

# The Horse Passport

## SECTION II

(1) No. d'identification:

Identification No:

(2) Nom:

Name:

(3) Sexe:

Sex:

(4) Robe:

Colour:

(5) Race:

Breed:

(6) par:

by:

(7a) et:

and:

(7b) par:

by:

(8) Date de naissance:

Date of foaling:

(9) Lieu d'élevage:

Place where bred:

(10) Naisseur(s):

Breeder(s):

(11) Certificat d'origine validé le:

par:

Origin certificate validated on:

by:

- Nom de l'autorité compétente:

Name of the competent authority:

- Adresse:

Address:

- No. de téléphone:

Telephone No:

- No. de télécopie:

Fax number:

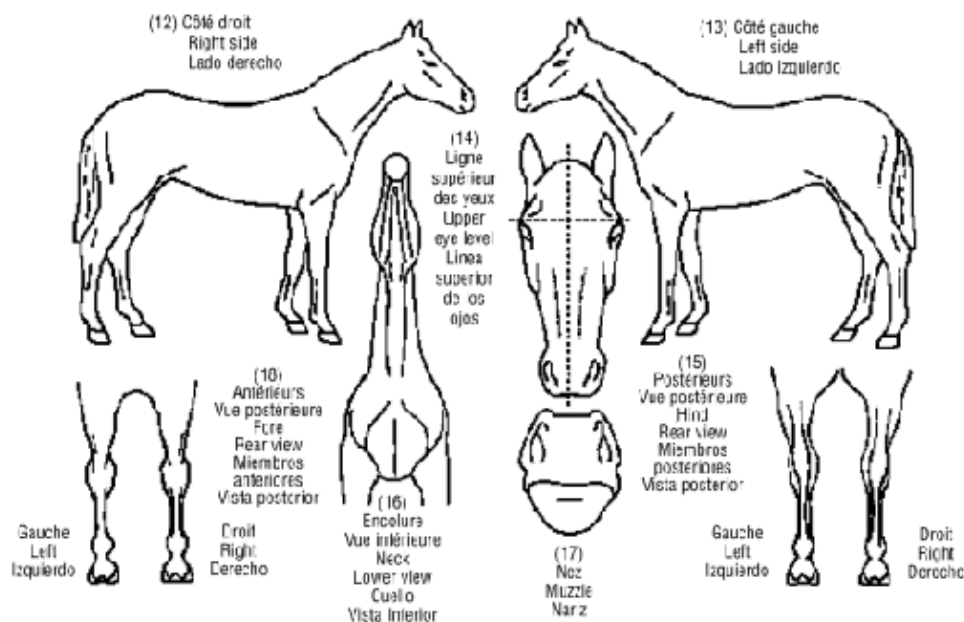
- Signature: (Nom en lettres capitales et qualité du signataire)

Signature: (Name in capital letters and capacity of signatory)

- Cachet:

Stamp:

## SECTION III



(19) Signalement relevé sous la mère par: {/d}{d2}{t2}Description taken with dam by:

{/d}{d2}{t2}Tête:

Head:

Ant. G:

Foreleg L:

Ant. D:

Foreleg R:

Post G:

Hindleg L:

Post D:

Hindleg R:

Corps:

Body:

Marques:

Markings:

Le:

On:

(20) Circonscription:

District:

(21) Signature et cachet du vétérinaire agréé (ou de l'autorité compétente)

Signature and stamp of qualified veterinary surgeon (or competent authority)

(en lettres capitales) (in capital letters)

## SECTION IX

### MEDICINAL TREATMENT

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     | <b>IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF ANIMAL<sup>(3)(9)</sup></b><br>.....          |
| <b>Part I</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| Date and Place of issue of this section: ..... <sup>(9)</sup>                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| Competent authority issuing this section of the identification document: ..... <sup>(9)</sup>                                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| <b>Part II</b> (excludes the animal definitively from slaughter for human consumption, must be reconfirmed when the animal changes ownership)                                                                            |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| I, the undersigned owner <sup>(2)</sup> /representative of the owner <sup>(2)</sup> declare that the animal described in this identification document is not intended for slaughter for human consumption <sup>(3)</sup> |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| Date and Place                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Name in capitals and signature of the owner of the animal or his/her representative | Name in capitals and signature of representative of competent authorities |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| <b>Part III-A</b> (only valid in connection with information in Part III-B)                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| I, the undersigned owner <sup>(2)</sup> /representative of the owner <sup>(2)</sup> declare that the animal described in this identification document is intended for slaughter for human consumption <sup>(4)</sup>     |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
| Date and Place                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Name in capitals and signature of the owner of the animal or his/her representative | Name in capitals and signature of representative of competent authorities |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                           |

<sup>(1)</sup> Identification number as indicated in Section II(1) of the identification document.

<sup>(2)</sup> Delete what is not applicable.

<sup>(3)</sup> The animal may be treated with medicinal products containing substances listed in Annex I, II, III or IV to Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90 and other substances. Recording of medicinal treatment in Part III-B is optional. The animal shall never be slaughtered for human consumption.

<sup>(4)</sup> The animal may be treated with medicinal products containing substances listed in Annex I, II or III to Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90 and other substances excluding those listed in Annex IV to that Regulation. The animal can only be slaughtered for human consumption after the completion of the general withdrawal period of six months following the date of the last treatment, certified obligatory in Part III-B, with medicinal products containing substances other than those listed in Annex I, II or III to Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90.

<sup>(5)</sup> Not required where this Section is issued together with the identification document.

| Part III-B (information compulsory for equidae identified in accordance with Part III-A)                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| MEDICATION RECORD                                                                                                                                                |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
| Date of last treatment with a medicinal product containing substances not included in Annex I, II, III or IV of Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90<br><br>[dd/mm/yyyy] | Place<br>-<br>Country Code<br>-<br>Postcode<br>- Place | Substance(s) incorporated in the medicinal product which is/are not included in Annex I, II, III or IV of Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90 <sup>(5)(6)</sup> |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
| Veterinary surgeon applying and/or prescribing medicinal treatment                                                                                               |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
|                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          | Name: . . .<br>. . . . . <sup>(7)</sup><br>Address:<br>. . . . .<br>(7)<br>Postcode:<br>. . . . .<br>(7)<br>Place: . . .<br>. . . . . <sup>(7)</sup><br>Tel: . . . . .<br>. . . <sup>(7)</sup> | Signature |
|                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
|                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
|                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |

<sup>(6)</sup> Verify through published Annexes to Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90.

<sup>(7)</sup> This information is optional, however this information may allow the reduction of the withdrawal period if the specified substance is included in Annex I, II or III to Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90 after it was administered. The minimum withdrawal times would then be those established in Article 4(4) of Directive 81/851/EEC.

<sup>(8)</sup> Name, address, postcode and place in printed letters.

<sup>(9)</sup> Telephone number including country code and regional code.

# Annex U

## Official Veterinarian Decision-making table for TSE Surveillance Sampling & Vertebral Column SRM Official Controls for Cattle Accepted for Slaughter for Human Consumption

Cattle from EU countries

| APHIS age            | APHIS Status | Ante-Mortem Findings                                       | Must be Slaughtered as: | TSE Sample                                    | VC SRM Control |                           |
|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
|                      |              |                                                            |                         |                                               | NR Status      | CR Status                 |
| < 30 months          | M            | No Risk Factors                                            | UTM                     | NO                                            | NO             | NO                        |
|                      |              | At Risk Cattle (Imported Animal; AM Risk Finding; or OFES) | UTM                     | NO                                            | NO             | NO                        |
| > 30 and ≤ 48 months | O30          | No Risk Factors                                            | OTM                     | NO                                            | NO             | YES<br>VC must be removed |
|                      |              | At Risk Cattle (Imported Animal; AM Risk Finding; or OFES) | OTM                     | NO                                            | NO             | YES<br>VC must be removed |
| > 48 and ≤ 72 months | O48          | No Risk Factors                                            | OTM                     | NO                                            | NO             | YES<br>VC must be removed |
|                      |              | At Risk Cattle (Imported Animal; AM Risk Finding; or OFES) | OTM                     | YES<br><br>Carcase must be sampled & detained | NO             | YES<br>VC must be removed |
| > 72 months and born | O72          | No Risk Factors                                            | OTM                     | NO                                            | NO             | YES<br>VC must be removed |

|                                                                                |                     |                                                                   |                                |                                               |                               |                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| on or after<br><br>01-08-1996                                                  |                     | <i>At Risk Cattle (Imported Animal; AM Risk Finding; or OFES)</i> | OTM                            | YES<br><br>Carcase must be sampled & detained | NO                            | YES<br><br>VC must be removed |
| Cattle Imported from GB, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia & Third (Non EU) Countries |                     |                                                                   |                                |                                               |                               |                               |
| <b>APHIS age</b>                                                               | <b>APHIS Status</b> | <b>Ante-Mortem Findings</b>                                       | <b>Must be Slaughtered as:</b> | <b>TSE Sample</b>                             | <b>VC SRM Control</b>         |                               |
| ≥ 24 and ≤ 30 months                                                           | BSEI                | <i>No Risk Factors</i>                                            | UTM                            | NO                                            | NO                            |                               |
|                                                                                |                     | <i>At Risk Cattle (AM Risk Finding; or OFES)</i>                  | UTM                            | YES<br><br>Carcase must be sampled & detained | NO                            |                               |
| > 30 months                                                                    | BSEI                | <i>No Risk Factors</i>                                            | OTM                            | YES<br><br>Carcase must be sampled & detained | YES<br><br>VC must be removed |                               |
|                                                                                |                     | <i>At Risk Cattle (AM Risk Finding; or OFES)</i>                  | OTM                            | YES<br><br>Carcase must be sampled & detained | YES<br><br>VC must be removed |                               |

Risk - risk refers to TSE risk factors (manual of official controls Ch 2.6 TSE testing 2-3)

# Annex V

## Official Veterinarian Decision-making table for Acceptability of Cattle Presented for Slaughter for Human Consumption when Certain Risk Factors Exist

### Risk Factor

1. Identity Query
2. Born before 01 August 1996
3. Unidentified, Identity Unknown (IDU), 11/11/1111 Cattle
4. BSE

**Note 1 :** Final determination on Entry to the Food Chain is made only after ALL inspections are completed and ALL information considered

**Note 2 :** The assessment of age, for M cattle with IDQ status, by dental examination is used to (i) ensure pre 01/08/96 cattle excluded, (ii) ensure appropriate SRM controls, and/or (iii) determine if APHIS age consistent/inconsistent

| Risk Factor                                                           | FBO/OV<br>Identity &<br>Age<br>Findings                                                           | Slaughter<br>Category | Acceptable<br>for Slaughter<br>for Human<br>Consumption | OV Actions                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Identity Query Status (IDQ, DOBQ, NNO or UNCOR)                    | <i>Identity Not Reasonably Ascertainable*</i><br><br>*Includes M cattle with 8 Permanent Incisors | Not Applicable        | No                                                      | Kill Separately<br><br>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption   |
| or                                                                    |                                                                                                   |                       |                                                         |                                                              |
| Identity Query in Lairage (at FBO Documentary or Physical Inspection) | Properly Identified – Identity Ascertained*<br><br>*Includes M cattle with 0-2 Permanent Incisors | UTM                   | Yes                                                     | Verify FBO's Compliance<br><br>Complete AM and PM Inspection |
|                                                                       | Properly Identified – Identity Ascertained*                                                       | O30M                  | Yes                                                     | Verify FBO's Compliance                                      |

|                                                            |                                                                |                |     |                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                            | *Includes M cattle with 3-7 Permanent Incisors                 |                |     | Complete AM and PM Inspection                                            |
| 2. Born before 01/08/1996 (V)                              | <i>Born in the UK or Imported to the UK before 01/08/1996</i>  | Not Applicable | No  | <b>Kill Separately</b><br><br><b>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption</b> |
|                                                            | <i>Born outside the UK and Imported to UK after 01/08/1996</i> | V              | Yes | Complete AM and PM Inspection                                            |
| 3. Unidentified, Identity Unknown (IDU), 11/11/1111 Cattle | <i>Identity Not Reasonably Ascertainable</i>                   | Not Applicable | No  | <b>Kill Separately</b><br><br><b>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption</b> |
| 4. BSE                                                     | <i>BSE Suspect</i>                                             | Not Applicable | No  | <b>Kill Separately</b><br><br><b>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption</b> |
|                                                            | <i>BSE Confirmed</i>                                           | Not Applicable | No  | <b>Kill Separately</b><br><br><b>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption</b> |
|                                                            | <i>Progeny of BSE Positive</i>                                 | Not Applicable | No  | <b>Kill Separately</b><br><br><b>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption</b> |
|                                                            | <i>Cohort of a BSE Positive</i>                                | Not Applicable | No  | <b>Kill Separately</b><br><br><b>Declare Unfit for Human Consumption</b> |