

# News Release

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04/04/2022

## **FARMER CONVICTED AT DOWNPATRICK COURT**

Mr Donal McGreevy, Moor Road, Ballydrumman, Ballyward was convicted at Downpatrick Magistrates Court on 04/04/2022 of two charges of failure to notify the movement of animals off his premises and one charge of failure to present his herd register.

### **Mr McGreevy pleaded guilty and was fined £300 plus £15 offender levy.**

The case arose from a number of discrepancies found during a cattle identification inspection carried out by DAERA's Welfare and Enforcement Branch.

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

1. Mr McGreevy was convicted of two charges of being the keeper of bovine animals, in contravention of Article 7.1 of the Council Regulations (EC) No 1760/2000 and Article 6.3 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2629/97, failed to notify the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs of the movement of a number of animals off his holding in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 7 of the Cattle Identification (Notification of Births, Deaths and Movements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999, contrary to Regulation 5(1) of the Cattle Identification (Notification of Births, Deaths and Movements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999.
2. Mr McGreevy was convicted of one charge of contravening Article 7.4 of Council Regulation EC/820/973 in that he failed to present a herd register when required to do so, contrary to Regulation 3(1)(f) of the Cattle Identification (Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998.
3. Breaches of the Cattle Identification Regulations weaken and undermine the cattle traceability system in Northern Ireland, including the integrity of the Department's Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS). The current interest in food safety by both Government and consumer

groups means it is essential that the Department is clearly seen to be implementing all legislation pertaining to the traceability of livestock.

4. Cattle movements, notified to the Department, are recorded on to the APHIS database. The provision, within statutory limits or upon request, of complete and timely information concerning cattle in the herd, to the Department, is fundamental to the credibility and integrity of the Department's Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS).
5. Properly maintained herd registers form an integral part of an animal's traceability, supporting the accuracy and integrity of the Department's Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS). Accurately maintained herd records corroborate and complement the APHIS details and help maintain public confidence in beef traceability and assists in animal disease control.
6. All media enquiries to DAERA Press Office, Tel: 028 9052 4619. Out of office hours please contact the Duty Press Officer via pager number 07623974383 and your call will be returned.