



Rules and Conditions

Premium Sheep and Goat Health Schemes

SCRAPIE MONITORING SCHEME

Operated by SRUC Veterinary Services

CONTENTS

46

Page	
3	Glossary
5	INTRODUCTION
5	Background
7	THE DIMEC
7	THE RULES
7	Membership and certification
12	2. Animal movement and ownership change
14	3. Testing fallen stock
16	4. Record keeping and records required at initial and annual inspections
18	5. ARR/ARR Exemption
19	6. Withdrawal from SMS or loss or change of status
21	7. General legal matters
23	Annex 1: Show, Sale and Al Centre Requirements
27	Annex 2: Registration documents
	G
35	Annex 3: Renewal documents
43	Annex 4: Notes for Guidance
45	Annex 5: TSE Sampling Sites

Annex 6: TSE Submission Forms

- $\begin{tabular}{ll} "SRUC" means SRUC Veterinary Services, a division of Scotland's Rural College: \\ \end{tabular}$
- "Scrapie" means classical scrapie only:
- " SMS" means the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme:

Certificates will state if the holding has Controlled Risk or Negligible Risk status Controlled Risk shows compliance for a minimum of three years and Negligible Risk is compliance for a minimum of seven years.

Each SMS Monitoring Certificate is valid for ONE YEAR from its date of issue. Existing members will be sent renewal forms to renew their membership certificates six weeks before expiry. If you do not receive your form as indicated, you should contact the SRUC PSGHS office who will issue the form to you:

The OV will check that your flock/herd and holding comply with SMS rules (see also the checklist for OVs in Annex 2 and 3):

The SMS Monitoring Application or Renewal form (see Annex 2 and 3) must be signed and stamped by an OV and contain a declaration signed by you to be valid: You must return the completed form and checklist to SRUC PSGHS office.

A certificate of scrapie monitoring will be issued by SRUC once the correctly

A certificate of scrapie monitoring will be issued by SRUC once the correctly completed Application or Renewal form has been received and assessed by SRUC.

1.4 Reporting suspected infection

If any of your animals show clinical signs or behavioural changes consistent with classical or atypical scrapie, and if you or the OV suspect that an animal is affected with classical or atypical scrapie, this must be reported to APHA. This is a legal requirement. If you have not already done so you must also immediately inform the OV. You must also inform APHA that the suspect animal is from an SMS Flock.

If tests carried out on the suspect animal confirm the presence of classical scrapie, APHA will notify the OV to withdraw and cancel the current SMS Monitoring Certificate and, if this has already been issued, APHA will also inform SRUC.

1.5 <u>Discretion of SRUC and APHA</u>

SRUC's decisions are deemed to be final and SRUC shall have sole discretion to determine the following:

Whether certain forms should be withdrawn under the SMS.

1.8 <u>Semen and embryos</u>

Semen and embryos introduced into Controlled or Negligible Risk flocks/herds for artificial breeding purposes do not have to be derived from donors belonging to Controlled or Negligible Risk flocks/herds. All that is required is for the donors to be permanently identified and traceable to their holding of birth and to not show any clinical signs of scrapie at the time of collection, and in the case of embryo donors, to be kept since birth on holdings on which scrapie has not been confirmed while resident on that holding.

If you are moving semen and embryos within GB ultimately for trade to EU Member States, the conditions of Annex VIII must be met. For further details see Section 7 - General Legal Matters).

The donor animals must have been held on holdings as part of a monitored flock since birth or as part of an

If Scrapie monitored Negligible Risk flocks and herds are kept on the same holding(s) as Controlled Risk flocks and herds, they must be kept as far apart as possible, and at least 2 metres apart.

Under no circumstances can Monitored and N

2. Animal movement and ownership change

2.1 Moving animals

Any animal which moves from one location to another will automatically lose its Scrapie Monitored status unless you ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

Transport:

The animal(s) must only travel directly from one permitted location to another permitted location (as listed below):

The animal(s) must be segregated from any animals which are not part of a Scrapie Monitored flock or herd:

Animals from Negligible Risk flocks and herds must be segregated from any animals which are part of a Controlled Risk flock or herd:

Vehicles previously used for transporting animals must be cleaned and disinfected using DEFRA-approved disinfectants (at the "General Orders" concentration) between use for **Non-monitored** and **Monitored** flocks and herds:

Vehicles previously used for transporting animals must be cleaned and disinfected using DEFRA-approved disinfectants (at the "General Orders" concentration) between use for **Controlled Risk** flocks and herds and for **Negligible Risk** flocks and herds.

Permitted locations:

The locations to and from which the animal moves must be one of the following:

- a Scrapie Monitored holding:
- a holding which is, and which has been for the previous three years (for a Controlled Risk flock or herd) or seven years (for a Negligible Risk flock or herd) free from animals:
- a show, sale or artificial insemination centre which complies with the requirements detailed in Annex 1 to these rules:
- a qualified UK veterinary surgeon's business premises: or such other location as may be expressly approved in writing by an authorised SRUC official from time to time.

Segregation at temporary locations:

While at any temporary location (meaning any location other than a holding of residence), the animal must be kept segregated from physical contact with any animals not belonging to its flock or herd, other than any animals which are also Scrapie Monitored to the same risk level.

3. Testing fallen stock

3.1 Animals which must be tested

You must ensure that any animal (whether male or female) which is culled or otherwise dies is submitted for scrapie testing if it meets all of the following conditions:

It was part of your Monitored flock or herd at the time of its death.

It was over 18 months of age when it died.

It was not culled as part of an official disease eradication campaign.

It was not culled solely for reasons of physical injury (e.g. a broken leg).

It was not culled for the purpose of human consumption.

Note: Testing requires TSE testing of a sample of each animal's brain. As such the head of the animal (or the whole animal) must be submitted for testing. All fallen stock aged over 18 months at the time of death MUST be tested.

3.2 <u>Testing procedure</u>

You must ensure that testing for scrapie of all fallen stock is carried out. Samples must be sent to APHA (by submitting the carcases to an APHA Veterinary Investigation Centre in England and Wales), to an SRUC Disease Surveillance Centre in Scotland, to an agreed fallen stock collection centre or other registered collection centre. Samples for testing will be forwarded to our appointed testing lab by APHA, SRUC or the fallen stock collector.

Note: You will be charged for private testing – check prices with APHA, SRUC or fallen stock collector. Sampling sites are listed at Annex 5 and samples must be submitted using the correct paperwork – see Annex 6.

3.3 Explaining few or no test results

If the number of animals from your Monitored flock or herd which you have had tested in accordance with Rule 3.2 in any year (being a 12-month period which starts on the application date or its anniversary) is:

low (as defined below), then you must provide information to the OV to verify that there is a legitimate explanation (for example exceptionally low mortality) **zero**, then you must also complete Section D of the Application for Registration/Renewal form before submitting it (whether for initial membership or renewal purposes).

To determine whether the number tested is low:

Calculate total: You must calculate the total number of animals which both:

- a) were part of the applicable flock or herd at any time during the year in question: and
- b) were aged over 18 months by the end of that year.

Calculate percentage: If in the year in question you have tested less than 2% of that total then the number you have tested is low for the purposes of these rules.

4. Record keeping and records required at initial and annual inspections

4.1 Specific records you must keep and disclose

For each of your Monitored flocks or herds/holdings, you must maintain records detailed below. These records must be provided to an OV when the flock or herd and holding are inspected by an OV. The records must also be made available on request at any other reasonable time to an OV (or a veterinary inspector under the Animal Health Act 1981).

Movement and transfers

Certification: An SMS Monitoring Certificate for each individual animal added to the flock or herd for the three years prior to the application date for a Controlled Risk flock or herd, or seven years prior to the application date for a Negligible Risk flock or herd

Movement records: Any individual movement record for each animal added to the flock or herd for the three years prior to the application date for a Controlled Risk flock or herd, or seven years prior to the application date for a Negligible Risk flock or herd, giving details of all transit to and from the registered holding. This requirement is additional to the requirements of the national rules on sheep and goat ID and movement records.

Show/sale approval: SMS Monitoring Certificates for all shows and sales which are attended by any animal from the flock or herd in the previous three years for a Controlled Risk flock or herd, or seven years for a Negligible Risk flock or herd.

Fallen stock

Fallen stock dtbmbers: A record of all animals over 18 months of age which have died in the last three years for a Controlled Risk flock or herd, or seven years for a Negligible Risk flock or herd,

5. ARR/ ARR Exemption

5.1 Genotype exemption

You are not required to comply with Rules 1 to 4 to the extent that they relate to any sheep which have the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype, provided that the following requirements are met:

- 1. You must be able to provide certification verifying that the sheep is ARR/ARR prion protein genotype and the genotyping must have been carried out at
 - a. an APHA laboratory
 - b. SRUC
 - c. any other officially *approved laboratory with ISO17025 accreditation for the procedure

OR

The individual sheep must have a genotyping certificate issued under the National Scrapie Plan (NSP) or the Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme (CSFS) by a laboratory which is/was authorised by the government to carry out genotyping under the plan/scheme.

- 2. The sampling for genotyping must be performed by a veterinary surgeon to certify that the sample was taken from the animal named on the certificate.
- 3. The animal must be individually identified and, at Registration/Renewal, the OV must be satisfied that the sheep in question is the sheep referred to in the genotyping certification you provide.
- * means a laboratory in GB approved by the National Reference Laboratory (APHA). Currently, the only approved laboratories are APHA and SRUC.

When submitting samples for genotyping you should first check with the laboratory that such authorisation is still current.

5.2 Exemption limitations

The exemption provided under Rule 5.1 (genotype exemption) does not apply to:

Goats (including caprine semen and embryos)

Sheep that do not have the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype (e.g. heterozygous ARR sheep, which have only one ARR allele or none)

Embryos from sheep (unless the embryo itself meets the conditions laid down for exempt

6 Withdrawal from SMS or loss/change of status

6.1 Loss of status

Your flock or herd will immediately lose its monitored status if any of the following events occur:

Scrapie is confirmed in the flock or herd or on the holding or part of a holding where the flock or herd is kept.

Scrapie is confirmed on a holding which is considered by APHA in their subsequent investigations to have a significant epidemiological link to your holding.

You do not comply with rules (for example, an animal is added or returned to your flock or herd but you fail to meet the requirements under Rule 2.2 [Adding or returning animals to a holding]). Other reasons for loss of status are buying stock of no status or of the wrong status, of the wrong genotype or purchasing stock at non-segregated sales.

You do not carry out TSE testing as required under Rule 3.

You tell SRUC in writing that you wish your flock or herd to be withdrawn from the SMS. In this case you must also surrender your current certificate of SMS membership.

6.2 Regaining SMS status

You can be re-admitted to the SMS at the discretion of the SRUC (and APHA) providing your flock or herd and holding have complied with the rules of the scheme for the last three years. All aspects of the health and management of the flock or herd will have to be of a standard acceptable to SRUC and to APHA.

6.3 SMS Controlled and Negligible Risk status

SMS Controlled Risk status is achieved when your flock or herd and holding have complied with the rules of the scheme for the last three years. SMS Negligible Risk status is achieved when your flock or herd and holding have complied with the rules of the scheme for the last seven years. If animals from an SMS Controlled Risk status flock or herd are added to a flock or herd with Negligible status the status of the Negligible Risk status flock will become Controlled Risk.

Controlled Risk flocks or herds can only buy from flocks or herds with the same (or higher) years status e.g. if a flock or herd is Controlled Risk for five years they cannot buy from flocks or herds with less than five years status. Sheep of the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype are exempt from this requirement (see Rule 5).

6.4 Penalties

If you breach or fail to comply with the Rules, your flock or herd may be suspended or removed from the SMS.

If the SRUC propose to suspend or remove a flock or herd from the SMS, you will be informed of their decision in writing and given an opportunity to make any objections within 14 days.

Non-compliance with the Rules or a confirmation of scrapie will result in loss of Monitored status under the SMS and your SMS Monitoring Certificate may be cancelled or withdrawn.

7.1.2 If you do not strictly comply with these rules, you shall incur penalties as set out in Rule 6.3

7.2 Liability

SRUC is not liable for any losses incurred by a member or any other person as a result of a flock or herd's loss of status or the imposition of any penalties under the SMS.

ANNEX 1

Show, Sale and Al Centre Requirements

This annex deals with the movement of animals from flocks/herds to shows, sales and other places such as artificial insemination centres. The rules detailed below do not supersede other national or EU legislation or the requirements of APHA relating to animal health and welfare (for example rules relating to transport of animals).

A1.1 Shows and sales (General)

APHA may approve the following types of shows/sales where SMS animals are segregated from non-SMS animals:

- a) Dedicated shows/sales where only animals from SMS holdings can attend
- b) Segregated shows/sale where SMS and non-SMS animals are kept separate.

SMS animals may attend Unsegregated shows/sales under certain circumstances, see A1.3 below. However, direct contact between SMS and non-SMS, or between SMS Negligible Risk and Controlled Risk animals must not occur.

Dedicated and Segregated shows and sales need to be specifically approved to ensure the health status of SMS animals is not compromised. You can find out which shows and sales are approved by contacting APHA.

If animals from Monitored flocks are moved to a non-approved show or sale and return to the holdings of origin, the monitored status of those holdings will be affected (see Rule 6) and no animal from the holdings can be exported to a member state for a three-year period.

Organisers of shows/sales should apply to APHA a minimum of six weeks before the event takes place for the premises to be inspected, approved and registered.

A1.2 Requirements for Dedicated and Segregated shows/sales

The risk of exposure to the scrapie agent at a Dedicated or Segregated show is considered to be very low. However the following requirements must be observed at and in relation to dedicated and segregated shows or sales:



SMS status could be threatened. Attendance is at your own risk and vigilance must be high at all times.

Male SMS animals can attend Unsegregated **all-male** shows/sales at any time of year.

In either situation, the following must apply:

ANNEX 2

Registration Documents

- a) Application for Registration form
- b) Registration OV Checklist

GB Scrapie Monitoring Scheme

As operated by SRUC Veterinary Services

Application for Registration

Please read the Scheme Rules and Notes for Guidance

To the Owner:

Please keep a copy of this document Please send a copy to the Official Veterinarian (OV)

Section C

Section D Only for completion by the owner/agent/keeper where fallen stock have not been submitted for TSE testing

Address: Infirm that in the period covered by this application to join the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme no sher goats over 18 months of age have died on farm or in transit and have been suitable for examinate. Ing. any such animals may have been unsuitable due to decomposition). Signed: Status: Owner/Manager/Agent/Other (if other, specify) Date:			(insert name), of
goats over 18 months of age have died on farm or in transit and have been suitable for examinat g. any such animals may have been unsuitable due to decomposition). gned: Status: Owner/Manager/Agent/Other (if other, specify)	ddress:		
goats over 18 months of age have died on farm or in transit and have been suitable for examinat grant and such animals may have been unsuitable due to decomposition). Grant			
poats over 18 months of age have died on farm or in transit and have been suitable for examinated any such animals may have been unsuitable due to decomposition). Status: Owner/Manager/Agent/Other (if other, specify)			
oats over 18 months of age have died on farm or in transit and have been suitable for examinat any such animals may have been unsuitable due to decomposition). Status: Owner/Manager/Agent/Other (if other, specify)			
te:	. any such animals may have been unsuitab	ole due to de	ecomposition). Owner/Manager/Agent/Other
	ite:		

Checklist for Official Veterinarian

OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN CHECKLIST/SUPPORT DOCUMENT FOR COMPLETION OF A FORM FOR

		YES	NO
8.	Are the movements of all individual animals on and off the		
	holding in the last *three/ seven years recorded and have you		
	checked the movement records?		
9.	Has the applicant provided evidence that animals moved		
	onto the holding in the last *three/ seven years have		
	complied with the rules of the scheme?		
10.	If the animals moved onto the holding in the last		
	*three/ seven years included any that had been at shows or		
	sales, has the owner provided evidence that those shows or		
	sales complied with the rules of the scheme?		
11.	Has there been any purchases of stock within the last		
	*three/ seven years? If the answer is yes, please list below the		
	details of the previous owners. Please use separate sheet if		
	necessary.		

12. Is the flock/herd involved in embryo transfer work? If the answer is yes, are recipients in the SMS

ANNEX 3

Renewal Documents

- a) Application for Renewal form
- b) Renewal OV Checklist

GB Scrapie Monitoring Scheme

As operated by SRUC Veterinary Services

Application for Membership Renewal

Section D Only for completion by the owner/agent/keeper where fallen stock have not been submitted for TSE testing

l,				(insert na	ame), of
Address:					
18 months		farm or in transit	and have	been suitable	ection, no sheep or goats o for examination (e.g. any
Signed:			Status:		nager/Agent/Other
orgined.			otatas.	(if other, sp	
D .					
Date:					
Official					
supervising		n for the flock/he	rd noted al	oove, confirm	ert name), being the that to the best of my
Authorised	Official Veterinaria	an			
ature		MRCVS	Address	S	
ne in BLOCK					
ers					
number					

Checklist for Official Veterinarian

YES NO

ANNEX 4

Notes for Guidance

individual animals, all movements of sheep and goats on and off the holding must be individually recorded. Records must also be provided for dead sheep and goats moved off the holding as required under the Animal By-