



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Amendments to Scrapie Monitoring Scheme



Environment
Agency



Forestry Commission



NATURAL
ENGLAND



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Questions

Please add your questions in writing in the meeting chat when we reach the Q&A portion of the call.





Key changes

- EU committee SCopAFF voted for amendment to scrapie requirements for movements of sheep and goats from GB to NI.

What this means

- You can move breeding and production sheep from GB to NI if:
 - You have applied for qualified status under the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) before 1 January 2022
 - Actively engaged with the SMS and meet other requirements for export to NI and in the relevant EHC e.g. B. ovis for entire males and MV accreditation or pre-export testing)
 - If you have full SMS status already
 - If you have ARR/ARR Genotype exemption.
- Further information on requirements of SMS [sms-rules-conditions.pdf \(sruc.ac.uk\)](#)

MAS

- Costs related to scrapie testing and certification have been covered by MAS since 1st July
- At the same time costs related to SMS were ruled out as coming into scope of MAS due to the benefits being wider than GB-NI trade
- Costs related to SQS are under review as to whether they can be covered by MAS

Scrapie

Scrapie is an infectious wasting disease affecting the nervous system of adult sheep

It has been a notifiable disease in the UK since 1993 and is one of the TSEs.

The causal agent is resistant to normal disinfection procedures and the disease has a long incubation period.

There is no cure, no vaccine, the condition is fatal

Genetic resistance/susceptibility but it is an infectious disease

Scrapie Monitoring Scheme

Meets requirements for importing sheep/goats into EU countries

Currently also applies to movements from GB to Northern Ireland

Allows movement of non-ARR/ARR animals

- Annual flock inspection by OV
- Biosecurity rules
- Brains from all adult fallen stock should be screened for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs)

Controlled Risk status after three years and Negligible Risk status after seven years.

Scrapie Qualifying Status

Scrapie Qualifying status is a new temporary status within the Great Britain Scrapie Monitored Scheme (SMS).

Demonstrates that flocks have joined SMS and are following all the rules – NOT SMS lite

Animals from flocks with Scrapie Qualifying status are eligible for movement to Northern Ireland under a limited derogation within the relevant EU Regulations.

After the three-year period, flocks that have continued to comply with the scheme rules may progress to standard SMS Monitored (Controlled Risk) status.

Details on SRUC website – Scrapie Monitoring for export

Biosecurity

Farm boundaries must be adequate to prevent flocks and herds from straying onto or off the monitored holdings and to prevent nose to nose contact between animals on other holdings.

Scrapie Monitored - Monitored flocks and herds must not be kept on the parts of holding(s) previously occupied by Non-monitored animals for **three years (for a Controlled Risk flock or herd) or seven years (for a Negligible Risk flock or herd)** from when the Non-monitored animals were removed.

Scrapie Qualifying - Qualifying flocks and herds must not be kept on the parts of holding(s) previously occupied by non-SM or SQ animals **since the start of the qualifying period**

Temporary locations

Qualifying status animals (other than ARR/ARR certified sheep) can only move to the following locations without losing their status:

- a Scrapie Qualifying or Monitored holding (the Monitored holding would drop to Qualifying status)
 - a holding which has had no non-Qualifying/Monitored animals present since the start of the Qualifying period (any Monitored animals would drop to Qualifying status). See the Temporary Location form linked to from the web page.
 - a show, sale or AI centre which complies with Defra requirements (details to follow)
 - a qualified UK veterinary surgeon's business premises
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Added animals

- SMS
 - SQS
 - Certified ARR/ARR

 - When your flock or herd is next inspected by an OV you will be required to provide documentary evidence (such as a copy of a certificate of SMS membership from the previous owner or a certificate of ARR/ARR genotype) for animals moved onto your holding
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Carcass testing

Carcases or heads from fallen stock can be submitted for testing to:

- An SRUC Disease Surveillance Centre: See the map below for your nearest centre. Please contact centre first to check they can accept carcass/head
 - An [APHA Regional laboratory](#)
 - Some Fallen Stock Collectors will uplift carcases and sample them for testing. Click here for the [list of these collectors](#) and the [form](#) to accompany carcasses they collect
 - [National Fallen Stock Company](#)
 - Some private veterinary surgeons are approved for sampling such as [Farm Post Mortems](#) and [Vet Investigation](#)
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Application for SQS

To obtain Scrapie Qualifying status, flock owners/keepers must apply to join the SMS on or before 31 December 2021 and undertake to comply with SMS rules for the next three years after which they will progress to SMS (Controlled Risk) status.

The application form should be completed by owner/keeper and Official Veterinarian (OV) and returned to SRUC by email or post (details on the form).

Section B – Declaration by the *owner/*agent/*keeper

*Delete as appropriate

I, (insert name),
being the owner/agent in charge of the flock/herd detailed above do declare that a copy of the Rules and Conditions of the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) has been made available to me via website www.sheepandgoathealth.co.uk.

I further declare that I wish to join the SMS and undertake to follow the rules of the scheme to achieve Controlled Risk status after a period of three years.

Stock numbers on joining the SMS:

Breed	12 to 18 months age		>18 months age	
	Males	Females	Males	Females

- a) In respect of the holding(s) above:
- i) All fallen sheep/goats over the age of 18 months will be submitted for examination for scrapie in accordance with the scheme rules (see Rule 3).
 - ii) At least once each year all animals on the holding(s) will be inspected by an Official Veterinarian (see Rule 1.6)
 - iii) The sheep/goats on the holding(s) will be identified in conformity with national legislation; all animals will be individually identified and movements of all individual animals (both live and dead) on and off the holding(s) will be recorded (see Rule 4.1)
 - iv) Ovine and caprine animals, with the exception of sheep certified under Scheme Rules as ARR/ARR prion protein genotype, will be introduced on to the holding only if they come from a holding which has either: a) SMS Controlled or Negligable Risk status (Rule 2.2) or b) SMS Qualifying status.
 - v) All animal in the flock/herd must be kept segregated from physical contact at all times with any animals of a lower SMS status.
 - vi) Any suspect case of scrapie will be reported to APHA and the OV.
- b) Farm boundaries must be adequate to prevent flocks and herds from straying onto or off the holding(s) and to prevent nose to nose contact with animals on other holdings.

- c) If animals move to a temporary location e.g. away wintering, it must be of an equal or equivalent scrapie status, see Scrapie Qualifying Notes for Guidance.
- d) I agree to abide by the Rules and Conditions of the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme notwithstanding the foregoing. If the holding(s) cease(s) to comply with the Scheme Rules, I will notify SRUC of this and surrender my certificate of application accordingly.
- e) I have read and retained a copy of the Scheme Rules. I consent to my contact details (name, address, contact telephone number, breed) being shown on the Premium Sheep and Goat Health Scheme website (www.psghs.co.uk)

Signed:

Status:

Owner/Manager/Agent/Other
(if other, specify)

Date of application:

Section C – Certificate of Official Veterinarian

I, MRCVS (insert name)
certify that the flock/herd on the above holding(s) has been under the care of an
Official Veterinarian (OV) since (insert date, see Rule 1.6)

- a) I have explained the rules of the SMS and the Qualifying Status – Notes for Guidance to the owner/agent identified in Section B who to the best of my knowledge will be able to comply with the Rules and Conditions of the SMS.
- b) Flocks/herds referred to on this application do not reside in buildings or on grazing with animals of lesser status.
- c) If you suspect that an animal on the holding is affected with classical or atypical scrapie, this must be reported to APHA.
- d) All sheep/goats are individually marked so as to allow the origin of all animals to be determined and all movements of individual animals on and off the holding(s) are recorded (see Rule 4.1)

Authorised Official Veterinarian

Signature	<input type="text" value="MRCVS"/>	<input type="text" value="Address"/>
Name in BLOCK letters	<input type="text"/>	
OV number	<input type="text"/>	
Date	<input type="text"/>	
	Telephone number	<input type="text"/>

On 01/01/2023 and 01/01/2024 Qualifying flocks become due to submit an annual inspection form for the previous calendar year signed by both OV and owner declaring OV inspection, TSE testing and adherence to biosecurity and other rules, plus a list of added animals with proof of status of holdings of origin or compliant genotype certificates of ARR/ARR status. They are given two months to do this i.e. status lapses on 1st March.

After 01/01/25 Qualifying status flocks that have complied with the process to that point may submit a Registration form for standard Scrapie Monitored Controlled Risk status.

Qualifying status no longer exists after 01/03/2025.



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