
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2009 No. 3219

**The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification
and Movement) (England) Order 2009**

PART 6

**Removal or replacement of identification marks
on animals identified before 31st December 2009**

Application of Part 6

17. This Part applies to all animals identified before 31st December 2009 and to goats identified in accordance with article 15.

Removal or replacement of identification marks

18.—(1) No person may contravene or fail to comply with Article 4(6)(first paragraph) of the Council Regulation.

(2) But a keeper must replace a lost or illegible identification mark, in accordance with article 19 as soon as possible after the original identification mark is discovered to be lost or illegible, but in any event—

- (a) no later than 28 days after it was discovered to be lost or illegible; and
- (b) before the animal is moved from the holding.

(3) Where an identification mark is replaced with an identification mark bearing a different identification code and the animal is not on its holding of birth and the old identification code is known the keeper must cross-reference the old and new identification codes in the holding register.

(4) It is a defence for any person charged with an offence of contravening or failing to comply with paragraphs (1) or (2) to prove that—

- (a) the identification mark was removed to prevent unnecessary pain to an animal; and
- (b) a replacement means of identification bearing the same identification code was applied to the animal as soon as possible.

(5) A keeper may at any time remove identification marks and re-identify the animal in accordance with article 9.

Replacement of a single identification mark on a double-tagged animal or the identification marks on animals with no remaining means of identification

19. An animal is re-identified according to this article if the missing or illegible means of identification is or are replaced with—

- (a) means of identification bearing the same unique number as the lost or illegible means of identification;
- (b) two non-electronic means of identification, both bearing the same number; or

- (c) the means of identification specified in Articles 4(1) (first paragraph), 4(2)(a) and (b) and Article 9(3) of the Council Regulation.

Mandatory re-identification of animals

20. Where an animal identified before the coming into force of this Order is not identified with a unique number a keeper must re-identify it before moving it from the holding in accordance with article 9 and, if it is not on its holding of birth, must cross-reference the old and new identification numbers in the holding register.