

Reporting and Recording of Cattle Deaths on your Holding

If cattle die on your holding, rather than at slaughter, you must record and report the death to BCMS.

Reporting online or via phone

All deaths of cattle on your holding, must be reported to the British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) within 7 days of the death. Deaths can be reported either by completing the online CTS form on the BCMS website or by phoning the CTS self-service line:

- Welsh 0345 011 1213
- English 0345 011 1212

Both lines are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week

You must also update your [holding register](#) within 7 days. When the carcass leaves your holding, you do not need to report an 'off' movement.

Return the passport to BCMS

After reporting a death by CTS online, phone, self-service line or via farm software you must still return the passport and/or certificate of registration to BCMS. The passport must arrive within 7 days of the date of death. Please post passport to:

BCMS, Curwen Road, Workington, CA14 2DD

Please note, if you've reported a death on your holding online or by phone, you do not need to fill in the 'Death details' section of the passport before you send it to BCMS. If the animal has a single-page passport, you must tick the box to indicate that you have reported the death electronically.

CTS Online

You can report the death of a registered animal by using the BCMS home page or by using the upload facility. To report multiple deaths, you can [create a file for uploading movements and deaths to CTS Online](#).

CTS self-service line

If the animals have UK numeric tags, you can report their deaths on the CTS self-service line.

Please remember to have the following to hand before you call:

- your CPH number
- the ear tag numbers of the animals you are reporting as dead
- the date of death of each animal

Reporting deaths by post

If you report by post, you must complete the 'Death details' section of the passport and/or certificate of registration and return it to BCMS to arrive within 7 days of the date of death.

Reporting animals slaughtered on the holding

If an animal is slaughtered on your holding by a vet or abattoir operator and then taken to an abattoir for dressing, you must complete the death details section in the passport and send it with the animal to the abattoir. If an animal is slaughtered and dressed on your holding, you must complete the death details section in the passport. The passport must show that the animal died on the farm or holding.

Reporting death of an unregistered calf

If a calf dies before it has been tagged, you do not need to report its death to BCMS. However, you must update your holding register by recording the calf's date of birth and death against the dam details.

If a calf dies after it's been tagged but before you've applied for a passport, you must notify BCMS about the death by either one of the following:

- using CTS Online or some compatible farm software packages
- using the CTS self-service line
- sending BCMS the application for a cattle passport form (CPP12) once you have completed sections 2 and 3 (the animal's details) and section 4 (the death details)

If a calf dies after it's been tagged and you have already sent off the application for its passport, please contact BCMS to notify them of the death.

Please note, you must **not** reuse a dead calf's ear tags for another animal.

Failure to report deaths

Unreported cattle deaths may come to light at a [cattle identification inspection](#).

You are committing an offence if you:

- fail to report the death within 7 days
- fail to return the passport to BCMS within 7 days

You could face penalties and a cross-compliance reduction.

Animals that require TSE testing

Fallen stock must be tested for TSE if they are:

- over 48 months of age and born in the UK or in one of the countries listed in the table below

Country	Eartag ID	Country	Eartag ID
Austria	AT	Italy	IT
Belgium	BE	Latvia	LV
Croatia	HR	Lithuania	LT
Cyprus	CY	Luxembourg	LU
Czech Republic	CZ	Malta	MT
Denmark	DK	Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Poland	PL
Finland	FI	Portugal	PT
France	FR	Slovak Republic	SK
Germany	DE	Slovenia	SI
Greece	EL	Spain	ES
Hungary	HU	Sweden	SE
Ireland	IE	United Kingdom (including Channel Islands and Isle of Man)	UK

- over 24 months of age and born outside of either the UK or one of the countries listed in the table above

Animals imported or moved into Great Britain that have been retagged can be hard to identify, but the country of origin is shown on the GB passport which will have been issued for the animal.

The only exceptions are animals that die in Bardsey, Flatholm or Caldey Island, in Wales, which are exempt from TSE testing.

If an animal dies on your holding and requires TSE testing, you must arrange for the carcass to be taken to an approved sampling site. The TSE test must still go ahead and a brainstem sample must be taken within 24 hours of the death. You can do this by:

- contacting your local fallen stock collector
- using the [National Fallen Stock Scheme \(NFSS\)](#), run by the National Fallen Stock Company (NFSCo); for information, call 01335 320014
- arranging to deliver the carcass yourself to an [approved sampling site](#)

If you deliver the carcass yourself, you must do this within 72 hours of the animal's death.

The carcass must be accompanied by one of following items when it's taken to the sampling site:

- the TSE cut-off slip from the single-page passport
- a movement card if the animal has a chequebook-style passport

- no documentation, if the animal only has a notice of registration

The documents should be placed in an envelope or clear plastic bag when sending with the carcass.

Do not send the passport or notice of registration with the animal. You must report the death to BCMS and send back the passport or notice of registration as described above.

Animals that do not require TSE testing

You must do one of the following:

- send the carcass to a hunt kennel or knacker's yard
- use your local fallen stock collector
- use the [National Fallen Stock Scheme \(NFSS\)](#) run by the National Fallen Stock Company (call 01335 320014 for information)

You must not bury or burn carcasses on your holding (unless an incineration plant on your holding has been approved by the Animal and Plant Health Agency).