

Welsh Government

The Bluetongue (Wales) Regulations 2008 S.I 2008/1090 (W.116)
(as amended) – Regulation 19

General licence to vaccinate against bluetongue serotypes 1,2,4 and 8 in Wales

Valid from: 00:01 on 23 April 2026

In accordance with Regulation 19(1) of the Bluetongue (Wales) Regulations 2008 (as amended) (“the 2008 Regulations”) the Welsh Ministers grant this general licence, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in the Schedule to this licence.

1. This licence allows the vaccination of ruminating animals or camelids pursuant to Regulation 19(1) of the 2008 Regulations with inactivated bluetongue vaccines that protect against bluetongue serotypes 1,2,4 or 8, provided that the vaccine is covered by:
 - a. a marketing authorisation granted by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate; or
 - b. a permit granted by the Secretary of State under paragraph 4 of Schedule 4 to the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013.
2. A specific risk assessment has been carried out in accordance with regulation 19(4) of the 2008 Regulations.
3. This general licence applies in Wales only.
4. This general licence may be amended, suspended or revoked in writing at any time by the Welsh Ministers.

The general licence dated 03 October 2012 which came into force at 00:01am on 10 October 2012 is hereby revoked and replaced by this general licence with effect from 00:01 on 23 April 2026

Signed by: Richard Irvine, Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales

Authorised by the Welsh Ministers

Date: 15 April 2026

Schedule of Conditions:

1. The person administering vaccine under this licence must only vaccinate the animals with bluetongue vaccine which has been prescribed by the vet normally responsible for caring for the animals, and must do so according to the manufacturer's and veterinary instruction.
2. The animal keeper must keep a record of every animal vaccinated which must be provided to an inspector if required. The record must be retained for at least 5 years and contain the following:
 - a. species vaccinated
 - b. individual permanent ID number (ear tag or other permanent official animal ID)
 - c. date of first dose
 - d. date of any further doses
 - e. vaccine product name and batch number
 - f. name and job title of the person who administered the vaccine
 - g. dose administered (ml)
 - h. route of administration (that is, intramuscularly or subcutaneously)
 - i. the stated withdrawal period of the vaccine used
 - j. any excess doses and the amount (ml), to be returned as per condition 6
 - k. county parish holding (CPH) number and address of the holding where vaccination took place
3. The animal keeper is responsible for making and retaining an accurate record as stipulated in Condition 2.
4. The animal keeper must complete the record required in condition 3, with the ['report your use of the BTV-1, 2, 4 and 8 vaccine' form](#), as soon as possible and no more than 48 hours from the date of vaccination.
5. Any person in possession of BTV vaccine must store the vaccine according to the manufacturer's instructions.
6. The animal keeper must ensure all excess doses (opened or otherwise) are returned to the prescribing vet.
7. Any adverse side effects associated with the vaccine, including suspected lack of efficacy, should be reported within 7 calendar days of the adverse effects first being observed to the relevant pharmaceutical company (as detailed on the package leaflet) or the Veterinary Medicines Directorate ([Report a suspected problem with an animal medicine or microchip](#)).

Explanatory notes

1. The general licence only permits the use of permitted or authorised vaccines to be administered in Wales.
2. “Veterinary surgeon” means a suitably qualified person registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS).
3. “Animal” means a ruminating animal or camelid. Ruminating animals includes but is not limited to cattle, sheep, goats and deer. Camelid includes camels, llamas and alpacas.
4. If you suspect notifiable disease, you must report this immediately to your local Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) office on 0300 303 8268.
5. Nothing in this licence removes your obligation to comply with relevant legislation.
6. Bluetongue legislation can be found at [The Bluetongue \(Wales\) Regulations 2008](#)
7. Vaccinated animals should not be tested as part of pre-movement testing within 7 days of receiving a vaccination dose to minimise the risk of false positives.
8. Information on how we use your personal data is set out in APHA’s [personal information charter](#) and [privacy notices](#).

Any person who contravenes a provision of this licence made under the 2008 Regulations (as amended) shall commit an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment not exceeding 3 months or to both.