

## The Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2016



### **Guidance Note BVDTSA1A Criteria for the Approval of BVD Tissue Sample-enabled Tags**

**If you are a Tag Supplier and wish to supply tags for use under the Northern Ireland (NI) Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) Eradication Scheme, you will need to apply to DAERA (see Application Form BVDTSA1A) for approval for each tag type that you supply. This Guidance Note sets out the criteria used by DAERA for the approval of tags for use under the Scheme.**

#### **Background**

The Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 came into operation on 1 March 2016, from which date the compulsory NI BVD Eradication Scheme took effect. The Scheme aims to control and ultimately eradicate BVD in Northern Ireland and places a legal requirements on herd keepers relating to the compulsory 'tag and testing' of bovines.

A voluntary BVD eradication programme, delivered by Animal Health and Welfare Northern Ireland (AHWNI), had previously operated from 2013 and was based on testing for the BVD virus using officially approved tags under the Cattle Identification (No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 requirements, combined with a tissue sampling capability. Supplementary tags labelled with the animal ID number (less the Department logo, and country/region designator, e.g. UK9) could also be used for additional sampling.

The new compulsory Scheme requires the use of only DAERA-approved BVD tissue sample-enabled tags. The following criteria will be used by DAERA for the approval of tags for use under the Scheme.

#### **Approval Criteria - BVD tissue sample-enabled Tags**

1. You must be approved by DAERA as a supplier of cattle tags under the Cattle Identification (No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998, and listed on the DAERA website.
2. You must supply only DAERA-approved BVD tissue sample-enabled tags i.e. tissue sample-enabled official tags or tissue sample-enabled supplementary tags, all of which will be listed on the DAERA website.

3. You must offer those tissue sample-enabled tags to customers, whether directly or through an agent, only as a combined “tag and test package” using a DAERA-approved laboratory, which will be listed on the DAERA website.
4. As part of the tag-ordering process, you must put in place such arrangements as may be necessary to capture the information as set out in Annex A. That information shall be consistent with the requirements of current data protection legislation, and you will be required to transfer the information to the AHWNI database in an electronic format specified by DAERA within one week of the order for a tag being placed.
5. Along with each tag supplied, you must provide pre-labelled packaging suitably robust for postal use for the submission of samples to the approved laboratory, with a maximum quantity of 10 tags per package.

**Any personal information provided within the BVDTS1A Application Form will be used solely in relation to the NI BVD Eradication Scheme. All personal details will be handled in line with DAERA’s Privacy Notice and the Data Protection Act 1998.**

## ANNEX A: INFORMATION TO BE RECORDED AS PART OF THE TAG ORDERING PROCESS

Data Field	Description	Mandatory
Tag Order Date	Date of Order	Yes
Tag Order Reference	In-house tag-supplier reference number to facilitate the tracking of problem files (up to 50 characters)	No
Keeper DAERA Business ID	6-digit business number of keeper	Yes
Keeper DAERA Herd Number	6-digit herd number of keeper	Yes
Keeper Mobile Number	11-digit mobile phone number ( <i>although not mandatory, recording of this is strongly encouraged so keepers will receive results faster</i> )	No
Keeper E-mail Address	E-mail address of keeper ( <i>although not mandatory, recording of this is strongly encouraged so keepers will receive results faster</i> ).	No
For each tag in order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tag Number</li> <li>Tag Type</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full tag number of animal.</li> <li>Tag type to be set to 'official' or 'supplementary'.</li> </ul>	Yes (both number and type)
Keeper permission granted for Data Transfer and Sharing	True/False indicator verifying that the tag supplier (or agent) has approval from the keeper, whether in writing or otherwise recorded, for all of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Details of his or her tag purchase to be passed to the AHWNI database;</li> <li>His or her herd details as stored by DAERA to be accessed and uploaded to the AHWNI database;</li> <li>The designated testing laboratory to transfer his or her test results to the AHWNI database: and</li> <li>The results on the AHWNI database to be used and shared as required for the administration of the Scheme.</li> </ol>	Yes
Keeper Nomination of Private Veterinary Practitioner (PVP) for follow-up sampling under Article 6 of the 2016 Order <sup>1</sup> .	True = Keeper content to retain TB-testing PVP (default position if no nomination) False = Keeper must nominate an alternative PVP	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Article 6 of the Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 makes provision for follow-up testing in cases where DAERA has been notified by an approved laboratory that a sample is not adequate to be subjected to analysis.