



Dear Member

Below is a press release from the Joint Health & Welfare Group, issued on 31 August 2008.

UPDATE ON MOVEMENT AND SHOW RESTRICTIONS

*Since the last mailing Defra has announced that starting from 3 September 2007 livestock markets and livestock shows can commence again, although there are conditions attached:
FMD: Markets outside the Surveillance Zone Livestock shows - extra condition to be added to the AGO 4 and AGO 6 Licences.*

The licensee shall ensure that sufficient records:

- a) are kept such as to allow individual animals and livestock vehicles to be traced to and from the licensed premises, and*
- (b) are immediately available at the licensed premises.*

For the first time Camelids are actually named in a Defra directive (highlighted in red below), albeit in the 'notes to the editors' section.

From 00:01 on Monday 3 September, livestock markets for cattle, sheep, and pigs will be allowed to resume in England and Wales, outside the Surveillance Zone in Surrey. Also from this date, animals susceptible to Foot and Mouth Disease can be taken to shows involving animals, outside the Surveillance Zone.

Chief Veterinary Officer, Debby Reynolds said: "Having considered carefully a veterinary risk assessment of allowing animals to move to livestock markets and agricultural shows, I have concluded that these can restart from Monday as part of our staged risk-based approach to easing movement controls. A number of additional conditions apply while the surveillance zone remains in place and it is critical that these are adhered to strictly by everyone involved. This represents another milestone in the good progress we are making towards regaining our disease free status."

"We urge the whole industry to remain vigilant and fully support the operators of markets and shows in complying with the additional controls they must operate under until the controls can be further relaxed."

Controls within the Surveillance Zone remain unchanged, including rules on standstill arrangements. Any further changes are dependent upon completion of the current surveillance in Surrey, which will not be before 8 September.

Notes to editors

1. Copies of the general licences and conditions that must be met for movements of animals, including to markets and shows can be found on the Defra website at www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/movements/index.htm. Further advice can be obtained from the Local Animal Health Office or Local Authority.
2. The same conditions apply to livestock markets in Wales, which also restart from Monday.
3. Livestock markets are currently licensed on an annual basis and will receive a letter on the conditions that will apply to holding markets for the time being. Shows and other gatherings are licensed on a specific basis and appropriate conditions will be included in the licence for each event.
4. The core group of stakeholders is comprised of senior individuals from the following organisations, attending in a personal capacity: Ben Messer Bennetts (Livestock Auctioneers Association), David Catlow (British Veterinary Association), Duff Burrell (National Beef Association), Kevin Pearce (NFU), Peter Morris (National Sheep Association), Stewart Houston (British Pig Executive), Stuart Roberts (British Meat Processors Association)
5. **FMD susceptible animals includes camelids, for example alpacas and llamas.**
6. Collection centres and dedicated slaughter markets resumed from 00.01 23 August.
7. Defra public helpline (08459 33 55 77) is open Mon-Fri: 9.00am to 5.00pm.
8. The latest information on the current Foot and Mouth disease can be found on the Defra website: www.defra.gov.uk/footandmouth

If you are considering attending a show with your llamas it would be advisable to contact the show organisers and find out they require from you to meet with the Defra conditions. Although camelids can be moved without restriction, where they are going to show or event they must comply with the new directive.

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