



BOVINE IDENTIFICATION & REGISTRATION

A proper identification of bovine animals is very important to control **animal diseases**, ensure **traceability** of animal products and enable **rural payments** in agriculture.

Identification and traceability of all bovine animals from birth to death is the responsibility of the farmer.

According to the Subsidiary Legislation 437. 84 - BOVINE ANIMALS (IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION) AND BEEF LABELLING RULES::

- Each keeper/farmer shall report to the Veterinary Services all movements to and from the holding and all births and deaths of animals on the holding, along with the dates of these events, within **seven days** (7 calendar days) of the event occurring. (Art.7.1.B)
- The ear tags shall be applied within a period of **twenty days** (20 calendar days) as from birth of the animal and in any case before the animal leaves the holding on which it was born. (Art 4.2)

IDENTIFICATION OF NEWBORN CALVES

In order to ensure identification of animals and in line with the simplification measures adopted, the Veterinary Regulation Directorate gives to all farmers an amount of new ear-tags, which is established according to the average of births in the previous years.

The farmers have two options to respect the above mentioned legislation:

- Option 1: TAGGING ANY NEWBORN CALF **WITHIN 7 DAYS** from the birth→
- The farmers have to communicate only once for each new born to Animal Health Unit (AHU) the birth and the other relevant data of the animals using the form “*Identifikazzjoni u regjstrazzjoni tal-għoġiela*” (green paper) provided together with the tags.



With this option, both obligations are fulfilled:

1. Notification of birth within 7 days
2. Identification of the animal

- Option 2: TAGGING ANY NEW BORN CALF **7 DAYS AFTER** the birth→

The notification of the birth needs to be done **WITHIN 7 DAYS**

- With this option, the births of the calves shall be communicated within 7 days, using the “*Official Notification of births/deaths*” form.

This can be done through:

- Directly at the AHU reception desk;
- Through servizz.gov.mt
- Email to: veterinaryregulation.mesdc@gov.mt
- Using the letterbox at the AHU
- Mail to VRD Animal Health Unit, Abattoir Street, AlbertTown, Marsa.

AND

Once the animal is identified with the ear tags (within 20 days), the data shall be communicated to the AHU through the form "*Identifikazzjoni u reġistrazzjoni tal-ġhoġjela*" (green paper)



IN CASE AN ANIMAL LOSES an EARTAG

The AHU shall be informed as soon as possible. Another Tag with the same identification number will be ordered and the animal will be re tagged.



MOVEMENT permits shall be requested by the owners of the farms of origin and destination. The permits are issued by AHU for each movement.



DEATH of animals shall be communicated by the farmers within 7 days from the event using the "*Official Notification of births/deaths*" form. This form shall be provided to the Wasteserv together with the animal carcass.

For more clarification or information, please contact us on:

22925197/22925192/22925396