



Notification Number: 2002/315/UK

Cattle Eartag Manufacturers/Suppliers Code of Practice and eartag specification.

Date received : 05/08/2002
End of Standstill : 06/11/2002
Issue of comments by : Commission
Issue of detailed opinion by : Commission

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2002) D/51581
Directive 98/34/EC

Notifikation - Notifizierung - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notificación - Notificação - Notifica - Kennisgeving -
Notificação - Ilmoitus - Anmälan : 2002/315/UK.

Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - No abre el
plazo - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Geen termijnbegin - Nao inicia o prazo - Määräaika ei
ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist.

(MSG: 200201581.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2002 0315 UK EN 06-11-2002 05-08-2002 UK NOTIF 06-11-2002

2. Member State

United Kingdom

3. Department Responsible

Department of Trade and Industry: Standards and Technical Regulations Directorate

3. Originating Department

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

4. Notification Number

2002/315/UK - COOA

5. Title



Cattle Eartag Manufacturers/Suppliers Code of Practice and eartag specification.

6. Products Concerned

Cattle Eartags

7. Notification Under Another Act

Council Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, Commission Regulation (EC) No 2629/97

8. Main Content

Council Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 requires all member states to set up a system for the identification and registration of bovines. Identification is achieved by the use of cattle eartags which must comply with Commission Regulation (EC) No 2629/97. The Council Regulation also requires each Member State to approve the ear tags used but leaves it up to the Competent Authority to decide on the approval process. In the United Kingdom cattle eartags are authorised through a system of independent veterinary field trials.

The United Kingdom proposes to replace this system with a new technical specification which has been commissioned through the British Standards Institute (BSI). The proposed specification, PAS 44: 2002, is a more robust standard that will should improve the quality of cattle eartags on the market and lead to a reduction in cattle eartag losses. The proposed system requires cattle eartags to conform to PAS 44:2002 (Annex 1) and for eartag manufacturers/suppliers to agree to abide by the draft Code of Practice (Annex 2).

Testing for conformity to PAS will involve a series of laboratory tests. On-going performance will continue to be monitored through replacement statistic data. Cattle eartags which meet the PAS standard will be approved by the UK competent authority for official cattle identification purposes. Once conformity to PAS has been achieved suppliers may also apply to BSI to obtain a Kitemark for their product. This part of the approval system will be voluntary.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The unique lifetime identification of cattle is an integral part of the cattle tracing system. Concerns have been raised in the UK by the farming industry about high levels of cattle eartag losses. It is important to take steps to try to reduce losses and improve the quality of eartags on the UK market. The UK intends to exchange one system of eartag approval for another and will update and improve the existing approval system. The tag manufacturers report that the changes should not increase their regulatory burden.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

PAS 44:2002 Official identification eartags for cattle - Specification (unpublished); Draft Cattle Eartag Manufacturers/Suppliers Code of Practice

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

David O'Sullivan
General Secretary
European Commission

sent to :

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Frau Christina Jäckel

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SPERATI Marie
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