DECLARATION OF A BLUETONGUE VACCINATION ZONE

This declaration is made under The Bluetongue (Scotland) Order 2008 (as amended) ("the Order"). It is made for the purposes of protecting bluetongue susceptible animals from the threat of bluetongue serotype 8 ('BTV 8').

In accordance with article 22C of the Order, the Scottish Ministers DECLARE that from 00:01 hours on 3 November 2008 Scotland is a vaccination zone ("the Zone") and is subject to the conditions, requirements and other measures set out below and in Schedules 1 and 2, which form part of this declaration.

Where referred to in this declaration:

“vaccine order form” means the Scottish Government Rural Directorate BTV8 vaccine order form to be used by persons ordering vaccine from their veterinary surgeon.

“the Shetland Islands” shall be construed as the area of the Shetland Islands Council.

“vaccination” means vaccination against BTV8 with the required number of doses administered in accordance with the vaccine manufacturers’ instructions, and references to ‘vaccinate’, ‘vaccinated’, ‘re-vaccinated’ and ‘re-vaccination’ shall be construed accordingly;

“vaccine” means bluetongue virus serotype 8 (BTV8) vaccine.

Other terms referred to in this declaration have the same meaning as in the Order.

Failure to comply with this declaration may be an offence under section 73 of the Animal Health Act 1981, as amended, and may lead to a fine not exceeding £5,000 or 6 months imprisonment.

Copies of this declaration and of the Order are available at [http://www.scotland.go.uk/bluetongue](http://www.scotland.go.uk/bluetongue) and from the Scottish Government Rural Directorate, 47 Robb’s Loan, Pentland House, Edinburgh, EH14 1TY.

Signed

Colette Backwell
29 October 2008
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
SCHEDULE 1

Note:
Paragraphs 1 to 5 of Schedule 1 apply to Scotland, with the exception of the Shetland Islands. Paragraphs 6 and 7 of Schedule 1 apply to the Shetland Islands, only. Paragraphs 8 to 16 of Schedule 1 apply to all of Scotland. Schedule 2 sets out exceptions to Schedule 1.

SHEEP AND CATTLE-PERIOD ENDING 30 APRIL 2009

1. Any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Zone MUST where such animals are, or will be, by 30 April 2009, at least 3 months of age, ensure the vaccination of those animals by not later than 30 April 2009.

SHEEP AND CATTLE-PERIOD AFTER 30 APRIL 2009

2. Any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Zone must, where such sheep or cattle have not by 30 April 2009 reached 3 months of age (or are born after that date), and where they are to remain on those premises, ensure the vaccination of those animals prior to them reaching 6 months of age.

3. Any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Zone must, where such sheep or cattle have not by 30 April 2009 reached 3 months of age (or are born after that date), and where they are to be moved from those premises, ensure the vaccination of those animals prior to such move and, in any event, prior to them reaching 6 months of age.

4. Any occupier of premises who receives sheep or cattle into Scotland from elsewhere, and the keeper of such sheep or cattle must ensure the vaccination of such animals at the first opportunity and in any event within 14 days of their arrival.

5. Any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises must ensure re-vaccination of such animals. This action is required to maintain immunity.

SHEEP AND CATTLE-SHETLAND ISLANDS-GENERAL

6. Subject to paragraph 7, any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Shetland Islands MAY have such animals vaccinated.
SHEEP AND CATTLE-SHETLAND ISLANDS—MOVEMENTS REQUIRING VACCINATION

7. Any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Shetland Islands, which are to be moved from those premises to any other part of Scotland, which lies outwith the Shetland Islands, MUST, where such animals are, or will be, whether prior to or after 30 April 2009, at least 3 months of age, ensure the vaccination of those animals prior to such move. The requirement under this paragraph to ensure vaccination does not apply where such animals are to be moved directly to slaughter, or to slaughter via a market, at less than 6 months of age.

OTHER BLUETONGUE SUSCEPTIBLE SPECIES

8. Any occupier of or keeper of animals on premises within the Zone which are of a bluetongue susceptible species, other than sheep or cattle, MAY have such animals vaccinated.

GENERAL VACCINATION PROVISIONS

9. Any occupier of or keeper of sheep, cattle or other animals of bluetongue susceptible species on premises within the Zone must, for the purpose of ordering vaccine, complete and sign Part 1 of the vaccine order form and submit it to their veterinary surgeon.

10. On receipt of the appropriate vaccine order form, with Part 1 completed and signed by said occupier or keeper, the veterinary surgeon may dispense vaccine or, alternatively, supply a prescription for purchase of vaccine from a pharmacist.

11. On dispensing vaccine, the veterinary surgeon or, where appropriate, pharmacist, must complete and sign Part 2 of the vaccine order form and submit it, within 3 working days, to the address identified in that Part.

12. Any vaccine must be administered within 35 days of its receipt by said occupiers or keepers.

13. Where animals are, following vaccination, to remain within the Zone, vaccine may be administered by said occupier or keeper, or by any other person doing so on behalf of the occupier or keeper.

14. Where animals are to be moved from the Zone to a Surveillance Zone, a Restricted Zone for another bluetongue serotype, or to an area free of bluetongue restrictions, vaccine must be administered by a veterinary surgeon.

15. Any person who uses vaccine under the Order must dispose of any unwanted vaccine, needles and syringes. Such disposal must be carried out:
   a) according to the vaccine manufacturer’s instructions; or
b) by returning any unwanted vaccine, needles and syringes to the veterinary surgeon or supplying pharmacist for safe disposal.

16. Any person who uses vaccine under the Order must follow all instructions given by the vaccine manufacturer, veterinary surgeon or pharmacist in relation to the storage, usage and administration of vaccine.
SCHEDULE 2

This Schedule sets out exceptions and other requirements to the provisions contained in Schedule 1.

The following exceptions and other requirements apply

PERIOD ENDING 30 APRIL 2009

1. Any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Zone which are to be slaughtered before 30 April 2009 is exempt from the requirement to ensure vaccination of such animals.

PERIOD AFTER 30 APRIL 2009

2. Any occupier of, or keeper of, sheep or cattle on premises within the Zone which are to be slaughtered after 30 April 2009 and which would not develop immunity from bluetongue prior to slaughter, that is to say within 21 days from 30 April 2009, is exempt from the requirement to ensure vaccination of such animals.

3. After 30 April 2009, any occupier of, or keeper of sheep or cattle on premises within the Zone which are to be moved from those premises directly to slaughter, or to slaughter via a market, at less than 6 months of age, is exempt from the requirement to ensure vaccination of such animals.

4. Any such occupier of, or keeper of animals on, premises, which are moved under paragraph 3 of this Schedule, and which are not successfully sold for slaughter and which return to those premises must vaccinate such animals at the first opportunity and in any event within 14 days of their return, and must not move such animals from those premises until they have been vaccinated.

5. Where, following movement of animals under paragraph 3 of this Schedule, those animals are purchased or otherwise acquired for further finishing or breeding, the occupier of, or keeper on, the premises to which they are moved, must vaccinate such animals at the first opportunity and in any event within 14 days of arrival at the premises to which they are moved.

6. Where any occupier of, or keeper on, premises, who receives sheep or cattle into Scotland from elsewhere is in possession of satisfactory documentary evidence that the individual animal has been vaccinated prior to its arrival then the requirement, under paragraph 4 of Schedule 1, for said occupier and the keeper of such sheep or cattle to ensure vaccination, does not apply.

7. The requirement, under paragraph 4 of Schedule 1, to ensure vaccination does not apply in relation to animals which are less than 3 months of age on arrival. Said occupier and keeper must however ensure vaccination of such animals before they move from the premises, and in any event prior to such animals reaching 6 months of age.
NOTES

1. In terms of Council Directive 2000/75/EC and The Bluetongue (Scotland) Order 2008 (as amended) vaccination can only be undertaken in a bluetongue protection zone.

2. Only wholesalers and manufacturers authorised under the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2007 can lawfully supply vaccine.

3. Occupiers of, or keepers of sheep, cattle or other animals of bluetongue susceptible species on premises within the Zone, must order only that quantity of vaccine which is required for immediate use. Such occupiers or keepers must not stockpile vaccine for future use, and must not carry out any onward sale of vaccine to another person.

4. Vaccination is compulsory for sheep and cattle, except in the Shetland Islands. The Scottish Government will monitor vaccine uptake on individual holdings with sheep and cattle. Follow up action will be taken to ensure compliance with this declaration.

5. Vaccination is voluntary (but strongly encouraged) for sheep and cattle in Shetland. It is also voluntary (but strongly encouraged) for bluetongue susceptible species other than sheep and cattle throughout Scotland, including the Shetland Islands. Wild animals will not be vaccinated.

6. When having livestock re-vaccinated it is recommended this be done during the vector free period each year.

7. BTV8 vaccine is a POM-V veterinary medicine. This means that it can only be dispensed following a written prescription which has been issued by a veterinary surgeon who has the animals under his or her care. BTV 8 vaccine may be dispensed, against such a written prescription, by another veterinary surgeon or by a pharmacist.

8. Exports to areas free from bluetongue restrictions, to BTV8 Surveillance Zone, or to Restricted Zone for other bluetongue serotypes, will require animals to be vaccinated by a veterinary surgeon and documentary evidence showing proof of vaccination. Movement of bluetongue susceptible animals out of the Zone to a free area will need to meet the conditions of any movement licences issued by Scottish Government or the Animal Health agency.

9. The complete course of vaccine product from the same manufacturer should be used, failing which the animals vaccinated will not have the full benefit of the vaccine.

10. For further information on BTV8 vaccination please:

- refer to the document “The Scottish Bluetongue Vaccination Campaign Plan”,
- talk to your veterinary surgeon,
- talk to your Animal Health Divisional Office
- refer to the Scottish Government website at: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/bluetongue
11. Field and laboratory studies have confirmed the safety and efficacy of inactivated bluetongue (BTV8) vaccines. However, any keeper noticing any adverse reaction in their animals following administration of BTV8 vaccine are advised to report these to their veterinary surgeon, who will pass the information to the Suspected Adverse Reaction ('SAR') Surveillance Scheme. More information on the scheme and on how to report a SAR can be found at: [http://www.vmd.gov.uk/General/Adverse/adverse.htm](http://www.vmd.gov.uk/General/Adverse/adverse.htm)

12. You are advised to inform your local Scottish Government Rural Payments Inspections Directorate (SGRPID) Area Office of the date of the vaccination. This may enable SGRPID to synchronise any planned programme of Cattle and Sheep Identification Inspections visit. Conversely, if you know your premises are to be inspected you should inform your veterinary practice.