

Getting ready for the Beef Efficiency Scheme (BES)

Dear Suckled Calf Producer

Please find enclosed a BES calving diary that you should find useful to record information required for the new Beef Efficiency Scheme (BES). All beef calves (75% beef genetics or more) born on or after the 1st of January 2016 are eligible for this new scheme. The scheme is only open to calves born on a holding that is a member of an approved Livestock Farm Assurance scheme at the time of the calf's birth.

The Scheme will open for applications from April 2016. However between January and April you are invited to pre-register your interest to join the scheme on the ScotEID system. During this time the diary allows you to easily record relevant herd information. Were you to join the scheme you will be required to enter this information into the BES system for all calves born from 1st January.

Pre-registering does not mean you are in the scheme, or that you are committed to the conditions of the scheme. If you wish to join the scheme you will be required to make a formal application in April.

Pre-registering is very easy and automatically checks that your herd is eligible for the scheme. All you need to do is go to www.scoteid.com and click on the link for the Beef Efficiency Scheme (or go directly to www.scoteid.com/bes). If you have any problems at all, or require some help with this process or with access to a computer or the internet, please contact the **ScotEID help desk on 01466 794323**.

You will need to pre-register before making a formal application to join the scheme, this is to enable an additional layer of security to be performed on the management information you will record concerning your herd. It is important to note that the information you will record about your herd will only be seen by you, and the research analysis of your records will be anonymised and entirely confidential.



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To summarise:

Your next steps are to begin using your BES diary for calving in the New Year and to register your interest, go to www.scoteid.com and click on the link 'Beef Efficiency Scheme'.

Please ensure your holding is appropriately Farm Assured.

Following this we will write to you in March 2016 confirming your registration and issue your password that will provide confidential access to your own BES information and recording.

Also available, on the website, is additional information about how the scheme will work, and the planned benefits for your herd.

We look forward to you joining the Beef Efficiency Scheme and being an important part of developing the Scottish beef industry by increasing production efficiency and, at the same time, improving the economic and environmental sustainability of the industry.



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