



Approved TB Dedicated Sale: Sale of Cattle from TB Restricted Premises to Approved Destinations in England and Wales

Guidance Notes on the Approval and Operation of TB Dedicated Sales in England and Wales

Background

TB dedicated sales ('Orange' Markets) are approved for TB restricted cattle only and provide a means for farmers under restriction to apply to sell TB restricted cattle under the conditions of the Animal Gatherings (England) Order 2010 or The Animal Gatherings (Wales) Order 2010 (AGO) as an approved gathering for six day standstill compliant animals.

Except for resolved Inconclusive Reactors (IRs) restricted for life in England, **cattle from unrestricted farms and livestock other than cattle are not permitted in an approved TB dedicated sale.**

Approved TB dedicated sales allow cattle from TB breakdown herds in England and Wales, resolved IRs restricted for life in England to move to:

- an Approved Finishing Unit (AFU) in England and Wales or
- an Approved Finishing Unit (Enhanced) with grazing (AFUE) in England or
- directly to slaughter

From 1 July 2021, cattle from AFUs or AFUEs can be consigned to approved TB Dedicated Sales in England and Wales with the same destinations as those listed above.

TB Dedicated Sales can only be approved in the High Risk and Edge Areas of England and High TB Areas in Wales.

The approved TB dedicated sale must have prior approval by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) **and cannot be held with any other gathering.** Other gatherings are not permitted on the same premises unless there is a clear separation in time and suitable cleansing and disinfection, as required in the AGO. In Wales, cattle from Officially TB Free (OTF) premises cannot move to the site of a TB dedicated sale until the following day.

Any purchaser must provide evidence to the sale operator that they fulfil the criteria to move cattle from the sale by presenting their approval as an AFU/AFUE or by confirming that the cattle will move directly to slaughter and identifying the slaughterhouse to which they will move.

Licences for movement to and from the TB dedicated sale will only be issued if the movement is considered to be an acceptable risk following a Veterinary Risk Assessment (VRA) by APHA.

Source of cattle

Dedicated sales for TB restricted cattle allow sales of any TB restricted cattle which are not subject to Disease Control (England) Order 2003 (DCO) and Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003 (as amended) standstill requirements. The responsibility for ensuring that no susceptible stock have moved onto the premises of origin within the previous seven days under any general or individual licence conditions lies with the owner/keeper of the cattle.

Unresolved IRs and animals awaiting slaughter as TB test reactors or Direct Contacts (DCs) cannot enter these sales. Resolved IRs restricted for life in England can enter an approved TB dedicated sale:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/general-licence-for-the-movement-of-resolved-inconclusive-reactor-cattle-to-slaughter>

Destination of cattle

All cattle entering the TB dedicated sale are subject to the restriction that their onward consignment must be:

- direct to a slaughterhouse
- direct to an AFU (in England and Wales) or an AFUE (England only)

It is very important that any cattle entering the sale are correctly identified with double tags. Cattle cannot return to the premises of origin nor can they be consigned onwards without correct identification.

Herd dispersal sales (England only)

In England, a herd under TB restrictions may hold a dispersal sale as an approved TB dedicated sale at an approved premises. As the cattle are from a single source, a permit to disallow the six day standstill is required. In these sales cattle may move onward to an AFU/AFUE, slaughterhouse or move back to the origin premises under the conditions of a licence (TB16c).

Licences will only be issued if the movement is considered to be low risk following a VRA by APHA.

Conditions

TB Dedicated sales are approved subject to the conditions set out below.

The conditions for approval for a TB dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle are additional to the conditions for the Animal Gathering Licence and do not replace them. They must be strictly adhered to at all times. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal of the TB approval or amendment of approval conditions for the TB dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle.

If the sale is to be a dispersal sale (England only), it is also necessary to hold a permit to disallow the standstill under the Disease Control Order.

Veterinary Heads of Field Delivery (VHoFD)/Veterinary Leads Wales (VLW) can consider approval of dedicated sales for TB restricted cattle if the proposed premises comply with the following conditions:

- the gathering has been licensed under the AGO and, if in Wales, is located in the High TB Area
- if the sale is for the dispersal of a herd it must have a permit disapplying the six day standstill (England only)
- cattle from TB restricted premises must be licensed (TB16b) into and from the TB sale
- any cattle moving to a slaughterhouse must receive the same post mortem inspection at the slaughterhouse as cattle arriving directly from TB restricted premises. They must be marked with an orange stripe along the back if being consigned to a slaughterhouse in Scotland
- cattle entering these gatherings **from TB restricted premises** must have been TB skin tested with negative results in the previous 90 days, with the exception of calves under 42 days old
- the licensee must ensure that no cattle from TB restricted premises enter the market unless accompanied by a licence (TB16b) and must not allow these cattle to leave the site unless accompanied by a licence (TB16b) with the details of the destination completed
- resolved Inconclusive Reactors (IRs) restricted for life in England from OTF premises can enter a TB dedicated sale in England on a general licence available on GOV.UK: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/general-licence-for-the-movement-of-resolved-inconclusive-reactor-cattle-to-slaughter> which also allows them to travel on to an AFU/AFUE in England or directly to slaughter. There is no requirement for cattle moving under the general licence to have been TB skin tested with negative results before entering the sale
- resolved IRs restricted for life in England from OTF premises can be licensed to a TB dedicated sale in Wales (Licence TB208) which also allows them to travel on to an AFU/AFUE in England or Wales or to slaughter
- all cattle entering the TB dedicated sale, with the exception of resolved IRs restricted for life detailed above, are subject to the restriction that their onward consignment must be:
 - direct to a slaughterhouse in England and Wales
 - direct to an AFU (in England and Wales), an AFUE (in England only) or
 - for herd dispersal sales in England only, back to the premises of origin under the conditions of the Licence (TB16c) issued to authorise the move
- sale operators must comply with the requirements of the following legislation and subsequent amendments or changes:
 - [The Animal Gatherings \(England\) Order 2010](#)
 - [The Animal Gatherings \(Wales\) Order 2007](#)
 - [The Cattle Identification Regulations \(England\) 2007](#)
 - [The Cattle Identification \(Wales\) Regulations 2007](#)
 - [The Disease Control \(England\) Order 2003](#)
 - [The Disease Control \(Wales\) Order 2003](#)
 - [The Transport of Animals \(C&D\) \(England\) \(No 3\) Order 2003](#)
 - [The Transport of Animals \(Cleansing & Disinfection\) \(Wales\) \(No 3\) Order 2003](#)
 - The Welfare of Animals in Markets Orders 1990 as amended by [The Welfare of Animals at Markets \(Amendment\) Order 1993](#)
 - [The Welfare of Animals \(Transport\) \(England\) Order 2006](#)

- [The Welfare of Animals \(Transport\) \(Wales\) Order 2007](#)
- Any relevant disease control zones
- the licensed premises must be capable of accommodating the maximum number of cattle anticipated
- any animals showing clinical signs of TB in a market must be immediately isolated and reported to APHA
- animals must only be moved on to the sale premises upon presentation of a valid licence for that movement and are subject to the conditions of that licence. These animals can only be moved under licence from the market and the destination part of that Licence (TB16b or TB208) can only be completed upon presentation of the approval notice for an AFU/AFUE, or details of the slaughterhouse of destination. Movements out of the market must be direct to the destination, accompanied by a copy of the licence and subject to the conditions of the licence
- the market operator must complete the licence with the details of the destination of the animals, copying the licence as necessary if a batch of cattle has multiple destinations
- sales for calves can be approved within a TB dedicated sale, but the additional requirements are as follows:
 - calves aged 42 days or over must not be consigned to the gathering unless they have reacted negatively to a tuberculin test within the previous 90 days
 - market staff must ensure that all passports are checked prior to unloading any calves into the gathering
 - all calves must be loaded for onward consignment to the destination AFU/AFUE or abattoir (with the updated licence as required) within four hours of the sale of the last calf. **As they will not be individually sold, in practice they should be moved off the premises as soon as possible and this should be considered to be within four hours of the arrival of the last calf**
 - the time spent on the market premises must also be considered when ensuring compliance with requirements of the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and/or the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2007
- any other conditions considered necessary or appropriate by APHA.

Preliminary approval inspection

Following a written application from the market operators and before any cattle can be accepted at a dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle, there must be an initial, pre-approval inspection of the market by an APHA Veterinarian.

The visit will consider the state of repair of the premises, paying particular attention to disinfection, handling, loading and penning arrangements, the presence of a vehicle wash, proper access and adequate staffing. The Local Authority (LA) Animal Health Inspector will normally be given the opportunity to comment on the proposal at this stage.

Operators should prepare a plan of the site indicating where the dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle is to take place and indicate how separation in time between dedicated sales for TB restricted cattle and other markets is to take place.

Upon completion of the pre-approval inspection, or after consideration of proposals with existing plans, the market operator will, if APHA approves the application, be issued with an approval to hold a dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle on that site subject to the conditions set out in the approval.

Duration of approval

In England, approval will initially be given for three months on a trial basis, after which the working of the market will be reviewed. Following a successful review, an unannounced annual renewal visit will be carried out by an APHA Veterinarian to confirm that the approval conditions still apply.

In Wales, TB dedicated sales will be allowed from 1 January 2021 in the High TB Area for an initial period of 12 months, when the policy will be reviewed. APHA will carry out at least two inspections during the year. If any non-compliance is apparent, further visits will be necessary.

The sale operator must make sure that the sale complies with the conditions subject to which the approval has been given. This includes clearly publicising the licensing conditions relevant for selling or buying at these sales to vendors and purchasers. If the arrangements for the TB dedicated sale change, for example as a result of staffing changes or structural repairs, so that the conditions in the approval can no longer be complied with, the operator must contact APHA and arrange for a further inspection visit in order to allow a fresh approval to be issued.

Notifications

Once approval is given, the sale operators must **notify** APHA (CSC.TBmarketreturns@apha.gov.uk in England and APHA.CymruWales@apha.gov.uk in Wales) and the Local Authority a minimum of **five working days in advance of any TB dedicated sale** providing:

- the date of the proposed sale
- the number of TB restricted cattle booked in or the maximum number of restricted cattle that will be accepted
- the premises from which TB restricted animals are being moved (County Parish Holding (CPH) number, vendor's name and farm address)
- whether the collection will be a herd dispersal sale (England only)

Where it is intended to hold these events on a regular basis such as once a month on a standard day, weekly etc. then annual or periodic notification may suffice. If agreed, the timetable for notifying the VHoFD/VLW should be made clear to the market operator along with the need for the market operator to **notify** APHA if any amendments to the timetable occur during the period of the notification. Details of these arrangements will be included in the approval letter (TR590).

The licensee must ensure that all herd owners bringing TB restricted cattle to the sale:

- notify the market of their details in advance of the gathering, supply details of the stock (i.e. official identification and total numbers) they wish to enter and apply to APHA for a licence to move the cattle. Any additional information required by the Cattle Identification Regulations must be provided in a document accompanying the animals
- are aware and fully accept that any cattle entering the sale cannot return to the premises of origin, even if they remain unsold, unless they have a Licence (TB16c) (only applicable for dispersal sales in England). The market must have a contingency plan for dealing with unsold animals.
- check their animals' official identification and passports are correct prior to bringing them into the market, including ensuring that the cattle are double-tagged. Incorrectly identified animals at a dedicated sale will be rejected and will not be permitted to continue for slaughter. The market operator should ensure that appropriate alternative contingency arrangements are in place for such circumstances
- keep their cattle clean enough to permit the possibility of movement to slaughter
- provide a Food Chain Information document as required to permit the possibility of onward movement to slaughter
- apply to APHA for the necessary movement licences at least seven working days in advance of the sale (see below)
- ensure cattle going through the gathering have tested negatively to a tuberculin test within the previous 90 days (or are calves under 42 days old or resolved IRs restricted for life in England, moving under the general licence).

Management of movement of cattle through the TB dedicated sale

Vendors will notify the auctioneers of their intention to move restricted cattle to the sale and will supply a list of the animal identification (ear numbers) of cattle to be entered to the sale prior to the sale and at least seven working days before the sale.

Owners of cattle entered for sale must apply to APHA for a licence for cattle to attend such a sale at least seven working days in advance of the sale:

- the Licence (TB16b) will be issued for movements through a TB dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle

(The Licence (TB24b) cannot be used for movements through a TB dedicated sale for TB restricted cattle).

APHA will carry out a veterinary-based risk assessment to ensure that the movement presents a low risk.

If the **purchaser** intends to move cattle to an AFU/AFUE they must present the notice of approval to the market operator prior to any purchase and movement from the sale. The details of the AFU/AFUE or the slaughterhouse to which the cattle will be moved will be added to the licence and the licence must be carried with the cattle during the movement. The movement must be direct to the premises noted on the licence.

The licence must be copied enough times to ensure that each consignment of cattle moved under that licence travels with a copy and that the destination of the cattle has been completed.

Cattle for onward consignment to a slaughterhouse in Scotland must be marked with an orange stripe along the back.

The market operator must collate a schedule, broken down by holding of origin, of all the TB restricted cattle sold. The schedule must give the:

- CPH number and name of the vendor
- official identification of the animal
- name and CPH of the buyer
- AFU/AFUE or slaughterhouse of destination

This schedule must be sent electronically to APHA (CSC.TBmarketreturns@apha.gov.uk in England and APHA.CymruWales@apha.gov.uk in Wales) according to the country in which the gathering takes place, within 24 hours of the end of the sale.

APHA will carry out a 10% check on returns to assess if animals have reached the correct destination according to the Cattle Tracing System.

Animals staying overnight

It is **not** permissible for cattle to arrive at the site for the TB dedicated sale the evening before the sale takes place as they are from TB restricted premises.

Cattle should leave the market as soon as possible after the sale has taken place and in all cases, before unrestricted animals arrive at the site.

In Wales, cattle from OTF premises cannot move to the site of a TB dedicated sale until the following day.

Disinfection of the market

The premises and equipment used for the sale must be cleansed and disinfected before and after the sale, in accordance with the [Animal Gatherings \(England\) Order 2006](#) or The Animal Gatherings (Wales) Order 2010 using a TB approved disinfectant at the concentration required for 'Tuberculosis Orders'.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.