



BSI Standards Publication

Official identification ear tags for cattle – Specification

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Summary of pages

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Foreword

This PAS was developed by the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) and sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Its development was facilitated by the BSI Standards and it was published under the licence from The British Standards Institution. It came into effect on 30 April 2014.

NOTE Attention is also drawn to Commission Regulation (EC) No. 911/2004 [1] and the Cattle Identification Regulations [3].

Acknowledgement is given to the following organizations that were involved in the development of this PAS as members of the steering group:

- ALIDMA
- Dalton ID Limited
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI)
- Ritchey Limited
- Rural Payments Agency (RPA)
- Scottish Government
- Welsh Government
- Co-opted

Acknowledgement is also given to members of a wider review panel who were consulted in the development of this PAS.

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This PAS is not to be regarded as a British Standard. It will be withdrawn upon publication of its content in, or as, a British Standard.

The PAS process enables a specification to be rapidly developed in order to fulfil an immediate need in industry. A PAS can be considered for further development as a British Standard, or constitute part of the UK input into the development of a European or International Standard.

Supersession

This PAS supersedes PAS 44:2009, which is withdrawn.

Relationship with other publications

This PAS is issued as part of a series of PAS for eartags which includes:

- PAS 66:2014, Official identification eartags for sheep and goats – Specification

Use of this document

It has been assumed in the preparation of this PAS that the execution of its provisions will be entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people, for whose use it has been produced.

This PAS represents cattle eartags which have been tested to PAS 44:2014. Eartags approved only to the 2002 version of the PAS will not be eligible for sale as eartags approved under this PAS from 1 July 2014. Eartags approved to the 2009 version will

continue to be approved due to there not being any changes to the performance requirements in this PAS. Products approved to the 2009 version should be reapproved by 1 April 2015.

This specification is not intended to restrict new developments in design and materials providing they meet the minimum requirements laid down in this PAS.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is "shall".

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element. The word "should" is used to express recommendations, the word "may" is used to express permissibility and the word "can" is used to express possibility, e.g. a consequence of an action or an event.

Spelling conforms to The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary. If a word has more than one spelling, the first spelling in the dictionary is used.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a PAS cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This PAS specifies requirements for the performance and testing of eartags used for the official identification of cattle.

This PAS is not applicable to management tags or electronic components of eartags.

The security aspects considered are those concerned with durability, tamper-evidence and safeguarding against a tag's reusability, materials including plasticity, welfare standards and printing processes including durability of print.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 3900-D10, ISO 7724-3, *Methods of test for paints – Part 3: Determination of colour and colour difference: calculation*

BS EN ISO 4892-3, *Plastics – Methods of exposure to laboratory light sources – Part 3: Fluorescent UV lamps*

BS EN 20105-A02, ISO 105-A02, *Textiles – Tests for colour fastness – Grey scale for assessing change in colour*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this PAS, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 primary identification eartag

flag type tag of a specified minimum size and colour, for which minimum size of characters are also specified, whose fitting, to either of a bovine's ears, is compulsory within certain specified time-scales

NOTE Attention is drawn to Article 3 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 911/2004 [1] and EU Parliament & Council Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 [2].

3.2 secondary identification eartag

tag whose fitting, to the other ear to which the primary identification eartag is fitted, is compulsory within certain specified time-scales

NOTE 1 The secondary identification eartag may be of a range of materials, models and sizes.

NOTE 2 The secondary identification eartag may be the same design as the primary identification eartag or an approved alternative as covered under Article 4 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 911/2004 [1]. The eartag may be a one-piece metal tag, or two-piece plastic tag of flag or button design.

NOTE 3 In Northern Ireland the secondary tag should be a two-piece plastic tag of flag or button design.

3.3 plastic type tag

tag with flag parts made out of a plastic material, but which may have metal inserts or tips

3.4 check digit

digit that allows computer systems to check whether official animal identities have been correctly entered