Animal Reporting & Movement Service (ARAMS)
(Sheep / Goat / Deer)

Information for Shows
April 2014
Frequently Asked Questions – Shows

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Electronic Movement Reporting System for Sheep, Goats & Deer

On the 1st April 2014 a new electronic movement reporting system was launched by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

The new Animal Reporting & Movement Service (ARAMS) is provided by SouthWestern from their Milton Keynes office. The ARAMS system takes over the processing of sheep/goat/deer movements from each Local Authority in England.

The delivery of electronic movement reporting for farmed livestock was one of the key recommendations of the Farming regulation Task Force chaired by ex NFU Director General Richard MacDonald (cattle and pig movements can already be electronically reported).

Some of the key questions regarding the new system are outlined below:

**Q1. What does the ARAMS service entail?**
ARAMS essentially involves 2 parts. The first is the SouthWestern Bureau operation in Milton Keynes where the staff process all paper movements onto the ARAMS database.

The second part is an electronic interface with some premises’ back office IT systems (or a web portal) to automatically transfer movement information into the system.

Once all the movement information has been validated by the ARAMS database, the information is then transferred up into the government database; AMLS (Animal Movement Licensing System).

**Q2. What are the benefits of the new service?**
- It is a modern, easy to use service
- Shows can (choose to) use it to quickly create their movement documents instead of having to write them out by hand as now
- Shows can (choose to) use it to electronically confirm their on-movements (instead of having to post off a paper copy to get the move reported)
- In some instances a paper copy of the movement document may not be needed at all
- A paper bureau service will be provided to Shows unable to access the internet or who choose not to e-report
- 70% of movements will be reported electronically within a few months of the service commencing (markets, abattoirs, collection centres and assembly centres will e-report)
- It will reduce costs for both industry as well as Government
- Faster and more accurate movement data improving Governments’ ability to track and trace animal moves in a disease outbreak
- Over time the database may be used to provide commercial services of benefit to keepers (if that happens the development of such services would be industry led).
Q3. Who has to report electronically to ARAMS?
By law all English markets, abattoirs, collection centres and assembly centres will have to report electronically to the new system from 1st April (although these premises are being given a phased go-live option allowing them to develop and test their software and commence e-reporting by the end of May).

These premises account for approximately 70% of all sheep movements in England. Currently movements into these premises are being processed manually by Local Authorities. Under the new system these premises will report electronically to ARAMS, resulting in faster more accurate movement data.

Q4. Will Shows have to report movements electronically?
Shows have the choice of reporting sheep (goat/deer) movements electronically. If they wish they can continue to report movements on paper.

In line with the Government’s Digital by default strategy the ARAMS system is being developed to be user friendly so that, given the choice, over time more and more Shows will decide to use it. (It is undergoing pilot testing now and will be enhanced over time in response to user feedback).

Q5. If my Show wants to report movements on paper, are there any changes?
Yes, there are new movement documents supplied by SouthWestern.

- An ARAMS-1 document will replace the current AML1 form for sheep and goat movements.
- An ARAMS-2 document will replace the current AML24 form for deer movements.
- There will also be an ARAMS-S form for supplementary tag information.

These new movement forms are very similar to the current AML1 and AML24 documents.

The second change is that these new movement forms should be posted to the SouthWestern office in Milton Keynes for processing, instead of your Local Authority.

The SouthWestern address, which is given on the bottom of the new movement form is:
Animal Reporting and Movement Service, SouthWestern, PO Box 6299, Milton Keynes, MK10 1ZQ
(all paper movement documents for moves that take place from 1st April should be posted to this address).

Q6. Is it still the receiving keeper that should report the movements?
Yes, it is still the obligation of the receiving keeper to report the movement onto their premises. This must be done within 3 days (whether the receiving keeper is reporting electronically or on paper).

Q7. Where will farmers be able to get these new movement forms?
As many farmers collect the current AML1 forms today from their local markets, SouthWestern are distributing the new forms through English (sheep) markets also. Forms will also be available at some of the major show-grounds. Local Authority offices will carry a stock of these forms during an interim period. In addition forms will be available online (www.arams.co.uk) where farmers can use the editable PDF forms, enter the movement information, and print out the necessary copies pre-populated if they wish.
Q8. If my Show wants to get a stock of these movement forms, how do we do so?
SouthWestern will deliver a stock of movement documents to the larger show-grounds. If your Show
wishes to keep a stock of these forms, please contact Dawn Currie in the SouthWestern
headquarters to arrange delivery; dawn.currie@arams.co.uk or 0844 573 0137.

Q9. If my Show wishes to report movements electronically how can we do so?
The first step will be to register a show account on ARAMS via the website www.arams.co.uk.
A step-by-step User Guide will be available on the website that gives instructions on how to use the
ARAMS web portal.

Q10. Where will I get further information on how to report electronically?
The ARAMS website includes a User Guide for the Show’s Portal. This gives details on how to register
a Show account, how to create movements and how to confirm receipt of movements if they were
created electronically.

Q11. Is there any cost to Shows of the new reporting system?
No. Use of ARAMS is completely free.
For Shows who wish to continue to report on paper, there is no extra cost. However instead of
posting the movement form to your Local Authority, the forms should instead be posted to
SouthWestern’s office in Milton Keynes.

Q12. Will there be a helpline available for the new system?
SouthWestern are providing a Bureau Helpline & Technical Helpdesk as part of their service.
The helpline number, available from 1st April, is 0844 573 0137. The helpline will be able to provide
assistance with general queries on the new process as well as assistance to Shows who wish to use
electronic reporting.

Q13. Who do I contact if I have queries about tagging / recording / reporting rules and EID
questions?
A farmer/show organiser’s first port of call should be the Defra helpline on 08459 33 55 77 although
the ARAMS helpline may be able to answer basic questions on these issues.
Queries on these matters can also be emailed to defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk.
Furthermore the RPA Livestock Identification helpline will also be available on 0845 050 9876.

Q14. If our Show creates an ‘off’ movement electronically on ARAMS, do we still need to produce a
paper movement form?
Once you set the movement up electronically, the ARAMS system will allow you to print a
movement form which is pre-populated with the details. In the majority of cases, you will need to
print 3 copies i.e. one for the haulier and 2 for the destination keeper.
In some circumstances it may not be necessary to print any copies from ARAMS – but this would be
dependent on the haulier having a PDA/Laptop/Tablet (with mobile printing facilities) and the
receiving keeper also being registered on ARAMS – therefore in the majority of scenarios, it will be
necessary to print at least 3 copies (the dispatching keeper can print a 4th copy for their own records,
if they wish).
An example where no paper movement document would be necessary is where both the departure and receiving keepers were using ARAMS to record/report moves electronically and the transporter was moving with an electronic copy of the movement document. This may become a common scenario—over time.

Another example of ARAMS reducing the burden for keepers is a receiving keeper being able to report a move with the click of a button (see below)

**Q15. What do we do if a keeper sending animals to the show creates the move electronically—do we have to confirm electronically?**

No. Regardless of whether the departure keeper created the movement electronically or not, the receiving keeper (at the show ground) will always have the option of whether to confirm receipt electronically or on paper. Where the departure keeper printed a pre-populated movement form to give to the receiving keeper, the receiving keeper can simply post that form to the SouthWestern bureau if they wish.

If the receiving Show is set up electronically, they can simply log into their ARAMS account where the incoming movement details would be awaiting them to confirm receipt (assuming the departure keeper created the movement electronically). In this scenario, they do not have to post the movement form to SouthWestern.

**Q16. If the departure keeper did not create the movement electronically—can my Show still confirm receipt electronically if I wish?**

Yes. In this scenario, the receiving Show (if registered on ARAMS) can log into their account and enter the movement details i.e. they can create the full ‘on’ movement electronically.

**Q17. Will the show have to keep a holding register?**

No. As now, the requirement for show grounds is to ensure that sufficient records are kept to enable the tracing of animals and livestock vehicles in the event of a suspect case of a notifiable disease at the premises, in accordance with the conditions contained in the show ground’s AGO licence. Show organisers may choose to use the Holding Register produced by Defra. Of relevance for shows will be Section one (ordinarily the registered keeper’s section for on farm registers) and Sections five and six—the on and off movements sections.

The ARAMS system will provide the show organiser with the ability to operate an electronic holding register if they operate an ARAMS account.

**Q18. Will ARAMS cover Wales and Scotland also?**

No, ARAMS relates to sheep/goat/deer movements in England only.

The ScotEID system represents movements in Scotland and a new Welsh EID database is due to be operational by 2015.

The ARAMS database will interface with its Scottish and Welsh counterparts to share movement information relating to cross-border movements.

Note: the interface between England and Scotland will not be operational until approximately July 2014 and the interface between England and Wales will not be operational until the Welsh database is operational in 2015.
In the interim, English Shows will be able to report ‘off’ movements electronically (if they wish) to ARAMS for movements from their premises to a premise in Scotland / Wales. They will print a pre-populated movement form which will accompany the animals to Scotland/Wales. For ‘on’ movements to an English Show (from a Scottish / Welsh premise), the English Show can either post the Scottish/Welsh movement form to SouthWestern’s office – or they can set up the ‘on’ movement electronically on ARAMS if they wish.

English Shows who wish to use a paper movement form for ‘off’ movements from their premise to a Welsh/Scottish premise will use the new ARAMS movement document for this purpose. The receiving keeper in Scotland / Wales will forward this form to their relevant authority.

**Q19. What should I do next?**

Shows can register for an ARAMS account from 1st April 2014. Registering for an account will give them access to the User Guide and a list of Frequently Asked Questions. However, even if they register for an ARAMS account, they can still decide to report on paper if they wish.