

Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97

TITLE I

Identification and registration of bovine animals

Article 1

1 Each Member State shall establish a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals, in accordance with this Title.

2 The provisions of this title shall apply without prejudice to Community rules which may be established for disease eradication or control purposes and without prejudice to Directive 91/496/EEC and Regulation (EEC) No 3508/92⁽¹⁾. [^{F1}However, the provisions of Directive 92/102/EEC which relate specifically to bovine animals shall no longer apply from the date on which those animals must be identified in accordance with this title.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Deleted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

Article 2

For the purposes of this title:

- [^{F2}‘animal’ means a bovine animal within the meaning of Article 2(2), points (b) and (c) of Directive 64/432/EEC, including animals taking part in cultural and sporting events,]
- ‘holding’ means any establishment, construction or, in the case of an open-air farm, any place situated within the territory of the same Member State, in which animals covered by this Regulation are held, kept or handled,
- ‘keeper’ means any natural or legal person responsible for animals, whether on a permanent or on a temporary basis, including during transportation or at a market,
- ‘competent authority’ means the central authority or authorities in a Member State responsible for, or entrusted with, carrying out veterinary checks and implementing this title or, in the case of the monitoring of premiums, the authorities entrusted with implementing Regulation (EC) No 3508/92.

Textual Amendments

- F2** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

Status: Point in time view as at 31/12/2020.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

Article 3

The system for the identification and registration of bovine animals shall comprise the following elements:

- (a) [^{F2}means of identification to identify animals individually;]
- (b) computerised databases;
- (c) animal passports;
- (d) individual registers kept on each holding.

The Commission and the competent authority of the Member State concerned shall have access to all the information covered by this title. The Member States and the Commission shall take the measures necessary to ensure access to these data for all parties concerned, including consumer organisations having an interest which are recognised by the Member State, provided that the data confidentiality and protection prescribed by national law are ensured.

Textual Amendments

- F2** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

^{F2}Article 4

Obligation to identify animals

1 All animals on a holding shall be identified by at least two means of identification listed in Annex I and in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to paragraph 3 and approved by the competent authority. At least one of the means of identification shall be visible and bear a visible identification code.

The first subparagraph shall not apply to animals that were born before 1 January 1998 and that are not intended for intra-Union trade. Those animals shall be identified by at least one means of identification.

In order to ensure the adaptation to technical progress, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b concerning the addition of means of identification to the list set out in Annex I, whilst ensuring their interoperability.

The means of identification shall be allocated to the holding, distributed and applied to the animals in a manner determined by the competent authority.

The two means of identification, authorised in accordance with the delegated and implementing acts adopted pursuant to paragraph 3 and this paragraph and which are applied to one animal, shall bear the same unique identification code, which, together with the registration of the animals, makes it possible to identify the animal individually and the holding on which it was born.

2 By way of derogation from paragraph 1, where the characters forming the animal's identification code do not permit the application of an electronic identifier with the same unique

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identification code, the Member State concerned may allow that, under the supervision of its competent authority, the second means of identification may bear a different code, provided each of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- a the animal is born before the date of entry into force of the implementing acts referred to in point (c) of the second subparagraph of paragraph 3;
- b full traceability is ensured;
- c the individual identification of the animal, including the holding on which it was born, is possible;
- d the animal is not intended for intra-Union trade.

3 To ensure adequate traceability and adaptability to technical progress and optimal functioning of the identification system, the Commission shall adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b concerning the requirements for the means of identification set out in Annex I, and the transitional measures required for the introduction of a particular means of identification.

On the basis of the relevant ISO standards or other international technical standards adopted by recognised international standard-setting organisations, with the understanding that those international standards are able to guarantee, at the very least, a higher level of performance and reliability than ISO standards, the Commission shall lay down, by means of implementing acts, the necessary rules concerning:

- a the format and design of the means of identification;
- b technical procedures for the electronic identification of bovine animals; and
- c the configuration of the identification code.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 23(2).

4 As from 18 July 2019, the Member States shall ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place in order to provide for the identification of animals on the basis of an electronic identifier as an official means of identification in accordance with this Regulation.

As from 18 July 2019, Member States may introduce national provisions making the use of an electronic identifier compulsory as one of the two means of identification provided for in paragraph 1.

Member States that make use of the option under the second subparagraph shall provide the Commission with the text of such national provisions and make this information available on the internet. The Commission shall assist the Member States in making this information available to the public by providing, on its website, the links to the relevant websites of the Member States.

5 By way of derogation from paragraph 1, bovine animals intended for cultural and sporting events, other than fairs and exhibitions, may be identified by alternative means of identification offering equivalent identification standards to those provided for in paragraph 1.

Holdings making use of alternative means of identification referred to in the first subparagraph shall be registered in the computerised database provided for in Article 5.

The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, lay down the necessary rules concerning such registration. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 23(2).

In order to ensure traceability based on the identification standards equivalent to those provided for in paragraph 1, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts

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in accordance with Article 22b concerning the requirements for the alternative means of identification referred to in the first subparagraph, including transitional measures required for their introduction.

The Commission may lay down, by means of implementing acts, the rules concerning the format and design of the alternative means of identification, referred to in the first subparagraph, including transitional measures required for their introduction. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 23(2).

6 Member States shall communicate to each other and to the Commission a model of the means of identification used in their territory. They shall make this information available on the internet. The Commission shall assist the Member States in making this information available to the public by providing, on its website, the links to the relevant websites of the Member States.]

Textual Amendments

- F2** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

[F3 Article 4a

Time period for the application of the means of identification

1 The means of identification provided for in Article 4(1) shall be applied to the animal before the expiry of a maximum period, to be determined by the Member State in which the animal was born. The maximum period shall be calculated from the date of birth of the animal and shall not exceed 20 days.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, for reasons related to the physiological development of the animals, that period may, for the second means of identification, be extended up to 60 days following the birth of the animal.

No animal may leave the holding where it was born before the two means of identification have been applied to that animal.

2 To enable the application of the means of identification in special circumstances involving practical difficulties, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b to determine the special circumstances under which the Member States may extend the maximum periods for the application of the means of identification as provided for in the first and second subparagraphs of paragraph 1. Member States shall inform the Commission of each use of that option.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Inserted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

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Article 4b

Identification of animals from third countries

1 Any animal subject to veterinary checks, pursuant to Directive 91/496/EEC, entering the Union from a third country and intended for a holding of destination within the territory of the Union, shall be identified at the holding of destination with the means of identification provided for in Article 4(1).

The original identification applied to the animal in the third country of origin shall be recorded in the computerised database provided for in Article 5 together with the unique identification code of the means of identification allocated to the animal by the Member State of destination.

The first subparagraph shall not apply to animals destined directly for a slaughterhouse situated in a Member State, provided that the animals are slaughtered within 20 days following those veterinary checks pursuant to Directive 91/496/EEC.

2 The means of identification of animals referred to in Article 4(1) shall be applied within a maximum period to be determined by the Member State in which the holding of destination is located. That period shall not exceed 20 days following the veterinary checks referred in paragraph 1.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, for reasons related to the physiological development of the animals, that period may, for the second means of identification, be extended up to 60 days following the birth of the animal.

In all cases, the two means of identification referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 4(1) shall be applied to the animals before they leave the holding of destination.

3 Where the holding of destination is situated in a Member State that has introduced national provisions under the second subparagraph of Article 4(4) to make the use of an electronic identifier compulsory, the animals shall be identified with that electronic identifier in the holding of destination in the Union, within a period to be determined by the Member State of destination. That period shall not exceed 20 days following the veterinary checks referred in paragraph 1.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, for reasons related to the physiological development of the animals, that period may, for the second means of identification, be extended up to 60 days following the birth of the animal.

In all cases, the electronic identifier shall be applied to the animals before they leave the holding of destination.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Inserted by Regulation (EU) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.

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Article 4c

Identification of animals moved from one Member State to another

1 Animals moved from one Member State to another shall retain the original means of identification applied to them pursuant to Article 4(1).

However, by way of derogation from the first subparagraph, starting from 18 July 2019, the competent authority of the Member State of destination may allow:

- a the replacement of one of the means of identification by an electronic identifier without changing the original unique identification code of the animal;
- b the replacement of both means of identification by two new means of identification which shall both bear the same, new unique identification code. This derogation may be applied until five years after 18 July 2019, where the characters forming the identification code of an animal's conventional ear tag do not permit the application of an electronic identifier with the same unique identification code, and provided that the animal is born before the date of entry into force of the implementing acts referred to in point (c) of the second subparagraph of Article 4(3).

2 Where the holding of destination is situated in a Member State that has introduced national provisions to make the use of an electronic identifier compulsory, the animals shall be identified with that electronic identifier at the latest in the holding of destination within a maximum period to be determined by the Member State where that holding of destination is located. That maximum period shall not exceed 20 days from the date of arrival of the animals on the holding of destination.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, for reasons related to the physiological development of the animals, that period may, for the second means of identification, be extended up to 60 days following the birth of the animal.

In all cases, the electronic identifier shall be applied to the animals before they leave the holding of destination.

However, the first subparagraph shall not apply to animals destined directly for a slaughterhouse situated in the territory of the Member State that has introduced national provisions to make the use of an electronic identifier compulsory.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Inserted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

Article 4d

Removal, modification or replacement of means of identification

No means of identification may be removed, modified or replaced without the permission of the competent authority. Such permission may only be granted where the removal, modification or replacement do not compromise the traceability of the animal

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and where its individual identification, including the holding on which it was born, is possible.

Any replacement of an identification code shall be recorded in the computerised database provided for in Article 5, together with the unique identification code of the original means of identification of the animal.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Inserted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

l^{F2} Article 5

The competent authority of the Member States shall set up a computerised database in accordance with Articles 14 and 18 of Directive 64/432/EEC.

Member States may exchange electronic data between their computerised databases from the date on which the Commission recognises the full operability of the data exchange system. The exchange shall be done in such a way that data protection is guaranteed and any abuse prevented in order to protect the interests of the keeper.

In order to ensure the electronic exchange of information between Member States, the Commission shall adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b to lay down the rules concerning the data to be exchanged between computerised databases of Member States.

The Commission shall by means of implementing acts lay down the technical conditions and modalities for such exchange and recognise the full operability of the data exchange system. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 23(2).]

Textual Amendments

- F2** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

l^{F2} Article 6

1 Where a Member State does not exchange electronic data with other Member States, in the framework of the electronic exchange system referred to in Article 5, the following applies:

- a the competent authority of that Member State shall, for each animal that is intended for intra-Union trade, issue a passport based on the information contained in the computerised database set up in that Member State;
- b each animal for which a passport is issued shall be accompanied by that passport whenever the animal is moved from one Member State to another;
- c upon arrival of the animal at the holding of destination, the passport accompanying the animal shall be surrendered to the competent authority of the Member State where the holding of destination is located.

2 In order to allow for the tracing of animal movements back to the holding of origin situated in a Member State, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated

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acts in accordance with Article 22b to lay down rules concerning the information from the computerised database to be included in the animal passport, including transitional measures required for their introduction.]

Textual Amendments

- F2** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

^{F3}Article 6a

This Regulation shall not prevent national provisions by a Member State concerning the issuing of passports for animals not intended for intra-Union trade.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Inserted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

Article 7

- 1 With the exception of transporters, each keeper of animals shall:
- keep an up-to-date register,
 - ^{F2}report to the competent authority all movements to and from the holding and all births and deaths of animals of the holding, together with the dates of those events, within a maximum period fixed by the Member State concerned; that maximum period shall be at least three days and not exceed seven days following the occurrence of one of those events; Member States may request the Commission to extend the maximum period of seven days.]

^{F3}To take into account practical difficulties in exceptional cases, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b to determine the exceptional circumstances in which Member States may extend the maximum period of seven days provided for in the second indent of the first subparagraph, together with the maximum length of that extension, which shall not exceed 14 days following the period of seven days referred to in the second indent of the first subparagraph.]

^{F2} To ensure the adequate and effective traceability of bovine animals when put out to seasonal grazing, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b concerning the Member States or part of Member States where special rules for seasonal grazing shall apply, including the time period, specific obligations of the keepers, and rules on the holding registration and registration of movements of such bovine animals, including transitional measures required for their introduction.]

3 Each keeper shall supply the competent authority, upon request, with all information concerning the origin, identification and, where appropriate, destination of animals, which he has owned, kept, transported, marketed or slaughtered.

4 The register shall be in a format approved by the competent authority, kept in manual or computerised form, and be available at all times to the competent authority, upon request,

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for a minimum period to be determined by the competent authority but which may not be less than three years.

[^{F3} By way of derogation from paragraph 4, keeping a register shall be optional for any keeper who:

- a has access to the computerised database provided for in Article 5 which already contains the information to be included in the register; and
- b enters the up-to-date information, or has it entered, directly into the computerised database provided for in Article 5.

6 To ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information to be included in the holding register provided for in this Article, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 22b to lay down the necessary rules concerning that information, including transitional measures required for their introduction.]

Textual Amendments

- F2** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)
- F3** Inserted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

^{F1}Article 8

Textual Amendments

- F1** Deleted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

Article 9

Member States may charge to keepers the costs of the systems referred to in Article 3 and of the controls referred to in this title.

[^{F3}Article 9a

Training

Member States shall ensure that any person responsible for the identification and registration of animals has received instructions and guidance on the relevant provisions of this Regulation and of any delegated and implementing acts adopted by the Commission pursuant to this Regulation.

Whenever the relevant provisions are amended, the corresponding information shall be made available to the person referred to in the first subparagraph.

Member States shall ensure that appropriate training courses are available.

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The Commission shall facilitate the exchange of best practices to improve the quality of information and training across the Union.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Inserted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

^{F1}Article 10

Textual Amendments

- F1** Deleted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 653/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 amending Regulation \(EC\) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and labelling of beef.](#)

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- (1) [OJ L 355, 5.12.1992, p. 1](#). Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1036/1999 ([OJ L 127, 21.5.1999, p. 4](#)).

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