



**On target :**

**Sheep**

**NFU Scotland – fighting for your  
Interests**

- **Sheep tags Electronic Identification (EID)**

NFUS was instrumental in gaining the best possible outcome for the implementation of the controversial Regulation 21/2004. As a result of NFUS negotiations, the burden of cross compliance for movement recording has been largely reduced for hill farmers and breeding flocks breeding their own replacements. There are cross compliance issues remaining for flocks buying in breeding ewes and NFUS continues to work hard to develop a workable solution for those flocks. NFUS will continue its efforts in making this regulation more workable and will be pushing that a review takes place as soon as possible. NFUS is committed to providing support to any members facing cross compliance penalties resulting from incomplete critical control point reads and will take forward appeal cases for affected members.

- **Scottish Sheep Scab Initiative**

NFUS has been instrumental in coordinating the Scottish Sheep Scab Initiative, which worked with Scottish Government on developing a new Sheep Scab Order. The new Order makes sheep scab a notifiable disease and gives the local authority the power to act on suspicion of the disease. The Order has been developed in partnership with industry to minimise the burden on those keepers who act responsibly to tackle the disease and target those keepers that do not.

- **Fallen Stock**

NFUS played a key part in securing and maintaining the derogated area status for parts of Scotland until a comprehensive affordable collection service is available in the area. NFUS has worked with the NFSCo to introduce a discounted collection rate for pickups of multiple animals to cope with incidents of disaster like disease or extreme weather events. NFUS has been working with the NFSCo to develop ways NFSCo might help with official death reporting for EID sheep to aid compliance and ensure that looking forward any system can also accommodate cattle EID in the future.

- **Tagging Survey**

NFUS, in reaction to complaint about tag quality and the lack of information available to help keepers evaluate available tags, carried out an extensive tag survey and published the results. The survey will be improved upon and repeated annually with the results providing valuable information to keepers and feedback to manufacturers. NFUS has also secured a commitment from the Commission to work with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) to review the tag approvals system.

- **Emergency Aid for the Sheep Sector**

NFUS secured an aid payment of £200,000 to the National Fallen Stock Company to help alleviate some of the additional costs our members faced as a result of the extreme winter weather of 2009/2010.

- **FMD Compensation**

NFUS secured Scottish Government compensation for sheep farmers towards losses experienced as a result of the 2007 FMD outbreak, equating to £6 per eligible ewe and an overall spend of £19 million.

- **New research programme for Kirkton/Auchtertyre**

NFUS has been instrumental in a SAC/industry initiative to develop a new research strategy for SAC's hill farms. The Kirkton facility has for years been seen as promoting 'what not to do' on a hill farm. NFUS helped set up a group to drive forward a new initiative that will focus on restocking new management systems for commercial markets as well as looking at animal health and environmental issues.

*Autumn 2011*