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# Glossary

The following words and phrases have the following meanings when used in these Rules and Conditions:

**'Animal'** means goat or sheep;

**'CAEAS'** means Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Accreditation Scheme;

**'Flock'** means a herd of goats or a flock of sheep;

**'Health Status Report'** means a certificate issued in respect of an Animal confirming that it is part of a CAE Accredited Herd in accordance with the Rules;

**'Holding'** means any place in which animals are held, kept, bred, handled or shown to the public;

**'CAE'** means Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis;

**'CAE Accredited'** means in relation to an Animal, that it is monitored in accordance with the Rules of the CAEAS and issued with a Health Status Report pursuant to Rule 1.3 and has not subsequently tested positive for CAE or lost its CAE Accredited status pursuant to Rule 5 .

In relation to a Herd that it consists only of CAE Accredited Animals

**'CAEAS Certificate'** means a certificate issued prior to the introduction of these rules in respect of an Animal confirming that it is CAE Accredited

**'Non-CAE Accredited'** means in relation to an Animal or Herd that is not CAE Accredited;

**'Periodic Test'** means a test carried out periodically on CAE Accredited Herds and Animals in accordance with Rule 3.7 in order to maintain CAE Accredited status.

**'Periodic Testing'** means the carrying out of Periodic Tests

**'Qualifying Tests'** means the 2 consecutive blood tests required to be carried out in order to join the CAEAS ;

**'Rules'** means these rules and conditions relating to the CAEAS;

**'SAC VS'** means SAC Consulting: Veterinary Services;

**'Tested'** means blood tested for CAE

**'Testing'** means blood testing for CAE; and

**'you'** means an owner of Animals or any agent or other person employed by that owner.

# INTRODUCTION

*This section does not form part of the Rules and is provided for background purposes only.*

## Background

### **i** What is 'Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis'?

Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis ("CAE") is a chronic viral disease which can affect the joints, nervous system, lungs and udders of goats and it can be transmitted between Animals and Herds. The virus which causes Maedi Visna (MV) in sheep is very similar to CAE virus and there is evidence that cross infection can occur between species. Therefore for the scheme purposes "Animal" refers to sheep or goats.

**Test:** At present, blood testing allows identification of infection.

**Cure:** At present, there is no vaccine, no cure and the disease is fatal.

### **i** Purpose of the scheme

- The Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Accreditation Scheme ("CAEAS") is a voluntary scheme which allows you to demonstrate that your Animals have been tested and are accredited free of CAE.

The Benefits of the CAEAS are as follows:-

- it helps you to reduce the risk of your Herd contracting CAE;
- it allows you membership of an elite nationally recognised health scheme with the backing of SAC VS;
- it enables you to attend shows and sales from which your Animals would otherwise be barred;
- it allows you to export to certain countries free from CAE;
- it gives you the opportunity to advertise to potential purchasers that your Herd is CAE Accredited; and
- it gives added value to your Herd by enabling you to supply purchasers who demand CAE Accredited stock.

If you want to become or remain a part of the CAEAS, you must abide by these Rules and conditions at all times.

### **i** Who governs the scheme

The CAEAS is operated as follows:

- **Organisation & Supervision:** As part of its Premium Sheep & Goat Health Schemes, SAC VS is appointed to organise and supervise the CAEAS.
- **Inspections and certification of compliance with the Rules:** Practising Veterinary Surgeons are appointed to carry out Herd inspections and check on compliance with the Rules. SACVS also organise random herd inspections.
- **Monitoring of shows and sales:** SAC VS operates (or sub-contracts the operation of) a bureau to monitor "CAE Accredited" sections of shows and sales.

# THE RULES

## 1 Membership and certification

### 1.1 Eligibility to join

You can join CAEAS in respect of a Herd or a Holding provided that:-

- the Herd is situated in Great Britain;
- the Herd meets the CAEAS requirements as detailed in these Rules
- you strictly adhere to the Rules of the CAEAS. Failure to do so will result in penalties as detailed in Rule 6.

### 1.2 Application process

- In order to join CAEAS you must complete the official application form. This is available on request from SAC VS at its PSGHS Office, PO Box 5557, Inverness, IV2 4YT, ( Tel. 01463226995) . The application form is also available online at [www.sac.ac.uk/sghs](http://www.sac.ac.uk/sghs).

### 1.3 Certification

- Only Herds consisting exclusively of Animals in respect of which current and valid Health Status Reports ( or CAEAS Certificates ) exist, and which have not lost their CAE accredited status as described in Rule 6.1.1 of these Rules, are deemed CAE Accredited in accordance with the Rules.
- SAC VS are responsible for issuing Health Status Reports.
- You are responsible for ensuring that Testing is carried out within such a time frame that enables SAC VS, subject to the results of that Testing, to issue each Health Status Report prior to the expiry date of any existing Health Status Report ( or CAEAS certificate, as the case may be )
- The Health Status Report is issued by SAC VS annually on confirmation of all CAE Testing being negative along with a submission form signed by the Veterinary Surgeon who carried out the CAE testing and an owner's declaration that the Herd has been kept in compliance with the Rules of the CAEAS.
- Valid and current Health Status Reports ( or CAEAS certificates ) are required to gain entry to CAE Accredited sections of shows and sales and before an Animal or Herd may be allowed to come into contact with another CAE Accredited animal or Herd.
- SAC VS will issue an Export Certificate for CAE Accredited Animal(s) on request for export purposes.

### 1.4 Reporting suspected infection

- If you suspect that an Animal is infected with CAE, this must be reported to your Veterinary Surgeon for investigation. The Veterinary Surgeon may decide:-

- that the Animal is not infected with CAE and that no further action is required; or
  - CAE cannot be ruled out and Testing of each Animal suspected of being infected must be undertaken and samples submitted to SAC VS.
- If the Testing carried out on the suspect Animal confirms the presence of CAE, the CAE Accredited status of the Herd will be suspended immediately unless the positive Animal is one which has been (and is still being) kept in isolation in accordance with Rule 5.1.1.
  - If CAE is confirmed in a Herd, breakdown procedures in Rule 6.2 must be followed in order to regain CAE Accredited status.

## **1.5 Discretion of SAC VS**

SAC VS's decisions are deemed to be final and SAC VS shall have sole discretion to determine the following:-

- Whether a Herd's CAE Accredited status should be suspended or removed under the CAEAS.
- Interpretation of the Rules.
- Whether to inform a Veterinary Surgeon, members of the CAEAS or any other organisation of any loss of status.

SAC VS reserves the right to carry out farm inspections and to require any Animal to be tested at any time.

These rules are not exhaustive and SAC VS reserves the right to act as it sees fit in relation to any circumstances relating to the operation or governance of the CAEAS which, in the sole discretion of SAC VS, are not adequately provided for under these Rules, and to amend these Rules from time to time.

# **Security**

## **1.6 Maedi Visna Accreditation Scheme (MVAS )**

The rules of the MVAS are identical to CAEAS except that:-

- they are applied to sheep flocks
- a two metre gap is required between accredited and non-accredited Animals while on a Holding. Otherwise the schemes are compatible.

## **1.7 Farm boundaries**

- CAE Accredited Herds must not be allowed to come into physical contact with Non-CAE Accredited Herds at any time;
- Farm boundaries must be adequate to prevent Animals from straying on to or off the Holdings and to prevent nose to nose contact between Animals.
- There must be at least a three metre gap between CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Herds at all times.

## 1.8 Using and sharing Non-CAE Accredited stock facilities

- If CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Herds are kept on the same Holding(s) they must be kept as far apart as possible. As a minimum they will be at least three metres apart.

### **WARNING: Keeping CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Herds on the same premises increases the risks of spreading infection**

- CAE Accredited Animals and Non-CAE Accredited Animals should not be housed together in the same airspace, even if physically separated, except in approved circumstances (see Rule 2.1.3).
- CAE Accredited Animals must not be kept on grazing pastures, previously occupied by Non-CAE Accredited Animals, for 7 days from when the Non-CAE Accredited Animals were removed.
- Equipment such as ear tattooing forceps, drenching guns, surgical equipment, hypodermic needles or any other equipment which may draw blood must not be shared between CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Animals.
- Handling facilities and livestock trailers which are used by CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Animals must be cleaned and disinfected before use by CAE Accredited Animals.
- Colostrum from Non-CAE Accredited Animals must not be brought into a CAE Accredited Herd or fed to CAE Accredited kids.
- Only embryos or semen from CAE Accredited Animals may be used to impregnate, inseminate or fertilise a CAE Accredited Animal.

## 1.9 Notice of security threats

You must notify SAC VS of changes which could affect the security of a Herd or an Animal.

## 1.10 Identification

All Animals exhibited or sold as CAE Accredited must be permanently and individually marked by a method so that:-

- The Herd of origin can be identified
- The individual animal/s can be identified

# 2 Animal movement and ownership change

## 2.1 Moving Animals

Any Animal which moves from one location to another will automatically lose its CAE Accredited status unless you ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

### 2.1.1 Transport:

- CAE Accredited Animals attending shows, sales or leaving their Holding for any

other purpose must travel segregated (except as provided below: Segregation at temporary locations) and not come into contact with any Animals which are not part of a CAE Accredited Herd.

- CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Animals must not be transported in the same vehicles unless it is a lorry with solid partitions and separate loading/unloading ramps. If animals are transported in this way, the CAE Accredited Animals may return to their Herd of origin or to another CAE Accredited Herd without any isolation or Testing.
- Vehicles previously used for transporting Animals must be cleaned and disinfected between use for CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Herds.

### **2.1.2 Segregation:**

- If you acquire Non-CAE Accredited Animals or are unsure of the Animals' status, you must physically segregate the Animals from CAE Accredited Herds until they have been tested in accordance with Rule 2.3.2.

**If you are unsure of an Animal's status, you are strongly advised to seek advice from the PSGHS Office before acquiring the Animal, as non-compliance may result in loss of Herd / Holding status.**

### **2.1.3 Segregation at temporary locations:**

While at any 'temporary location' such as a show or sale, for short periods (not exceeding 10 days), CAE Accredited and Non-CAE Accredited Animals may share an airspace provided that they are separated by a solid barrier at least 3 metres high.

## **2.2 Adding or returning Animals to a Holding**

If you add (or return) an Animal to your CAE Accredited Herd's Holding, the Herd(s) situated at that Holding will lose their CAE Accredited Status unless all of the following requirements are met:

**Origin:** The Herd from which the Animal came must be CAE Accredited.

**Still certified:** The Animal must not have lost its CAE Accredited status through non-compliance with Rule 2.1 (*Moving Animals*) or otherwise.

**Testing:** The added Animal meets Testing requirements.

## **2.3 Change of ownership**

### **2.3.1 Acquiring CAE Accredited Animals.**

If you acquire CAE Accredited Animals, they will automatically maintain CAE Accredited status and may be added to a CAE Accredited Herd where:-

- You are a member of or have applied to join CAEAS.
- You have had the Holding on which you intend to keep the Animals inspected by a Veterinary Surgeon; and
- You have ensured that the security of the Animals or Herd has been maintained in accordance with Rules 1.6 - 1.10.

### **2.3.2 Acquiring Non-CAE Accredited Animals**

- If you acquire Non-CAE Accredited Animals, each Animal must pass Qualifying Tests, being not less than 6 months and not more than 12 months apart, to become part of the CAEAS. The Animal(s) must be at least 12 months old at the time of the first of the Qualifying tests.
- Non-CAE Accredited Animals MUST NOT be added to a CAE Accredited Herd until they have passed Qualifying Tests (and thereby become CAE Accredited Animals themselves).
- Until they have passed Qualifying Tests, non-CAE Accredited Animals which you intend to become CAE Accredited must be kept in isolation.
- Herds that are on testing every three years will revert to testing after two years for the next routine periodic blood test. If no further non-CAE Accredited Animals are to be added, after passing qualifying tests, the herd can revert to every three year testing, providing the other conditions are met.

## **3 Testing Programme**

### **3.1 Animals which must be tested**

Any Animal which is to become part of a CAE Accredited Herd must be tested in accordance with these Rules.

### **3.2 Testing procedure**

#### **3.2.1 Acquiring CAE Accredited Herds**

If you acquire a CAE Accredited Herd in accordance with Rule 2.3.1, the following Periodic Testing must take place:-

- *First Routine Periodic Test:* carried out 6 months after establishment of the Herd; At this test all Animals over 12 months of age must be tested. As an exception, if 55 or more Animals have been added from a single source Herd, the number that must be tested from that source shall be determined in accordance with the statistical table appended at Appendix 1.
- *Second Routine Periodic Test:* carried out 12 months after the first test. The requirements of Periodic Testing are explained in Rule 3.7.

#### **3.2.2 Acquiring Non-CAE Accredited Herds**

If you wish a Non-CAE Accredited Herd to become accredited, the Herd must undergo Qualifying Tests in accordance with Rule 2.3.2 to become part of the CAEAS.

#### **3.2.3 Acquiring Non-CAE Accredited Animals**

If you acquire Non-CAE Accredited Animals, the Animals must pass Qualifying Tests, not less than 6 months and not more than 12 months apart, to become part of the CAEAS. The Animal(s) must be at least 12 months old at the time of the first of the Qualifying Tests.

### **3.3 Qualifying Tests**

3.3.1 At the first of the Qualifying Tests, all Animals in the Herd 12 months of age or over must be tested UNLESS:-

- the Herd has been established for a minimum of 3 years;
- at least 90% of female Herd replacements are home bred;
- any purchased Animals (either males or females) in the past 3 years have come from CAE Accredited Herds; and
- there are no other Animals on the Holding that are not to be included in the CAEAS Herd.

3.3.2 If **ALL** the conditions specified in Rule 3.3.1 are met, then:-

- *At the First Qualifying Test:* You need only test a proportion of the Animals aged 12 months or more provided that all males in the Herd are tested. The number to be tested shall be determined in accordance with the statistical table appended at Appendix 1 . SAC VS has the discretion to require a greater proportion of the Herd to be tested.
- *At the Second Qualifying Test:* All Animals over 12 months of age must be tested.

### **3.4 Procedures for Adding Animals during Qualifying Testing**

If you want to add any Non-CAE Accredited Animals to the Herd after the first of the Qualifying Tests you must ensure the following:-

- the added Animals are kept isolated from the Herd until they have passed both Qualifying Tests, at least 6 months apart; or
- the added Animals have passed the first of the Qualifying Tests and the Herd will undergo the second of the Qualifying Tests 6 months after the added Animals have joined the Herd; and in any event
- the added Animals are aged 12 months or more at the time of the first Qualifying Test.

### **3.5 Qualifying Test Results**

If both Qualifying Tests give only negative results, the Herd becomes CAE Accredited and the Herd must thereafter undergo Periodic Testing.

### **3.6 Periodic Testing**

3.6.1 After becoming CAE Accredited the first Periodic Test must take place a maximum of 12 months later.

3.6.2 If the first Periodic Test is negative, the second Periodic Test must be carried out a maximum of two years after the first.

- 3.6.3 After the second Periodic Test the following applies:
- 3.6.3.1 Herds kept on a Holding on which Non-CAE Accredited Animals are or have been present at any point since the last Periodic Testing was carried out on the Holding must have Periodic Testing carried out every two years.
  - 3.6.3.2 Herds kept on a Holding which has ( or has had ) only CAE Accredited Animals present on the Holding since the last Periodic Testing was carried out on the Holding are only required to have Periodic Testing carried out every 3 years. In addition, any CAE Accredited Animals added to the Herd from another CAE Accredited Herd must be tested within 12 months of arrival ( except those which are under 12 months old, which should instead be Tested when they reach that age ).

### 3.7 Requirements of Periodic Testing

- 3.7.1 At each Periodic Testing:-
- 3.7.1.1 The minimum number of Animals that must be tested shall be the number specified for a Herd of the relevant size in the statistical table appended at Appendix 1. BUT, any CAE accredited Animals over 18 months old which have been added to the herd from other sources and not yet tested since arrival must be excluded in determining the size of the Herd for this purpose.
  - 3.7.1.2 IN ADDITION TO the minimum number of Animals to be Tested pursuant to Rule 3.7.1.1, all CAE Accredited Animals over 12 months old added to the herd from other sources that have not been tested since arrival must be Tested UNLESS more than 55 of them have been added from a single source Herd, in which case the number of Animals from that single source Herd that must be Tested shall be the number specified for a group of that size in the statistical table appended at Appendix 1.
  - 3.7.1.3 All males in the Herd over 18 months of age used in the current or most recent breeding season must be Tested.
- 3.7.2 If Non-CAE Accredited Animals are added to a Holding on which CAE Accredited Animals are kept, the routine Periodic Testing will revert from 3 years to 2 years.
- 3.7.3 If CAE Accredited Animals are added to a Holding with only CAE Accredited Animals which are subject to Periodic Testing every 3 years, the added Animals must be tested within 12 months of arrival (except those which are under 12 months old, which should instead be Tested when they reach that age ). EXCEPTION: If more than 55 CAE Accredited Animals have been added from a single source, only that proportion of the Animals added from that source Herd as is specified in the table appended at Appendix 1 must be tested within 12 months of arrival .
- 3.7.4 REMEMBER - Non-CAE Accredited Animals which you acquire must be kept isolated from CAE Accredited Animals in accordance with Rules 1.6 - 1.9 (**Security**) and 2.3.2 (**Acquiring Non-CAE Accredited Animals**) until the Non-CAE Accredited Animals have passed the Qualifying Tests.
- 3.7.5 At each Qualifying and CAE Accredited Test, Herd information will be collected with a signed declaration from the owner/manager and a Veterinary Surgeon. In addition all Herd owners will be required to complete and return an annual declaration giving details of Animals added to the Herd in the previous 12 months.

## 4 Record keeping

### 4.1 Specific records you must keep and disclose

4.1.1 You must keep records of the following information concerning your CAE Accredited Herds:-

- Identification, breed and sex
- Identity of dam which gave birth to each animal
- Approximate date of birth (month and year)
- Date of death or disposal
- Reason for death or disposal
- Dates and results of all CAE Testing

4.1.2 You must also maintain for a minimum period of six years, records of the following and (promptly make a copy of these records available to the Veterinary Surgeon or SACVS on request) in relation to all MV accredited flocks

- movement records for each animal within the flock

In the case of private purchases

- all health status reports and MVAS certificates in respect of each animal added to the flock

## 5 Contact with Non-CAE Accredited Animals

5.1 Subject to Rule 5.1.3, if any CAE Accredited Animal comes into contact with a Non-CAE Accredited Animal, then that animal shall lose its CAE Accredited status and you must carry out the following in order to retain your CAE Accredited status in relation to the remainder of your Herd:-

### 5.1.1 Isolation

- You must keep any CAE Accredited Animal which has had contact with Non-CAE Accredited Animal(s) isolated from other CAE Accredited Animals for at least 6 months.
- After 6 months, the isolated Animal(s) must undergo Testing. If the result of the Testing is negative, they may rejoin the CAE Accredited Herd.
- If any Animal in the isolated group tests positive for CAE, it should be culled and the remainder of the group must stay in isolation until they have passed a further test 6 months later.

### 5.1.2 Loss of CAE status

- If any CAE Accredited Animal which has had contact with a Non-CAE Accredited Animal re-join(s) the CAE Accredited Herd without having tested negative for CAE after having been kept in isolation in accordance with Rule 5.1.1, the Herd must not be described as CAE Accredited, and no Animal may be sold as CAE Accredited, until the Animal(s) which have lost status have passed Testing, at least 6 months after the contact with Non-CAE Accredited Animals.

- If any of the Animals who have lost CAE Accredited Status and rejoined the Herd without having been kept in isolation in accordance with Rule 5.1 subsequently test positive for CAE, the whole Herd will lose their CAE Accredited status.

### **5.1.3 Alternative Testing**

- You may carry out Testing on the Non-CAE Accredited Animals with which your CAE Accredited Animals had contact. If the Non-CAE Accredited Animals test negative for CAE, no further action is necessary.

## **6 Withdrawal from CAEAS or Loss of CAE Accredited Status**

### **6.1 Loss of Status**

6.1.1 Your Herd will immediately lose its CAE Accredited status if any of the following events occur:

- you fail to comply in all respects with any of Rules 2, 3.6 or 3.7.
- you fail to comply with any instructions whatsoever of SAC VS, any Veterinary Surgeon, or any other party who from time to time have responsibility for governing the CAEAS
- If any Animal within the Herd tests positive for CAE ( unless it is in isolation as either an added animal or one that had come into contact with a non-CAE Accredited Animal and is being kept in isolation in accordance with Rule 5.1.1).
- You inform SAC that you wish your Herd to be withdrawn from the CAEAS.

6.1.2 The following rules shall apply where an Animal has been identified as infected with CAE:-

- If a Herd loses CAE Accredited Status a set of procedures for regaining CAE Accredited status will be issued to the herd owner.
- If an Animal that has been identified as being infected with CAE has been added from another Herd, then the Herd of origin will have its CAE Accredited status suspended and will be subjected to a check test carried out at the expense of the owner of that Flock.
- When CAE infection is detected in a Herd, all Animals that have moved to other CAE Accredited herds will be traced. These individual Animals must then be tested at the expense of the owner of the Herd to which the Animal has been transferred.

6.1.3 SAC VS may suspend or remove your Herd from the CAEAS if any of the following events occur:

- If you breach or fail to comply with any of these Rules.
- If there is any suspicion that an Animal has been exposed to CAE.
- If you fail to pay outstanding fees.

## **6.2 Regaining CAE Accredited status**

- 6.2.1 If your Herd loses its CAE Accredited status because of a positive confirmation of CAE, your Herd can be re-admitted to the CAEAS provided that you comply with the following:-
- all infected Animals must be removed for slaughter.
  - all kids which have been suckled by the infected Animals or fed milk from infected Animals must be removed for slaughter.
  - the Herd must have passed 2 Qualifying Tests. The first of the Qualifying Tests must take place at least 180 days after the removal of the last infected Animals from the Herd. The second of the Qualifying Tests must take place at least 6 months and no longer than 12 months after the first of the Qualifying Tests. Each test must include all Animals in the Herd aged 12 months or over at the time of the Testing.
  - If you cannot identify all the kids which may have been suckled by an infected Animal, then the Herd will not be eligible for CAE Accredited status until all kids have reached the age of 2 years and passed the Qualifying Tests.
- 6.2.2 If you lose CAE Accredited status for any other reason, SAC VS will determine what, if any, Qualifying Testing is required for re-admission to the CAEAS and what the frequency of Testing will be thereafter.

Non compliance with the Rules may result in loss of CAE Accredited status under the CAEAS and your Health Status Report or any CAEAS Certificates or any other veterinary certificates issued for export purposes may be cancelled or withdrawn. .

## **6.3 Liability**

- 6.3.1 SAC is not liable for any losses incurred by a member or any other person as a result of a Herd's loss of CAE Accredited status by a Herd or Animal howsoever caused.

# APPENDIX 1

## CAE - Herd Test Numbers

Total no of female and male animals over 18 months	Sample size
1-55	All
56-60	55
61-65	60
66-70	65
71-80	70
81-90	75
91-100	80
101-120	85
121-140	90
141-160	95
161-180	100
181-200	105
201-250	110
251-300	115
301-350	120
351-400	125
401-500	130
501-700	135
701-900	140
901-1000	145
1000+	150

This table is based on a 95% confidence of detecting a seroprevalence of 2%.

### **Where only a proportion of the herd is required to be tested( as per the above table);**

- **it must include all the males over 18months of age used in the current or most recent breeding season**
- **all animals over 12 months of age that have been added to the herd from other sources, and not tested since arrival,must be tested in addition to the numbers in the table above.**

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