



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

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Guidance on temporary storage / dolav bins for ABP's during periods of high mortality in the sheep, poultry and pig sectors

Any person handling animal by-products needs to comply with the EU Animal By-Products Regulations 1069/2009. Available on the Welsh Assembly Website at: [Animal By-Products Regulation \(EC\) No. 1069/2009](#)

Articles 4, 5 and 6 of the EU Regulations 1069/2009 states that material shall be identified, collected and transported for disposal without undue delay.

Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the farmer / livestock producers to ensure that carcasses are collected / delivered to an approved site without undue delay.

Undue delay

Undue delay is not specified and only a court of law can determine if the 'undue delay' rule has been breached.

The Local Authorities are the enforcement body for the Animal By-Products Regulations and they consider the issue of whether the undue delay criteria has been breached to be dependent on climatic conditions and the way in which carcasses are being stored. They recommend that from the time the 1st carcass is placed in the bin / dolav it shall be emptied no longer than 7 days later. This may reduce if temperatures are exceptionally high.

It is deemed that undue delay means as soon as is reasonably practicable, taking account of the circumstances of the case, for example, hot weather causing a nuisance – flies, smell etc. Where the circumstances do not provide justification or reasonable explanation for the delay, the delay could be considered by a Court of Law as being undue. However, if we take the other extreme and carcasses are left in the bins/ dolavs during a cold frosty period in the winter, it is likely that the nuisance would not be as severe and it could be argued that should they be left a little longer a Court of Law may consider the undue delay condition has not been breached.

Use of containers / dolavs

Bins / dolavs have their place in the storage / disposal system for fallen stock, particularly in the sheep sector. But it must be stressed that these systems



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are designed for short-term use over periods of high mortalities such as lambing. These systems require effective monitoring otherwise it is likely that they get 'forgotten' about and are left for long periods without being emptied.

Bins / dolavs used have to be fit for purpose, which means they have to be leak proof and be lidded. Should the vessel become damaged in any way it should be decommissioned.

Guidance for farmers

It is the farmers' obligation to ensure the bin/dolav is sited in a place that is not accessible to livestock and that the collection vehicle has sufficient room to enter the site, collect and exit the site without encroaching on livestock areas.

Farmers must ensure they have sufficient supplies of disinfectant to allow vehicles to wash down to ensure the biosecurity of the farm is not compromised.

Once a death has been discovered and the carcass placed in the bin / dolav the farmer should notify his collector unless they operate on a 'milk round' system and the collector empties the bin every couple of days. If during peak times such as lambing, when mortalities are higher, it may be acceptable to 'stock pile' carcasses in the bins / dolavs for a few days. However, it is not acceptable to keep carcasses in the containers indefinitely whilst waiting for a 'full load'. A carcass should not be held on farm for longer than 7 days irrespective of what system for collection is operated.

Depending on the system managed by individual collectors will dictate whether you notify collector when a carcass needs collecting or they collect on a 'milk round' system and check the bin / dolav every couple of days.

Guidance for Collectors

Bins / Dolavs have to be clean, disinfected and intact before they are left on holdings.

Siting of the bins/dolavs needs to be agreed with the farmer; ideally this would be on hard standing ground away from the farm yard and buildings and away from livestock.

When they are removed from farm, a clean, disinfected one is left in its place.



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Collectors must ensure adequate biosecurity procedures are adopted when collecting bins/dolavs off farm. All collectors should carry on the vehicle, at all times, a portable hand operated spray wash containing an approved general disinfectant mixed and ready to use in disinfecting wheels and external areas of the vehicle. Before collectors leave the premises they must cleanse and disinfect vehicles of all visible contamination with manure, slurry or similar material and then disinfect. A list of approved disinfectants can be found on the Defra website.

There is an obligation within the regulations to have Commercial Documents accompanying transportation of Animal By-Products.

Commercial documents must specify:

- The date on which the material was taken from the premises
- The description of the material, including ear tag numbers where appropriate
- The quantity of the material
- The name and address of the carrier
- The name and address of the receiver and, if applicable, its approval number
- The commercial document must be produced at least in triplicate (one original and two copies). The original must accompany the consignment to its final destination.

The carriage of animal by-products and processed products in transit must meet the requirements of the Animal By-Products Regulations (EC) No.1069/2009 Chapters I, II, III and IV.

If the collector operates a 'milk round' system, then it is the responsibility of the collector to ensure they are collected at the times specified; this could be on a daily or every other day basis. Undue delay as stated isn't specified but for good practice we would expect fallen stock to be collected within 36 hours of notification of the death of an animal.

Collectors need to discuss requirements with farmers they serve to determine the size of bin / dolav required along with setting processes in place for emptying of the vessels (milk round system or collect upon request from farmer).

Bins / Dolavs should not be on site with carcasses in for longer than 7 days.



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Where farmers and or collectors are shown to be operating storage systems outside of these guidelines Local Authorities acting as Enforcement body under the Animal By-Products Regulations may take necessary action. The enforcement body act under Regulation 43 of the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Wales) Regulations 2014 and the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013.