

The free collection and disposal service for fallen cattle* aged over 24 months is ending.

Cattle keepers in Great Britain must make their own arrangements:

- from **1 January 2009**,
for cattle aged 24-48 months
- from **12 January 2009**,
for cattle aged over 48 months.

* cattle that die on farm or in transit or are killed other than for human consumption



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Fallen cattle aged 24-48 months

(assuming an increase in BSE testing age from 1 January 2009)

The free service will not apply to cattle that die on or after 1 January 2009.

Cattle keepers will become responsible for these animals. They will not need to be tested for BSE and can be sent to any suitably approved animal by-products premises. Contact your normal collector or the National Fallen Stock Company (NFSCo) on **0845 054 8888**.

Fallen cattle aged over 48 months

These cattle will still need to be tested for BSE under EU rules. **The free collection service will end on 12 January 2009.** Any carcasses not notified by midnight on 11 January will become the responsibility of cattle keepers. Carcasses must be sent to approved sampling sites.

- Cattle keepers do not need to contact the TSE surveillance helpline. They must contact a collector within 24 hours of death to arrange delivery to an approved sampling site. If delivering the carcass themselves, they should contact an approved sampling site to agree this within 24 hours and must deliver the carcass within a further 48 hours. Please add the barcode label to a movement card from the passport and send it to the sampling site with the carcass. Return the passport direct to BCMS. Do not send it with the carcass. Contact your normal collector or the National Fallen Stock Company (NFSCo) on **0845 054 8888**. Government support is available via NFSCo.
- Collectors must deliver these carcasses to a sampling site within 48 hours of agreeing to provide a collection service or of a body coming into their possession, whichever is the sooner.

Failure to comply with the above requirements will be an offence under the TSE Regulations. Failure to dispose of animal carcasses correctly is an offence under the Animal By-Products Regulations.

For further information if necessary, please contact your local Animal Health Divisional Office: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalhealth/index.htm>



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