

## Blue Tongue update.

The Mid-Somerset Show is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all participants and livestock. As of February 2025, bluetongue cases have been identified in parts of Somerset, leading to the establishment of restricted zones to control its spread. At the time of writing the Showground is not within in the restricted zone, however it is your duty to check the updated restricted zone.

Competitors planning to bring animals to the show should adhere to the following guidelines:

- **Stay Informed:** Regularly check updates from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the National Farmers' Union (NFU) for the latest information on bluetongue outbreaks and control measures.
- **Movement Restrictions:** Be aware of any movement restrictions in place within bluetongue control zones. Ensure compliance with all regulations when transporting animals to and from the show.
- **Health Checks:** Conduct thorough health inspections of your animals before attending the show. Look for symptoms such as fever, lesions, or nasal discharge, and consult a veterinarian if any signs are present.
- **Vaccination:** Discuss vaccination options with your veterinarian. While vaccines may not prevent infection entirely, they can reduce clinical signs and improve animal welfare.
- **Documentation:** Ensure all necessary health certifications and movement licenses are up to date and comply with current regulations before travel to the Show.

By following these guidelines, competitors can help maintain a safe and successful Mid-Somerset Show for all involved.

Cancellation policy: In the event the Show has to cancel sheep and/or cattle competitions due to Blue Tongue outbreaks and/or restrictions, the Mid-Somerset Show will offer competitors the following options:

- a) Full refund of entries
- b) Carry entries forward to the 2026 Show
- c) Donation of entries to support the Show

Updates will be given to competitors by the Show in accordance with government & veterinary advice.