

Farmit³⁰⁰⁰

EID

& the

GESII & Agrident Handheld Readers



Document version 07/08

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FarmIT 3000 and EID

Introduction

This manual is a supplement to the extensive FarmIT 3000 Help which is provided as an online help file when the software is installed on your computer. This manual is intended to provide a reference for farmers using FarmIT3000 and the GES II EID reader, Agrident APR350(APR360) and Agrident Panel readers for animal identification and data collection.

The manual includes details of using the eid readers and FarmIT 3000 Software to achieve the basic sheep management tasks of initial set-up, movements, treatments, feeding, tupping, scanning, lambing, weighing and milking (dairy producers only).

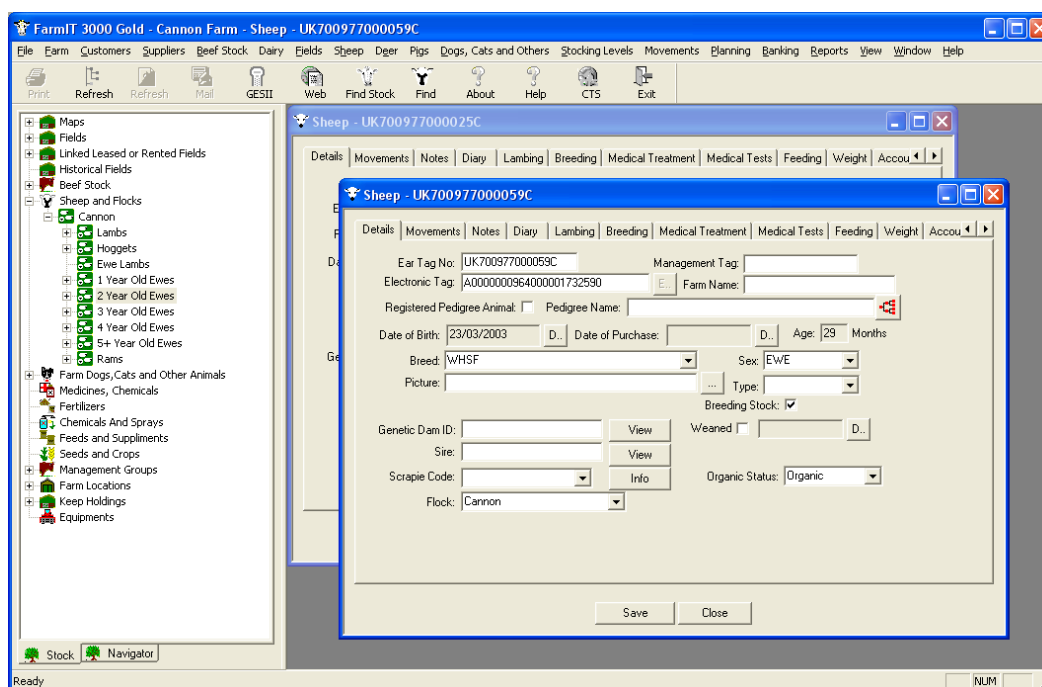
The manual also displays some of the analysis tools provided by FarmIT 3000 that may then be used to analyse the data.

This manual assumes a small knowledge of computers and is not intended as a computer training manual.

Farm Management Software for Organic and Conventional Farmers

FarmIT 3000 & FarmIT 3000 Gold (Accounts) provide a comprehensive management system for your farm, encompassing tools for the management of:

- beef stock
- sheep and flocks
- fields
- farm dogs
- control of medicines, chemicals & fertilisers
- customers
- suppliers
- sales
- purchasing reports for Organic and Farm Assurance schemes
- and much, much more



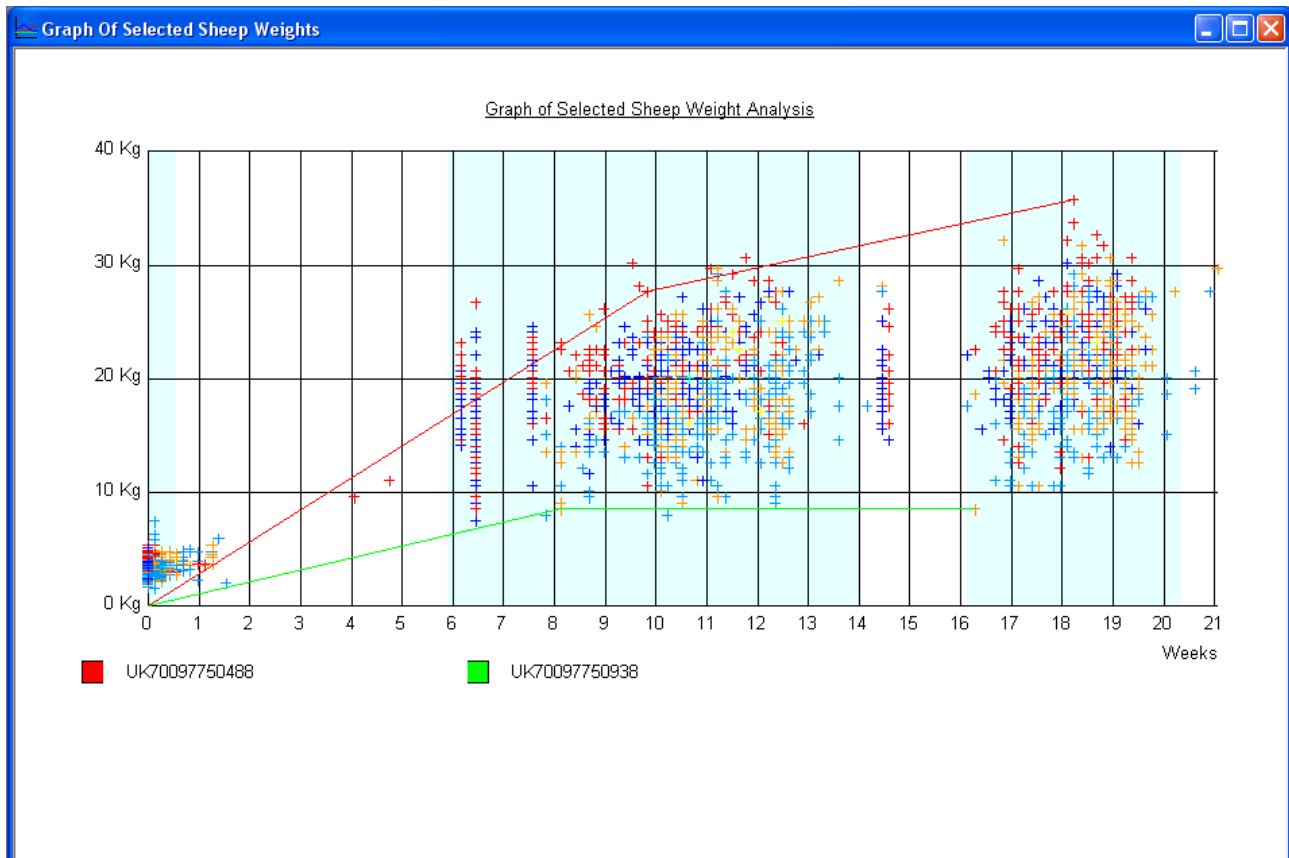
Animals are recorded in the system as individual records, which include an electronic identification number (EID). You may record information about the animal including; breeding information, vet and medical treatments, medical tests, weights and movements.

Animals may be treated either individually or in groups, or you may select the animals from a list.

However it is at this stage that keeping individual animals on a computer can seem a little difficult. The main problem being that once you have more than around 100 animals it is not only very difficult to select them from large lists but also very time consuming if you need to type them in. This is where EID readers can really help as you can scan and identify the animal in the field and simply import the list of animals onto the computer.

Lambing, scanning and weight data may also be captured by the EID reader and imported into the software directly, thus eliminating the need to type in the data. This will save considerable time, leaving more time for the analysis of the data collected.

Once the data is collected, FarmIT 3000 really starts to help with breeding analysis, weighing analysis and graphical tools to decipher the mass of data. You may even export the report to Microsoft Excel for further analysis, or link directly to the FarmIT database which is a standard Microsoft Access database file to further analyse your data.



GES II Reader from Rumitag (GESIMPEX)

The GES II Reader is an ISO compatible reader for identification of animals by reading the electronic tag. It is a hand held device with an alpha numerical keypad, similar to a mobile phone, allowing you to enter data associated with a read animal. The actual data you are prompted to record depends on the configuration of the reader.

The reader is thus supplied with software allowing the configuration of the reader, software to upload EID data and download collected data, a power supply for charging the reader and a communications lead to allow your computer to talk to the reader via a standard RS232 serial communications port.

FarmIT 3000 comes complete with export and import routines allowing you to exchange data to and from the reader, and with reconfigured definition files (tasks) to configure the reader ready for use.



GES II Reader from Rumitag

APR350 from Agrident

The APR350 Reader is an ISO compatible reader for identification of animals by reading the electronic tag. It is a hand held device with an alpha numerical keypad, similar to a mobile phone, allowing you to enter data associated with a read animal. The actual data you are prompted to record depends on the configuration of the reader.

The reader is thus supplied with software allowing the configuration of the reader, software to upload EID data and download collected data, a power supply for charging the reader and a communications lead to allow your computer to talk to the reader via a standard USB serial communications port.

FarmIT 3000 comes complete with export and import routines allowing you to exchange data to and from the reader, and with reconfigured definition files (tasks) to configure the reader ready for use.

The APR range of readers with software version 3.00 + can be used exactly the same as the GES II reader.



APR350 from Agrident

Electronic Identification – EID (RFID)

Historical Overview

EID is probably the most controversial subject to hit the sheep industry in the UK since anyone can remember and probably since farm records began. It is very misunderstood and has had a very bad press. Welsh and English trials have been conducted and results were not good, leading to further bad press and confusion and scepticism within the industry. This was not however without a certain amount of truth. Companies on the trial did make errors and some systems simply did not work, however this was in some respects rather unfair on EID.

Electronic Identification using radio frequency devices is not new technology. Original developed in the early 1970's by Texus Instruments, RFID as it is known is actually in use all around us. The dairy industry has been using it for years, clothes shops tag their woolly jumpers with it to stop them being stolen (rather easier when the woolly jumper is dead!), EID chips are even used to track packages and pass on cooking instructions to microwaves!

We should also look at what it actually does for us and why we would want to use it. EID is merely a means of identifying an object (in our case the animal) an EID chip contains a unique number and an EID reader can electronically read that number. This is very similar to a barcode reader reading a barcode on the side of a can, with one exception - if the barcode is dirty the barcode reader will not read. Just like you trying to read a printed sheep tag covered in dirt.

So ..

“EID gets us an identification number without the need to manually read the ear tag number.”

However that is the easy bit! The real problems have either already happened or are about to start and lots can now go wrong if the system is not very well thought out and designed. Maybe at this point we need to ask a quick question.

“Do we want to collect information about the animal?”

Without the need to collect breeding information, record movements or Vet and Med by individual ear tag number you do not need to read an ear tag number, and if you don't need to, EID will not help you.

However if you need to collect data on animals or simply get a list of animal ear tags numbers for your Vet and Med book then

“EID can save you considerable time and be much, much more accurate if you need to read an animal ear tag.”

As we said above EID only identifies the animal, what data we then collect and what we do with that data is actually nothing to do with EID but the design and processing of the computer software. Completing a movement document, recording Vet and Med, or simply finding an animal record is all about the design of the system, and of course you all have slightly different ideas about what exactly it should do.

“The successful use of EID on a Farm depends much more on the design of the system software than it actually does on the process of reading the EID.”

So if we use EID and have a well-designed computer system then that's great, but what about the tags. Ah yes tags - probably the second most controversial subject! Well the EID system relies on the tag or bolus, and of course they do come out, however I have heard it said by a farmer that tagging is useless and that tags come out, and that therefore EID simply will not work.

Well again some of this is true, poor tag design and, equally important, poor tagging, can lead to poor tag retention in the animal, just as the time of year when tagging can lead to higher risk of infection. Tags are getting better and as far as I am aware most of the pedigree breed societies actually have society tags. So it would be rather strange to say that tags just don't work.

“Tags do work and stay in but you may need to improve your tagging technique”

EID Components, Hand Held and Race Reading

The RFID electronic transmitters (chips) used in EID come in a variety of types and sizes. Both pre-programmed and programmable devices are available but vary on price. The chip is normally pre-programmed and has a unique number. Depending on the system the electronic chips are then normally enclosed in glass capsules, which in turn are encased in a bolus or tag. Some manufactures encase the chips directly into the tags plastic.

Although chips enclosed in glass capsules are used as implants with dogs, the glass capsules are known to move or migrate within the body, for this reason this method is not allowed with sheep or cattle, we are therefore left with two options, Bolus or Tag.

EID Bolus

The Bolus is normally of ceramic construction with a glass chips inserted and sealed in after the production of the bolus. Various sizes are made and guidelines are available covering their use with animals. They are not normally inserted into lambs younger than six months.

Although the bolus sounds a good idea two points should be remembered.

Firstly bolus's can be lost, regurgitated or passed through the body. Regurgitation is a major problem particularly if the bolus is given to the animal on a full stomach. Loss of a bolus causes considerable time delay when reading the animal for one very basic reason, you can not actually see its not there and therefore have to use the reader to 'search' for it. Compared that to a tag which is instantly identified as missing.

Secondly the bolus will sit at the bottom of the rumen and therefore is difficult to read with a hand held reader, especially in a race, although a stick antenna can help this situation.

EID Tags

EID tags may be purchased blank or with flock and individual numbers printed on them. Blank tags are for tagging existing animals which require the tag EID number to be linked to the existing ear tag. Tags have the advantage of being easy to read with a hand held reader and easily identified as missing.

Tag retention is of course an issue but with careful tagging and good tag design can be minimised. However we would recommend double tagging, with one tag being an EID tag.

Hand Held Readers

Much talk is given to automated race systems, however every task you are likely to want to do can be done with a hand held reader and they are a fraction of the price of a race reader/handling system. If you intend to collect lambing data, a hand held unit is of course a must, and therefore even if you intend to have an automated EID weigh crate you are likely to need a hand held unit as well.

To be useful a hand held unit must be capable of at least producing a list of animals read that day and preferable programmable allowing you to collect any data you wish, both the GES II and APR readers do this.

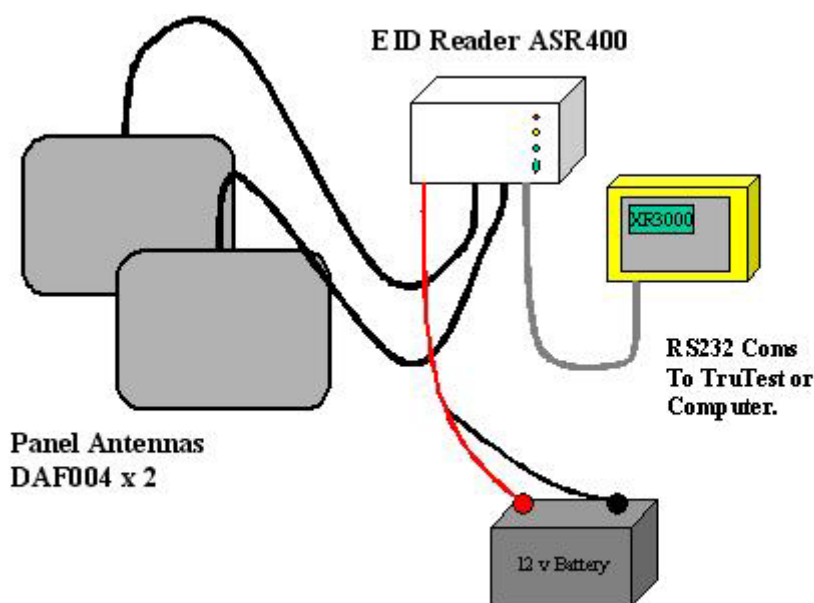
Static Race or Panel Readers

EID Static Panel readers (race readers) differ from hand held readers in that they are normally static, bolted to a weigh crate etc. They also only read the EID and transmit the EID via a Coms port or blue tooth signal to another device. This device maybe a weigh head such as a TruTest XR3000, SR3000 or JR3000 or a computer (laptop) etc).

The term panel refers to the EID antenna (or antenna's) which being a series of wire loops are often moulded into a plastic panel. They do tend to be expensive as special wire known as 'Litz' wire is used in their manufacture. They are also available in a wide range of sizes to suit the application, some even designed for specific purposes.

The EID reader is normally powered by either a rechargeable internal battery or an external 12v Battery, for example we use car batteries for ours. If using a 12v Mains power supply care should be taken to avoid interference from having mains power around (i.e mains cables etc) which can severely degrade the EID reading performance.

The basic panel system would therefore look as follows...



The better readers are of course configurable, particularly in terms of how they send the EID. For example in ASCII format, number of characters 15, 16 etc., some will only transmit the EID once whilst others will continue to read and send the EID.

They also provide a means of auto tuning. Being based on radio technology just like your transistor radio needs to tune into a specific radio station, the EID reader and its antenna are tuned to the specific frequency of the EID tags.

Unfortunately large pieces of metal, power cables etc. can affect this tune and severely affect read performance. Most panel readers therefore provide a means of adjusting the tune, for example the Agrident ASR400 has an auto tuning button, so all you have to do is press the button for the unit to automatically adjust its tuning for optimum reading within its surroundings.

Multiple antenna systems tend to work better, (a panel on either side of the race or crate). Although one will work you may find that a single antenna seems to miss tags on the far side of the animal.

So what would we recommend? The Agrident ASR400 with two 60cm x 50cm panels fitted either side of the crate is, in my mind, hard to beat. When used in conjunction with a TruTest XR3000 and a set of weigh bars, you have an exceptionally robust and versatile system, allowing you not only to weigh but even auto draft (with the appropriate crate).

It is of course even possible to fit this equipment to an existing weigh crate, for example if you already have a electronic weigh crate, then don't think it's not possible to retro fit EID to it. In terms of performance panel readers provide an automatic read of the EID, unlike a hand held reader they are suited to automated systems like weighing. Although you can easily use a hand held reader for collecting weigh data, you may feel you need something quicker or even fully automated. This is where panel readers and TruTest XR3000's come into their own. For example using an XR3000 and a Prattley 3 way drafter it is possible to weigh and draft with ease and, with an operator, even remotely control the entry gate.

This is of course not a cheap solution; the EID panel reader and its antenna are going to cost you £500 - £800. The weigh-head may cost up to £1200, although a laptop may be found for under £150. Weigh bars may add as much as another £400. Adding this all up and your definitely the other side of £1500 - £2000. However if you are weighing and drafting animals regularly this is the solution!

EID Numbers and Ear Tag Numbers

At the time of writing this manual most EID tags are normally printed up with your Farm prefix and a 6 digit animal number, in the form UK700977100001 however the EID chip has a unique 16 digit number in the form 0974500003452. It is this rather useless number that most readers display.

The EID tags themselves are also manufactured in two electronic format called FDX and HDX. This related to the way the electronic chip communicates with the reading device. This would of course be irrelevant to system except that HDX tags have a far better read range than FDX tags.

Both of the hand held readers can read both formats without any real problems and read range when using a hand held reader is almost unimportant, as you have to be close enough to be able to touch the tag anyway.

Given that the tag is currently programmed with a 16 digit number which means little to the actual animal, when a tag is fitted to an animal the tag needs to be linked to the ear tag number of the animal. This requirement may be changed in the near future as it is hoped that the tags will eventually be programmed with the ear tag number. However currently this is the situation.

This linking of electronic number to the animals tag number can of course be done during the manufacture process of the sheep tag.

When you order Sheep Tags with EID chips in them, the manufacturer will normally supply a computer file containing the list of EIDs and associated tag number, this is often referred to as the 'tag bucket'.

This file identifies the Tag Number to be linked to the EID and we may load this tag bucket into the reader so that when the reader is used to read the animal EID it displays the animals actual ear tag number.

If a Bolus is used no tag bucket is provided and the EID of the bolus needs to be manually linked to the ear tag number using the reader,

The GES II reader has the ability to store an input code (it calls it a CIC) for example ear tag number (UK700799100001) against an electronic tag number (A000000974500003452). When ever you scan an animal the reader will search its memory to find the EID and then display the associated ear tag number. If the ear tag number is blank you will be asked to enter the CIC, i.e. enter the ear tag number, which you do via the keypad. You may download the list of EIDs and ear tag numbers from the reader or upload a completed table via the FarmIT 3000 GESII Control Panel within the FarmIT 3000 program.

Reader Data – Data Collection Tasks

Reading an EID tag in the field is with one exception of getting a list of animals a rather basic task and normally we would want to collect additional information associated with the animal. For example we may be required to collect lambing information or weights.

Both readers provide us with the ability to program data collection tasks rather than just read an EID number. This program we call the ***TASK*** and we have written many tasks designed to collect various bits of data, with variations for various circumstances. For example tagging lambs with EID tag or manual tags.

You may download and configure the reader from within the FarmIT 3000 software via GESII Reader or Agrident Control Panels.

GES II READER

Modes Of Operation

The GES II Reader has two basic modes of operation,

- 1, Read
- 2, Control

Read

In this mode the reader simply acts as a reading device, thus allowing you to simply scan and identify an animal, if the reader is connected to the computer the read EID is passed to the computer for processing. The reader will NOT store any data when it is in 'Read' mode.

If it fails to find the animals ear tag number, the reader will prompt you to enter the ear tag number.

Control

In control mode the operation of the reader depend on the configuration of the reader and the programming of the task. Normally however the task starts by reading the animals EID and goes on to ask you to enter further data, for example a weighing task may ask you to read the animals EID then enter the weight of the animal obtained from your scales.

The tasks provided by FarmIT 3000 are detailed later in the manual.

Connecting The Reader

The GESII Reader connects to your computer via a standard RS 232 Communications lead. Normally at least one communication port is provided on your computer.

This is normally situated on the back of the machine.



Plug in the Reader lead.



Making sure the holes match the pins on the computer socket.



Ensure that the other end



Plugs into the reader....



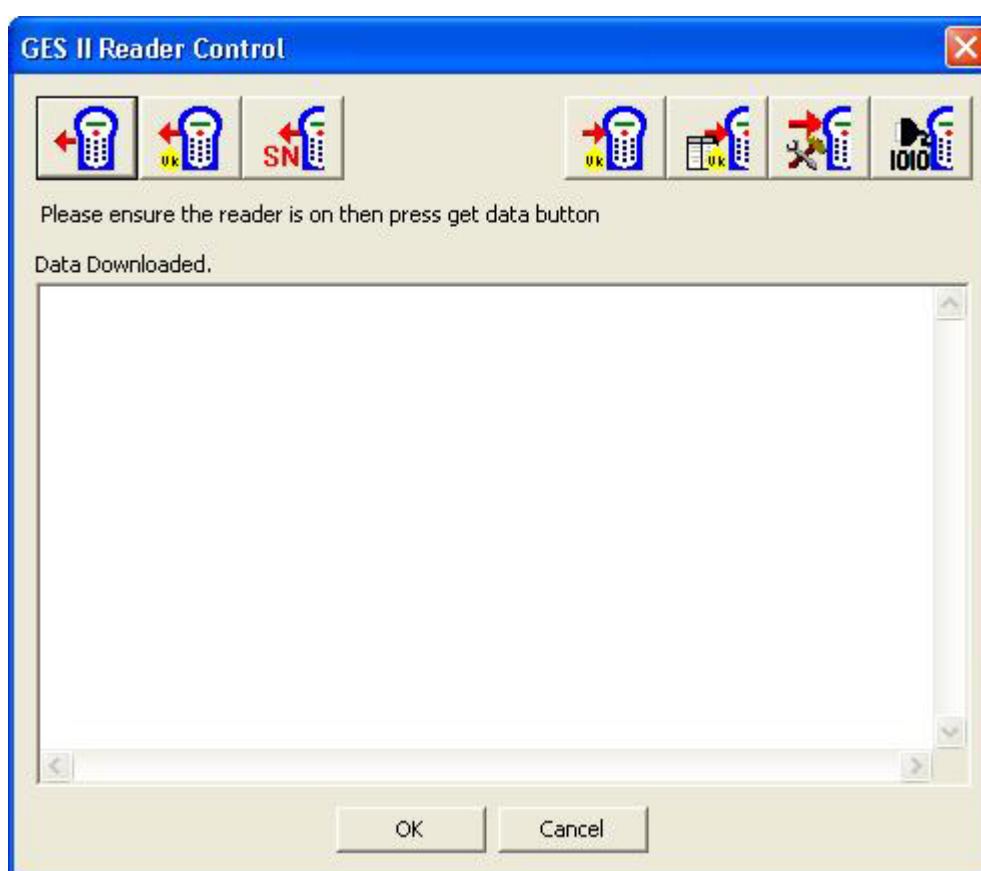
Stick Antenna Extension – (NOT PROVIDED WITH READER)

Useful for reading bloused animals (or tags at arms length) a stick antenna plugs into the side of the GES reader. It makes reading animals in a race much, much easier and seems to worry the sheep less also. Stick antennas are available from Border Software Ltd.

Limitations

1. Water Proof - The reader is not submersible in a bucket of water but reasonably water proof under normal operating conditions.
2. Read Range – The read range of the reader depends on the tags used, but is no more than 20 cm from the tag - 10 – 15 cm being more correct for all tags and circumstances
3. The reader only collects data, although a count of readings collected is shown under the capacity. No other information is available about the animal other than its tag number.

GES II Reader Control – (Agrident APR Control Panel)



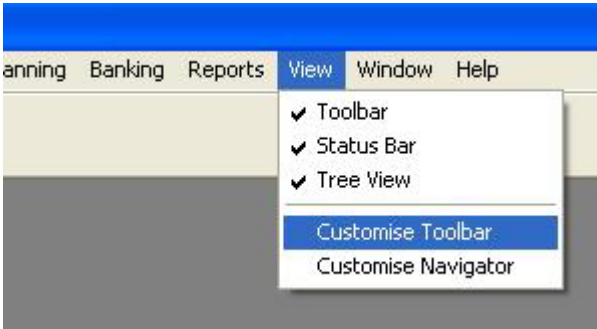
The GES II Control Panel provides the interface for configuring the GESII Reader with tasks, loading EIDs into the reader, extracting EIDs from the reader and extracting data from the reader. You need no other software in order to use the GES II reader with FarmIT 3000.

A control panel for the Agrident APR readers is also provided and operates exactly the same, in fact you can even use the GES II control panel with the Agrident reader.

The buttons along the top let you download or upload data. The 'Data Downloaded' window will display the data after download is completed.

Adding A Toolbar Icon To Open GES II Control

Tip! – Add a toolbar icon for the GES II or Agrident control window by modifying the toolbar settings.



You may select the toolbar icon to launch specific tasks.



Control Panel Buttons

The panel provides seven buttons along the top, these buttons are sometimes disabled depending on the operation required.



Downloading Data

Downloads data from the reader – I.E lambing or weighing data.



Downloading EIDs and Associated Ear Tag Numbers

Downloads the list of animals EIDs and Tag Numbers from the reader for importing into the software.



Downloading the Readers Serial Number and Software Version

Downloads the readers serial number and software version just in case we need to check it.



Upload EID's and Ear Tag Numbers from the FarmIT Database

Uploads EIDs and Ear Tag Numbers from the FarmIT Database, based on current animals 'On Holding' and including animals identified as 'Lost', or Selected animals only for example all ewes. Please note that it only loads animals that have EID numbers.



Upload EID's and Ear Tag Numbers from File (Tag Bucket)

Uploads a manufacturer's tag bucket to the reader for use before sheep setup or lambing when new tags are introduced. You may also select to add all animals on holding or selected animals.



Select and Upload Tasks to the Reader

Select tasks from the available task list and upload the definitions to the reader. This will clear all existing data and EIDs. You may select to automatically upload the database EIDs and tags after configuration is complete.



Modify the Communication Settings

Select the communication port (COM1 or COM2) and modify other settings.

Downloading Data

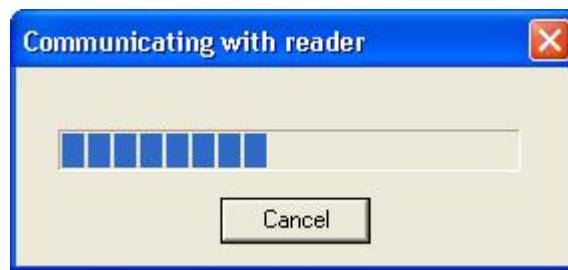
When downloading data most of the data is downloaded during the specific import routine, for example if downloading newly setup sheep you should start by going to the File/Import/Sheep/Sheep From GES II Reader. Rather than going directly to the GES II control from the toolbar.

1. Ensure the reader is switch on and in its route menu.

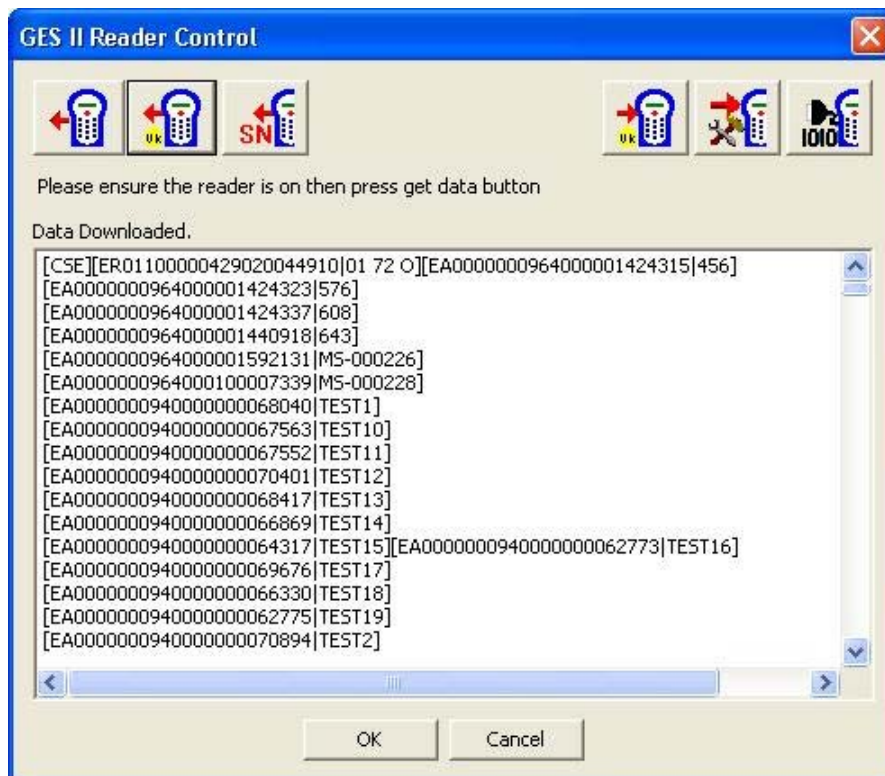
I.E displaying: 1. Read

2. Click the appropriate button to download the required data. The software will then attempt to communicate with the reader and download the data.

When downloading data from the reader a small window with a status bar will pop up.



As the data is downloaded it will appear in the text box on the GES II Control window.



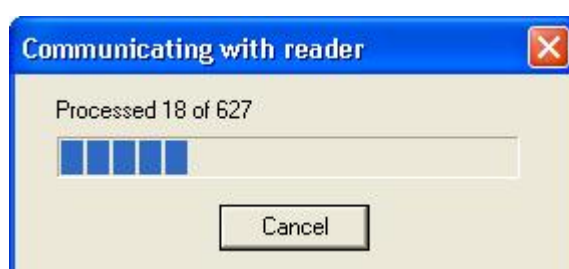
Uploading Data

1. Ensure the reader is switch on and in its route menu.

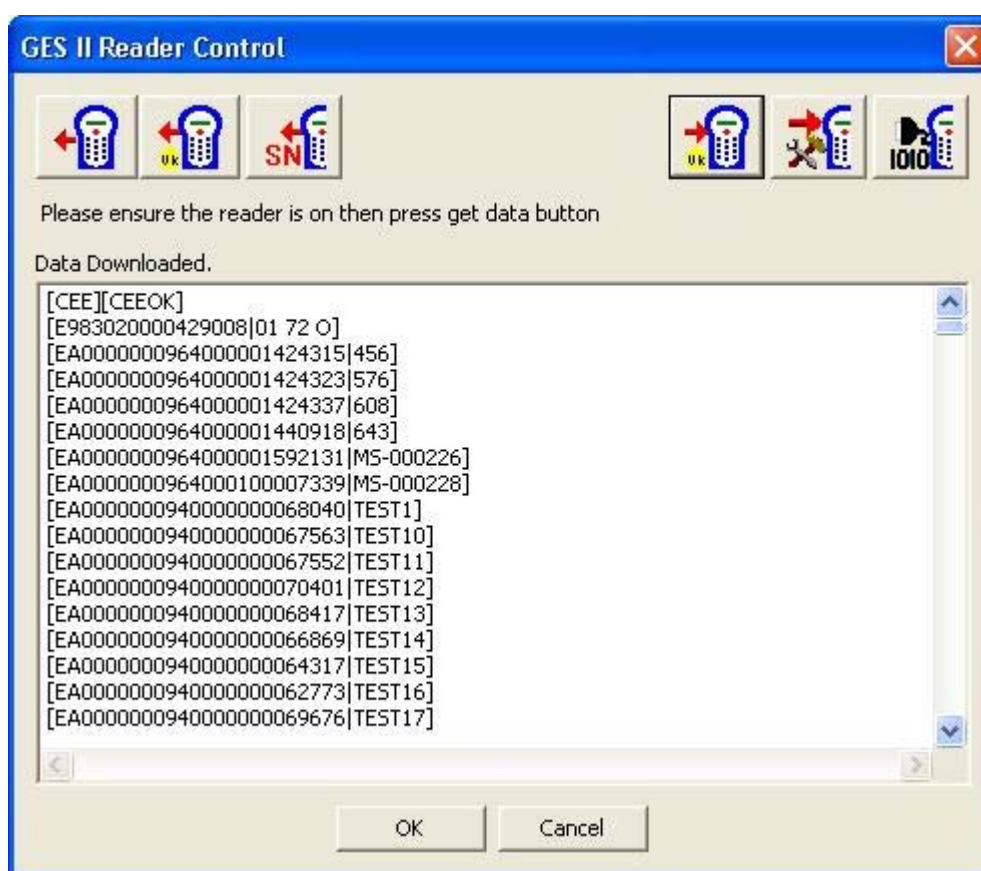
I.E displaying: 1. Read

2. Click the appropriate but to upload the required data. The software will then attempt to communicate with the reader and upload the data.

When uploading the data to the reader a small window with a status bar and the number of items added out of the total will pop up.



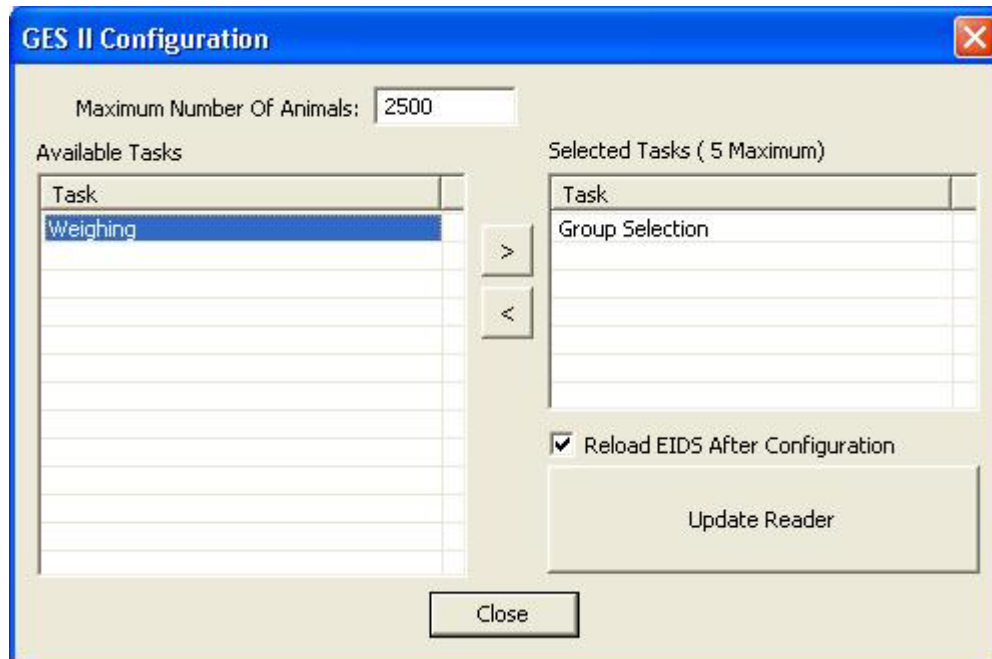
When FarmIT 3000 has finished uploading the data it will be displayed in the text box on the Control window.



Selecting and Uploading the Tasks

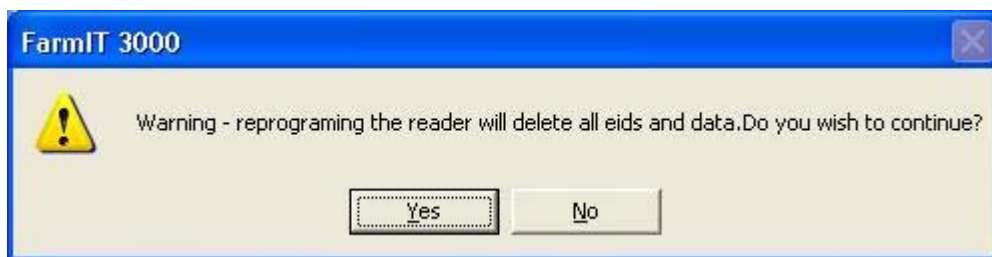
1. Click on the select and upload tasks button 

The Configuration window will be displayed.

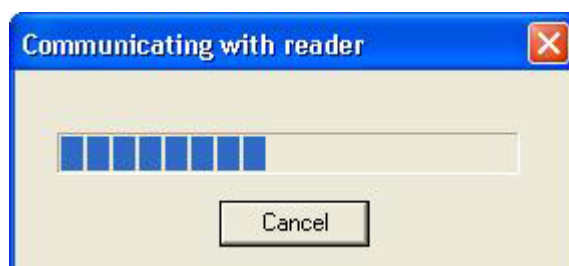


2. Check the maximum number of animals. The reader allocates memory to store the EIDs and ear tag numbers based on the maximum number of animals. Ideally this number should be as low as possible but hold all of your sheep, as the amount of memory allocated to the EIDs reduces the memory allocated for data collection, I.E if you have a lot of sheep in the system you may find you can only hold 150 or 200 weight records before you have to go and download them.
3. Select the task you wish to upload to the reader, you may upload a maximum of five tasks however the more tasks the less data for each task you may record, so if you have a lot of sheep it maybe better to only select one task. To select the tasks, simply click on the task in the 'Available Tasks' list then click the  to move the task to the 'Selected Tasks' window.
4. If you want to automatically reload you sheep EIDs tick the 'Reload EIDS after Configuration' box.
5. Ensure that the reader is on and in its root menu I.E. displaying: 1. Read
6. Click the 'UPDATE READER' button to upload the selected tasks and if required reload the sheep EIDs.

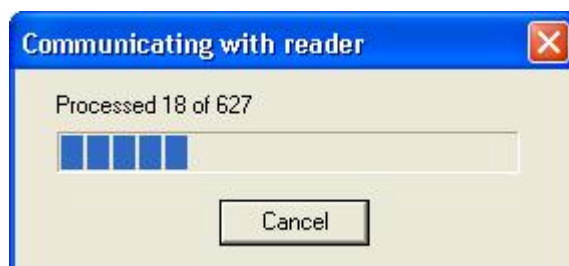
You will be prompted to confirm the process, warning you that all EIDs and data will be lost, if you wish to continue Click "Yes". This will replace the data already on the reader with the newly uploaded task.



A small window with a status bar will pop up whilst the configuration is uploaded to the reader.



If you choose to reload the EIDs a second status window will be displayed, but with the number of tags uploaded out of the total.



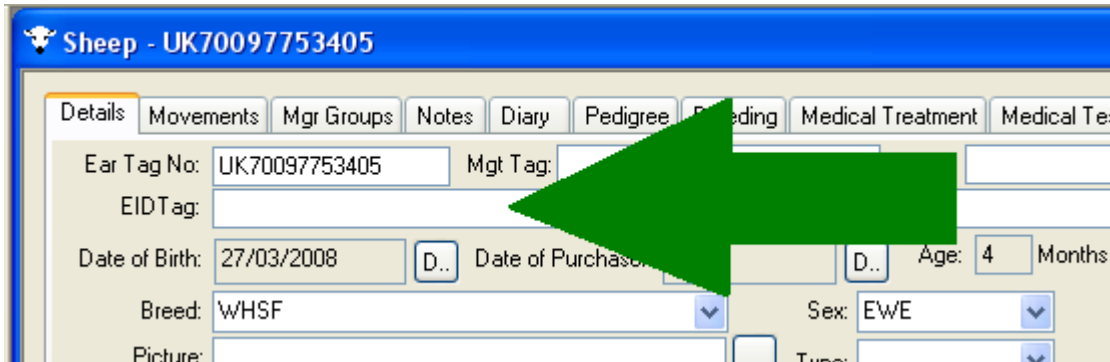
After this has been completed a message box will pop up telling you "Reprogramming Complete"



The reader is now set-up and ready for use, however remember to select the required task on the reader, as it will be currently set to the last task loaded.

Updating Animal EIDs From Reader or File (tag bucket)

The EID of the animal is shown on the animals main details tab within FarmIT 3000. If you manually create the animal record or have existing animals prior to using EID then the EID will need updating. Now if you know what it is you can simply type it in, but normally we would either import it from the reader is a read of the EID and linking to the ear tag has taken place or import it from the tag manufacturers data file – ‘tag bucket’.



The screenshot shows the 'Details' tab for a sheep with ID 'UK70097753405'. The 'Ear Tag No.' field is populated with 'UK70097753405'. The 'EID Tag' field is empty. A large green arrow points from the 'EID Tag' field towards the 'Ear Tag No.' field, indicating the link between the two. Other fields include 'Date of Birth: 27/03/2008', 'Age: 4 Months', 'Breed: WHSF', and 'Sex: EWE'.

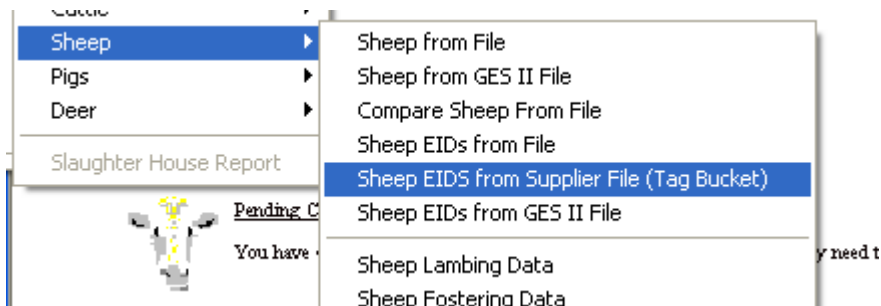
The ear tag number of the animal is linked to the electronic number either by the fact that you have actually read the EID and typed in (linked) an ear tag number or you have been given a file containing the information from the manufacturer of the tags.

The need to link an EID manually may be required during initial flock setup or should an animal loose its EID tag and you wish to link it to the animals original identity.

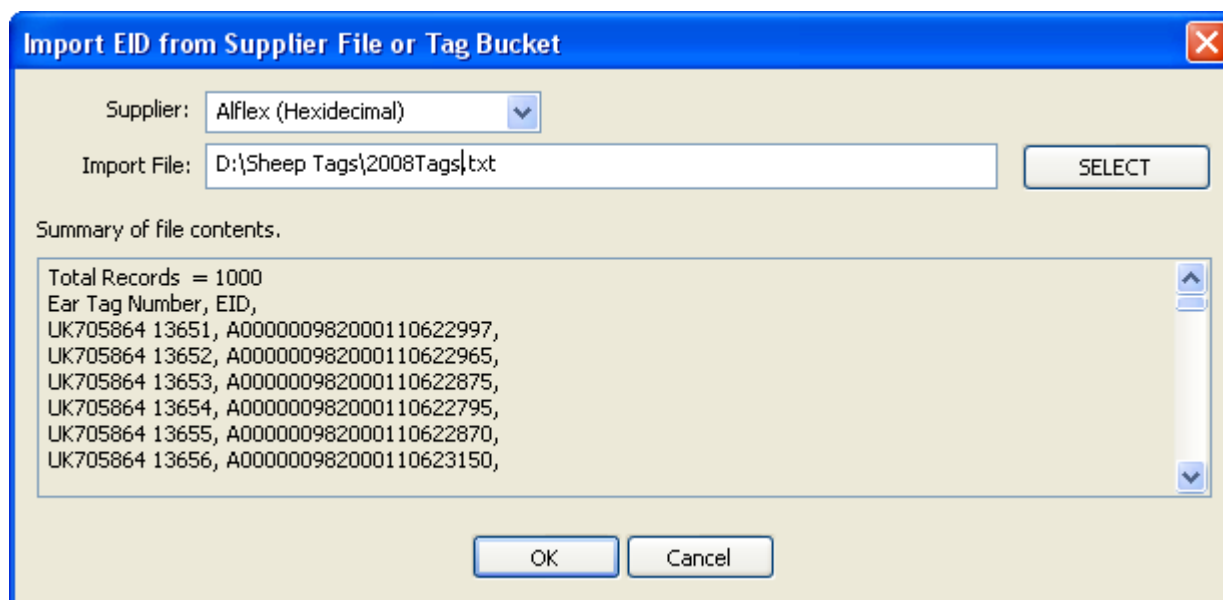
The other time you will need to do this is post lambing, to update the newly created lambs with their EIDs.

Importing Animal EIDs from file or tag bucket.

Select the appropriate menu option from the main menu, File/Import/Sheep/...



If you are importing from a tag bucket select the tag bucket option then select the manufacturer click on the 'Select' button to find you file.

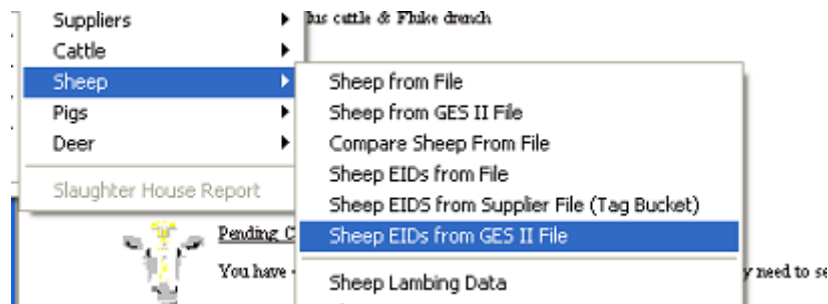


The software will open the file and load the EIDs depending on the format as supplied by the supplier.

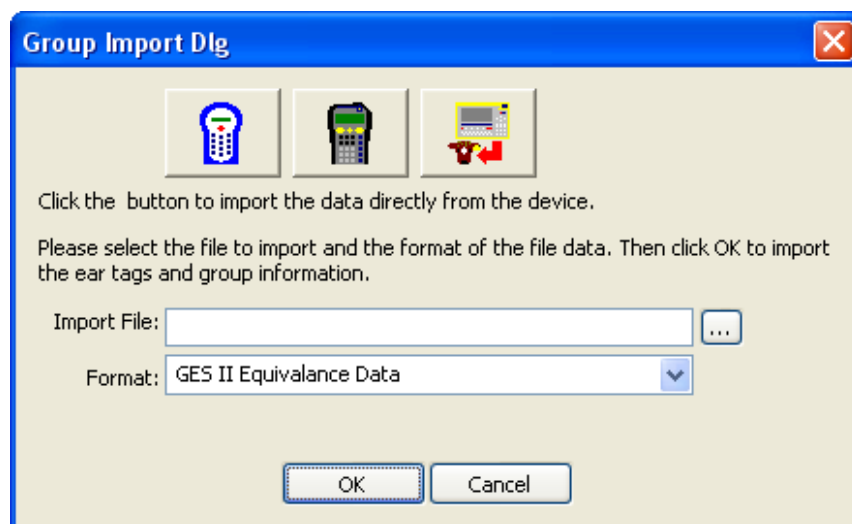
Then simply click the 'OK' button to update the animals in the database. A report is then produced of the animals found and updated.

Importing EIDs from the Readers

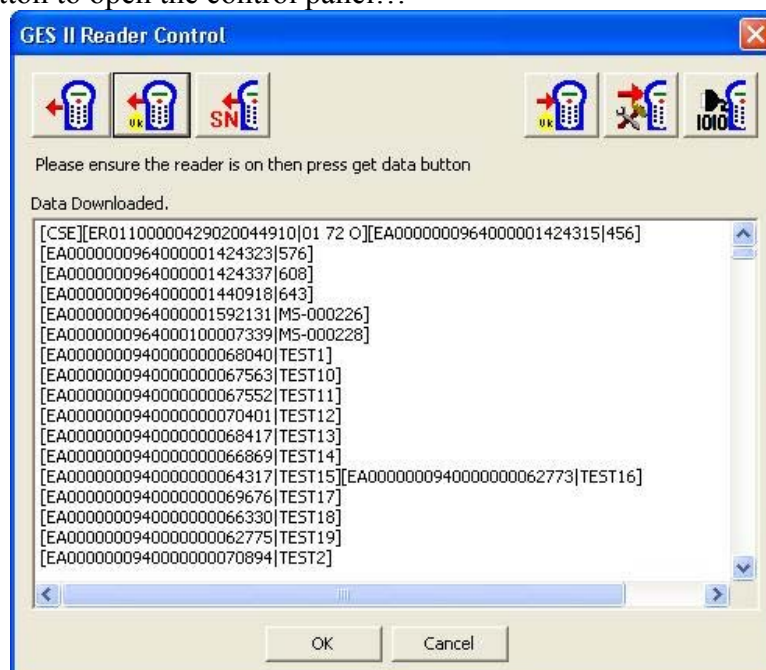
Select the appropriate import routine for importing EIDs from GESII file...



You will be prompted to create a database backup and then to select the device control panel or browse for the file.



Click the GESII button to open the control panel...





Click the download tags button  to start the download. The list of tags will be displayed and a message box will appear when complete.

Now simply click the 'OK' button to save the file and update the animal records. A report of the update will be produced and displayed.

EID Reader Tasks (Program Definitions)

The readers can be configured to collect a wide range of data all based upon the animals EID. There is a comprehensive programming manual produced by GSImpex (RUMI TAG) detailing just how you do this for the GES II Reader. We have, however, done this bit for you and produced a number of programs representing the physical tasks we believe you may wish to perform. These tasks are of course designed specifically to interface with the FarmIT 3000 Software, so you can quickly gather and upload the data into FarmIT, so there may be some limitations. However we are keen to provide further tasks and options as users provide us with feedback, so if the task does not quite fit then we will be happy to modify it or produce others.

The GES II Reader is designed to hold a maximum of 5 tasks. The Agrident APR 350 can similarly hold 5 task but has the advantage of assigning these tasks to the Functions Keys F1 – F5. So all you need do to switch tasks is simply select the function key. However loading five tasks can provide limitations when working with large numbers of sheep as each task takes up reader memory so you get less sheep records (i.e information it can hold) if you load more tasks than needed.

With the GES II reader there is an issue of the practicality of switching between tasks in the field (or race). It actually takes about 4 –5 clicks of the big red button to switch from one task to another. Which you may be able to do as a one off or for the odd animal, but if you have to change from one task to another for every animal in the race you will soon get very board and highly likely to miss an animal. For this reason we have produced a number of combined tasks for example weigh and group.

The current list of available tasks is as follows:

Sheep Setup

Sheep setup is designed to collect the basic data required about the animal in order to import and create the animal records within the FarmIT Database. It would typically be used during initial setup, either when you initially buy FarmIT 3000 or when you decide to tag your sheep. It may also be used when introducing new animals to your farm or tagging lambs that are not recorded and tagged during lambing. It collects the animals EID, Ear Tag Number, SEX, BREED and AGE

Sheep Setup + Farm Tag

As sheep setup but with the additional option to enter a farm management tag.

Sheep Setup + Group

As sheep setup but with the additional option to enter a group number for grouping the animals.

Sheep Setup + Farm Tag + Group

See above.

Set Farm Tag

Read the ewe and enter its farm management tag.

Group Selection

Group Selection is designed to read the animal EID then enter a simple group number, 0 – 9. This effectively lets you create 10 lists of animals. We may then use this group number to create management groups, record tugging, treatments, feeding or movements based on the lists created.

Movement

Movement is designed to read the animal EID and apply a default group number of 1. You are prompted to read the animal EID only. This effectively produces a single list of animals. We may then use this list to create an animal movement or single management group. It varies only from the Group Selection task in that you do not need to press a key representing the group number therefore it may be a little quicker.

Scanning

Scanning is designed to read the animal EID then enter a number representing the number of lambs, 0 – 5. We may then import the lists to create scanning records for the animals

Weighing

Weighing is designed to allow you to read the animal EID then enter the weight for example 35.45 followed by a condition score 0 – 5. You may then import this data directly into FarmIT 3000.

Weight and Group

Weight and group allows you to collect the weight data but also then group the animals by entering a group number. You may then import the weight data and use the same data to group the animals, either into a management group, movement or treatment.

Lambing – Auto – EID Lamb Tags

Lambing-Auto is designed to allow you to collect all the details of the lambing, including reading the ewe and then the tags and EID numbers of the lambs, identifying if they are alive or dead and collecting information of the breed and sex of the lambs. You may then import this data into FarmIT 3000, which will automatically create the lambing record for the ewe and create the new individual records for all live lambs.

Lambing – Manual – Standard Lamb Tags

Lambing-Manual is designed to allow you to collect all the details of the lambing, including reading the ewe and then the tags and entering the numbers of non-EID tags in the lambs, identifying if they are alive or dead and collecting information of the breed and sex of the lambs. You may then import this data into FarmIT 3000, which will automatically create the lambing record for the ewe and create the new individual records for all live lambs.

Lambing – Numeric – Lambs NOT Tagged

Lambing-Numeric is design to capture details of the lambing e.g. number of lambs and sex of lambs, but not individual tag numbers of the lambs to allow you to analyse ewe performance whilst not needing to tag the lambs at birth. You may then import the data creating the lambing records for the ewes but the lambs are recorded as untagged and no individual lamb records are created.

Lambing – Ewe No.

Lambing-Ewe No. is specifically designed for those of you who lamb outdoors and use a management number to identify the ewe. Using the EID reader to collect the data, we can simply type in the management number, rather than have to catch and scan the ewe. The lambs are caught and tagged using EID tags which are then read. This of course only works if your management numbers are readable from a distance. However this method has proved very popular and successful.

In this manual we have described the procedure for Lambing-Auto only. The other routines are very similar and should be easy to follow but if you have any problems let us know.

Fostering

Fostering allows the reading of the ewe, the reading of the lamb and the confirmation of lamb added or lamb removed.

Sheep Traits

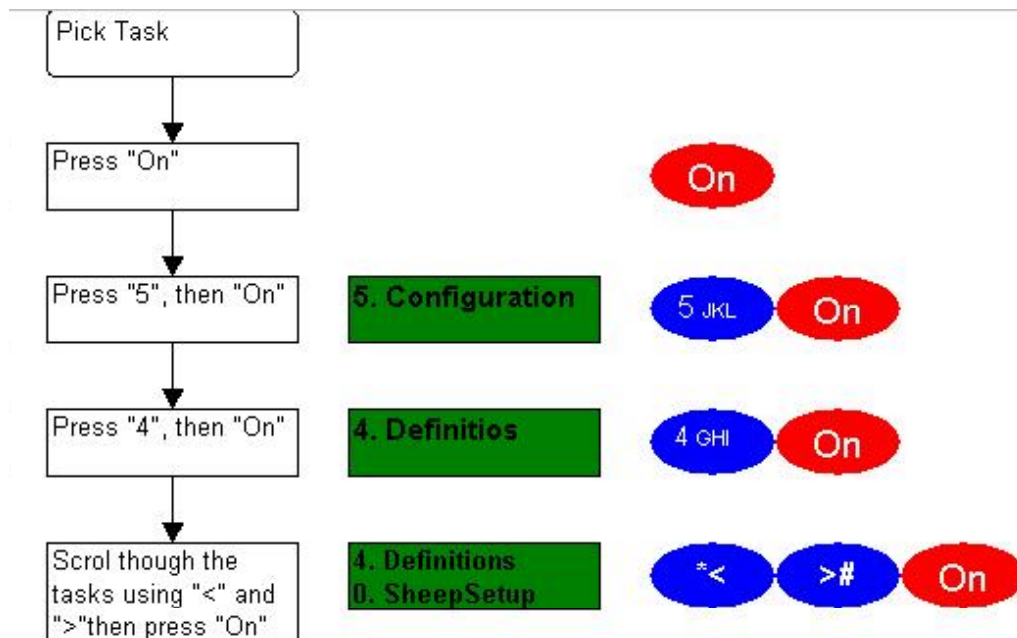
The traits routines provide you with a routine to read the animal, select a trait (from the list of defined breeding traits with the FarmIT software) and score the animal on the trait. This may then be imported.

Milking (Dairy Producers)

The milking routine is design to collect the data from the milking parlour, recording for each ewe the quantity of milk produced. You may import this data into FarmIT 3000 to create individual animal milking records

Selecting the Current Task Using the GES II Reader.

Once the reader has been loaded with the tasks you may wish to perform you need to know how to choose the right task when in the field. Follow the steps below. The green boxes indicate what is shown on the screen of the reader and the buttons you need to press are also displayed.



Click on the *< button a few times to return to: 1.Read

Sheep Set-Up

Sheep setup is designed to allow you to tag and collect basic information about the animal, which we may use to create the sheep records within the FarmIT 3000 Database. This may be required when you initially tag your existing sheep, or when you introduce new sheep to the flock. Should you purchase sheep from an existing FarmIT 3000 customer, he will be able to provide animal records for you to import directly, eliminating the need to set up the sheep record.

Before You Start

Ensure the GESII Reader is configured with the Sheep Setup Task.

1. Are you using EID Tags....Get Your Tag Bucket

If you are tagging animals with new EID tags ensure you get the Tag Bucket from the manufacturer so you may load it into the reader. This will mean that the reader will identify the animals ear tag numbers and you will not have to type it in. This substantially reduces the time to capture the data, it is very worthwhile checking this. Make sure though that the provided tag bucket is in the format of a .CSV file – check with us if you are not sure. You may load the GES II Reader with a Tag Bucket using the GESII Control Panel.

2. Are you using Boluses

If you are using Boluses or the animal is already bolused (may be as part of the Nation Scrapie Program). You will still need an ear tag to identify it, should it lose its bolus, also animals are recorded in FarmIT 3000 by ear tag number, therefore we need a tag number. You will need to link the EID to the bolus as the bolus / tag is fitted. When you read the EID the reader will automatically prompt you to enter the tag number via the keypad. This should be the full tag number, so the animal is displayed in FarmIT 3000 and on all reports correctly to avoid confusion.

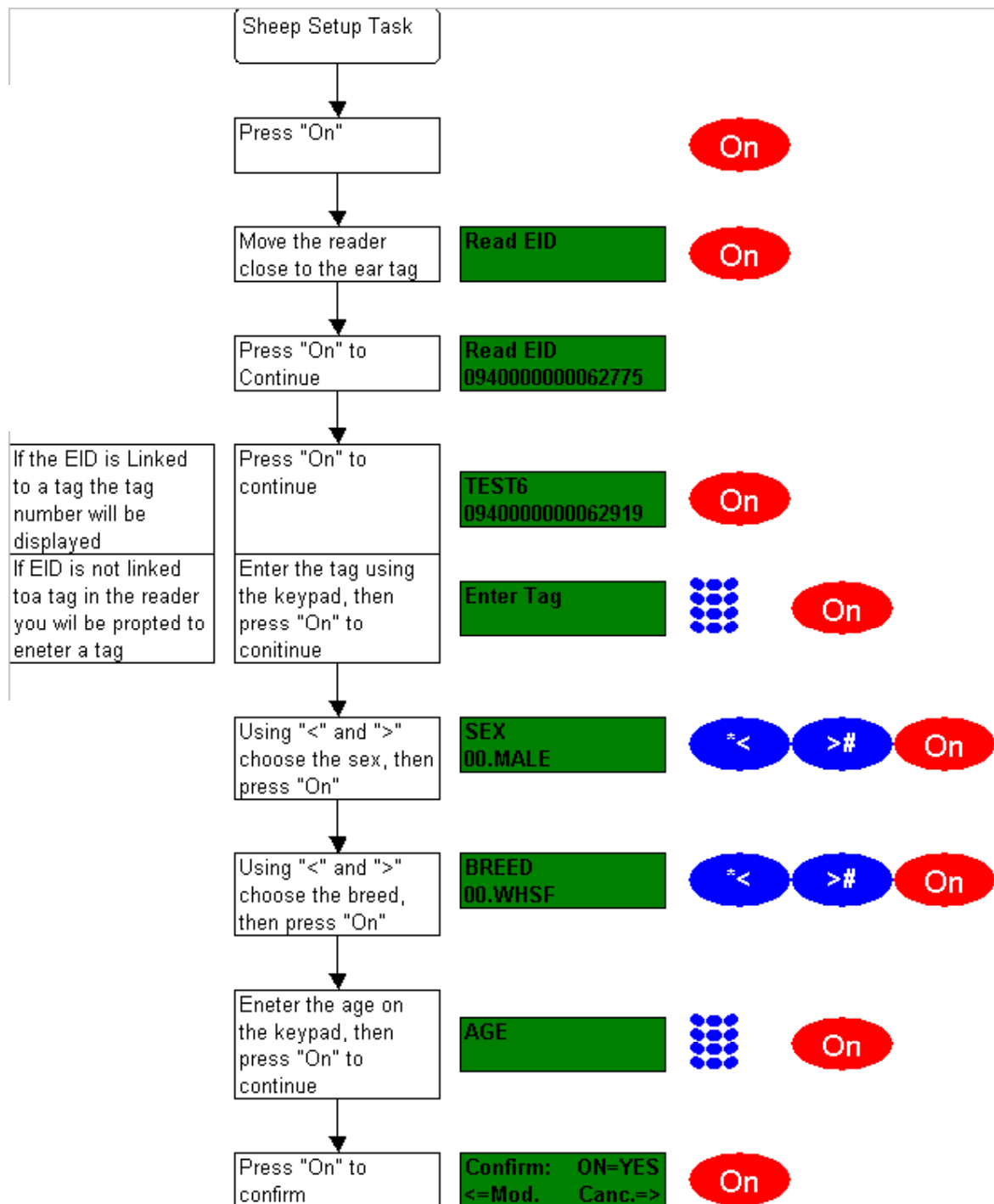
Reading an animal that is already recorded

If you happen to read an EID twice using a control, the reader will tell you “value in memory” if you wish to overwrite the information you have already put in then use “Conf.” using the “>” button, however if you do not wish to lose the data you have already entered use “Mod.” using the “<” button. You will then be shown the ETN and EID, press the “<” button again. The reader will then ask you to ‘confirm Delete’, pressing ‘yes’ will keep the previous data, pressing ‘no’ will allow you to re-enter the data.

In The Field

In order to control the animals we would recommend that the animals are held in a race. If using boluses scanning the stomach of the animal is sometimes more difficult than scanning a tag.

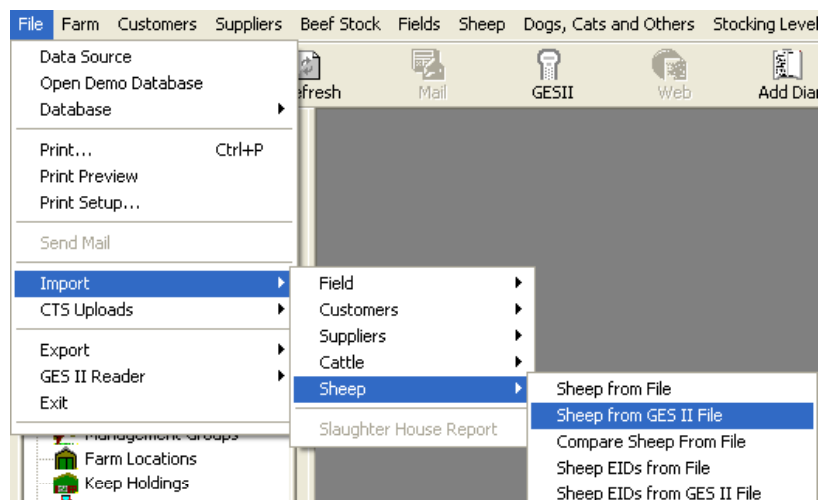
1. Turn the Reader On.
2. Select 'Sheep Setup' from the definitions (see page 16)
3. Select Option 2 – Control and click 'On'



Repeat this for each of the sheep you wish to enter into the FarmIT 3000 database .

Back In The Office

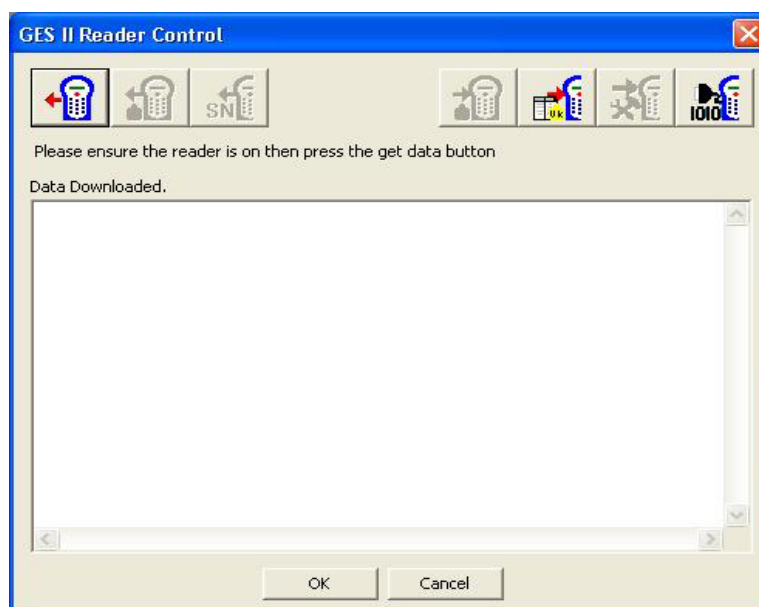
In FarmIT 3000 select 'Import Sheep from GES II File'



The Group Import box is now displayed

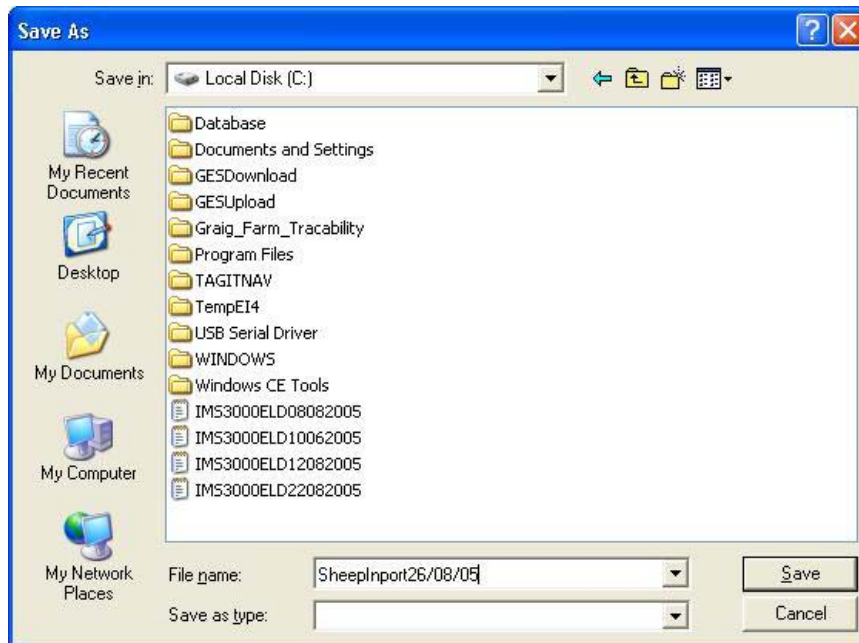


Click on the GESII Reader Button to open the GES II Control Panel.

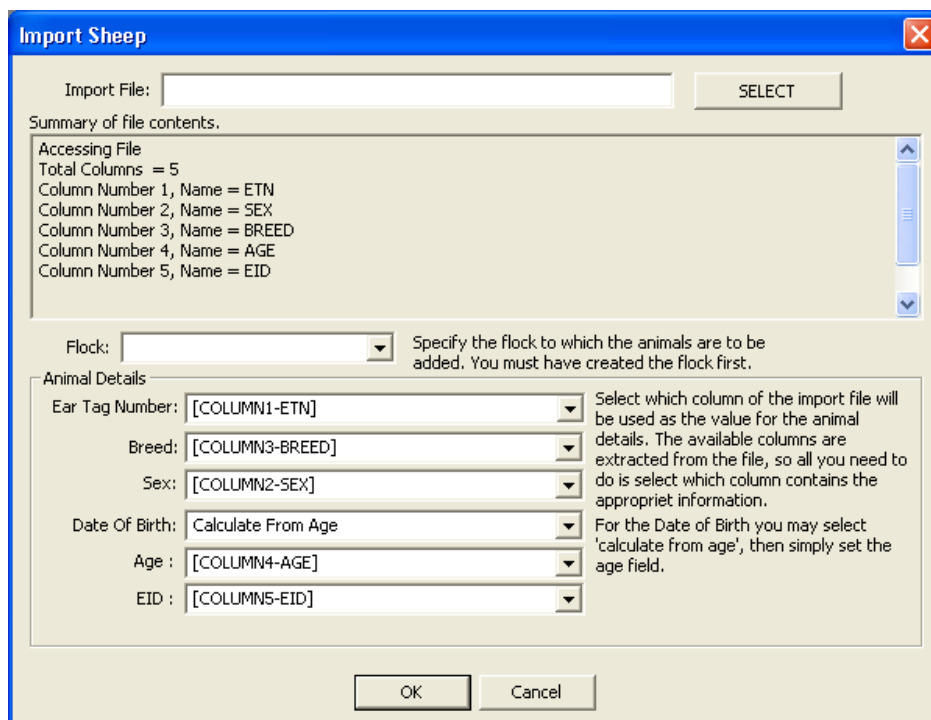


Note that only the 'Get Data' button is enabled. Click on the 'Get Data' button to download the data from the reader. **MAKE SURE THE READER IS ON!** The software will communicate with reader and download the data. Once complete click the 'OK' button to continue.

You will be prompted to save the data to file. This allows you to use the same data again or reuse it if anything goes wrong, we would suggest you give the file a name such as 'sheepimport' followed by the date. You may skip this by clicking the cancel.



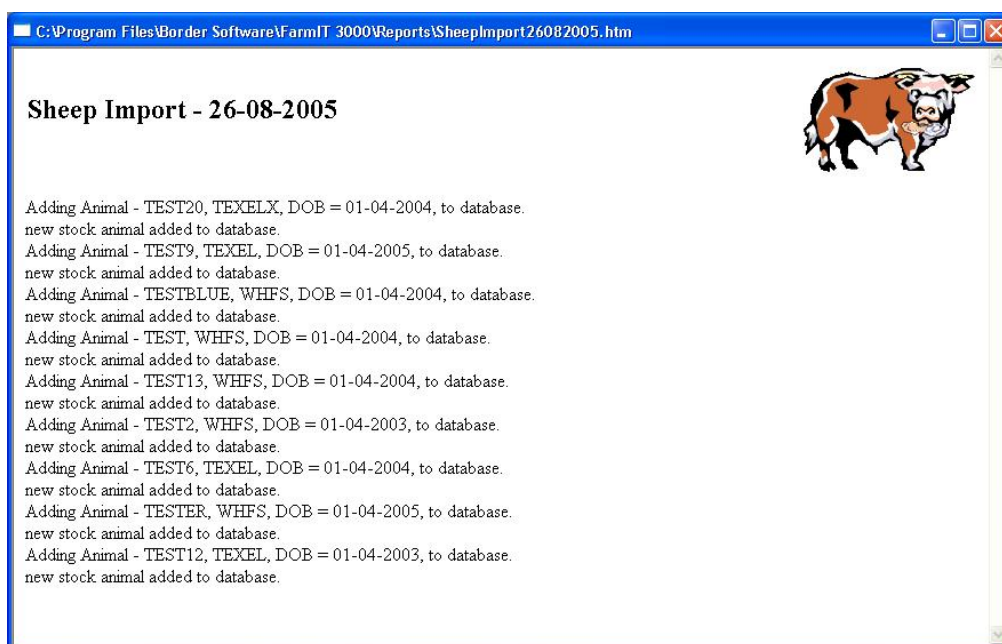
The sheep import dialog is then displayed.



The settings of this window are automatically configured based on the data coming from the GES II Reader, but we also use this window for importing sheep from any CSV File (please see the FarmIT help for further details on this).

If you have already defined a flock with the system select it from the 'Flock' drop down list. Then click on the 'OK' button to import and create the animal records.

A report of the import is automatically created and displayed once complete.



Finally refresh the Tree view to see the animals in the system.

Moving Animals Off Your Farm

Before You Start

This routine assumes you need to get the list of animals to move using the reader. If you have a management group created in the FarmIT 3000 that contains all the animals you are moving you simply select them from FarmIT directly.

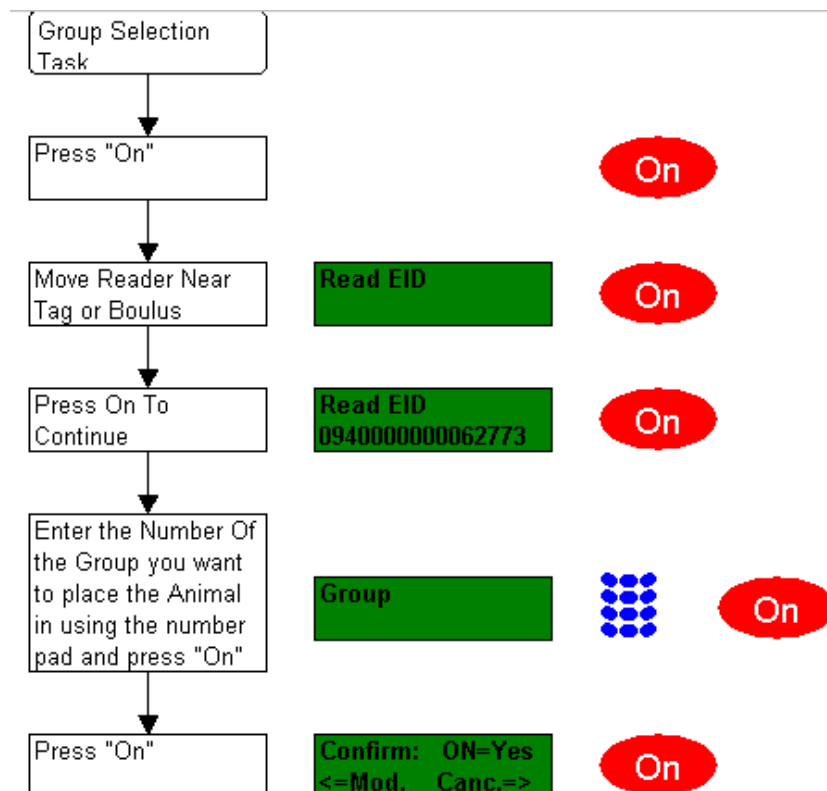
First ensure that the reader is configured for group selection or movements and has the EID/ear tag numbers of the animals in the database loaded.

In The Field

The objective is to simply read each animal and record the animal into a group, if you are moving only one group you may use the movement task to group the animals automatically into one default group. It is best to ensure that the animals are under control in a race or a relatively small pen.

1. **Turn the Reader On.**
2. **Select 'Group Selection' or 'Movements' from the definitions (see page 16)**
3. **Select Option 2 - Control**

Using the group selection task to record animal movements is simple and fast, just scan the EID and enter a group, putting all the sheep that have been moved in one group. **N.B. If you are using the movements task rather than the group selection the group will default to 1.**



Repeat until all the animals have been scanned.

Back In The Office

Once you have recorded the animals you have moved you need to record the data into FarmIT 3000. First go to the 'Movements' menu and select the corresponding type of movement, for this example we are going to use "Send Animals to Market". If you are sending animals to slaughter select 'Send Animals To Slaughter', if you are selling to another farmer select the 'New Movement – Off'

Movements	Planning	Banking	Reports	View	W
New Movement - OFF New Movement - ON New Purchase - ON New Sale - OFF List Movements Send Animals To Market Return Animals From Market or Confirm Sale Send Animals To Slaughter Return Animals From Slaughter or Confirm Sale Send Animals To Keep Return Animals From Keep List Slaughter House Reports List Sale and Market Reports					

The Stock Movement form is displayed

Send Animals To Market - Stock Movement

From Holding: Cannon Farm Movement No: Assign Next
 To Holding: Movement Type: Animal off Holding
 Sending Address: Cannon Farm Delivery Address: Animal Type: CATTLE
 Cannon Our Ref: Confirmed: ☐
 Llanerfyl
 Welshpool
 Powys
 Holding No: 52/140/0075 Holding No: Movement Date: 23/08/2005

Item	Ear Tag Number	Class.	No.	Breed	Sex	Status	Age (Mths)	Confirmed
☐ <ne...								

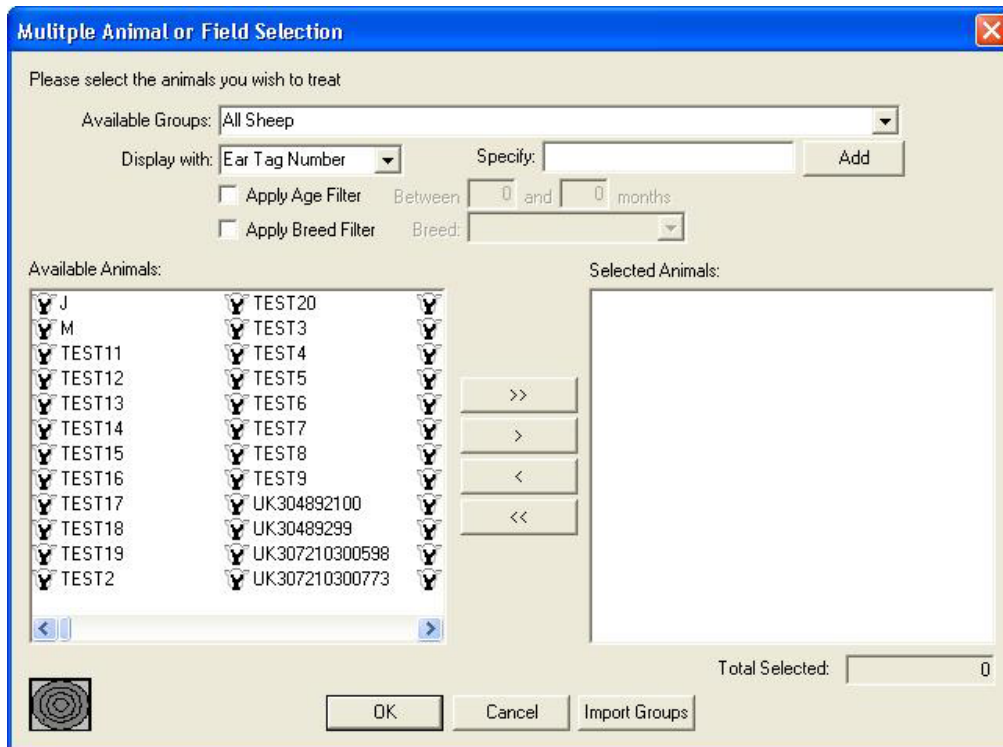
Total Animals: 0 Tick animals to confirm sale at market

Haulage Details:
 Company: Means of Transport: Notes:
 Vehicle Reg:
 Permit No:

The 'From Holding' details will default to your holding, select the 'To Holding' from the list. **Note that only customers with holding numbers are displayed in this list**, so you may need to add them first.

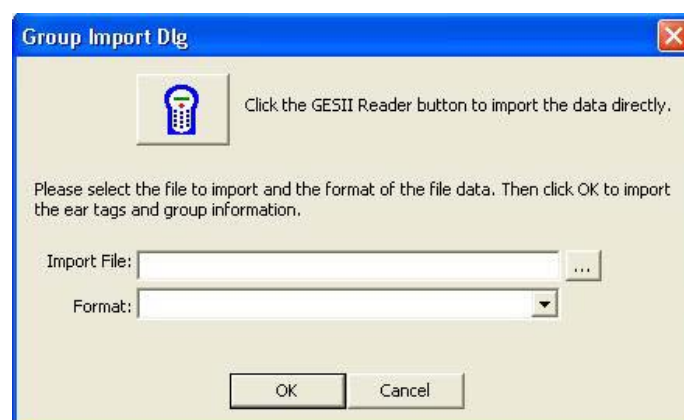
First select the animal type from the drop down list toward the top right of the window. E.g. select 'SHEEP'

Then click on the 'Select Animals' button to select the animals.



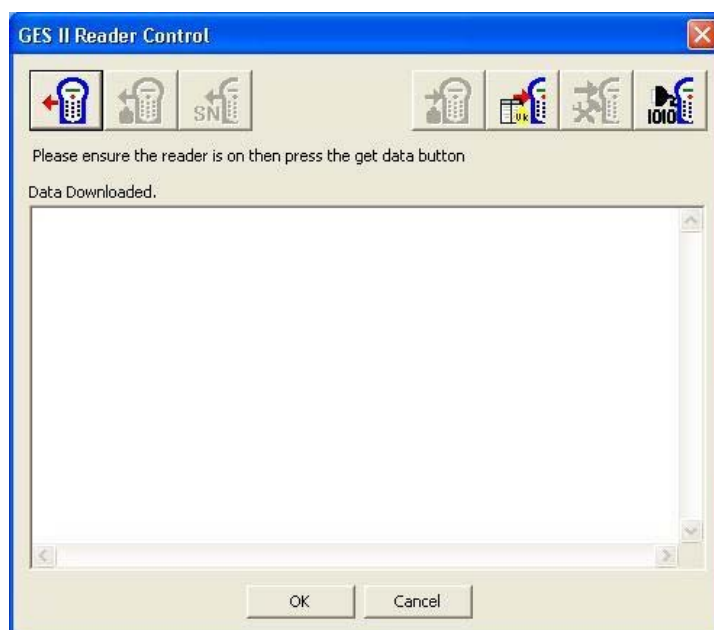
You may at this stage simply select the animals manually or from the list of available groups which will include any management groups you have created. However **To Import The Lists From The Reader:** click on the "Import Groups" button at the bottom of the window. The 'Group Import Dlg' is displayed.

Next click the button with the image of the GES II Reader on it.



The GES II Control Panel is then displayed.

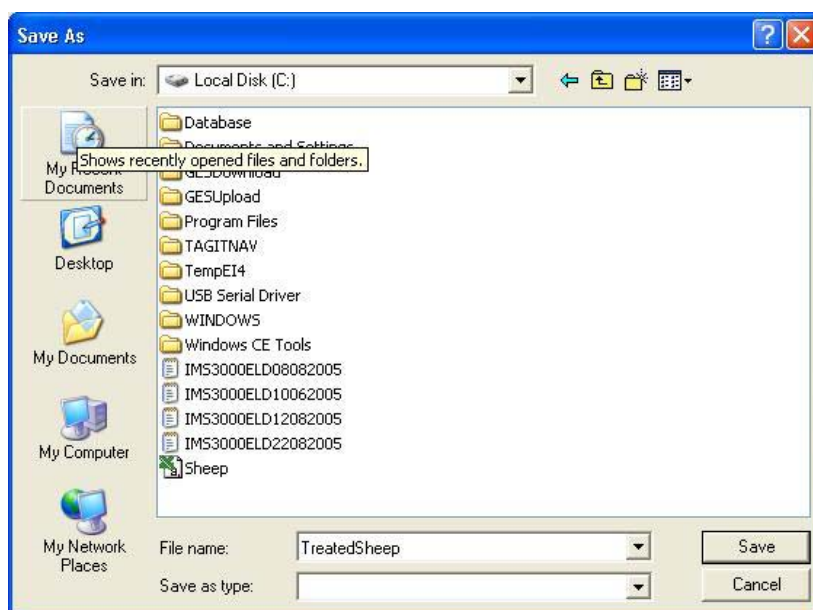
Ensure the reader is 'ON' and displaying '1.Read'



Click on the 'Get Data' button, the software will then attempt to communicate with the reader and download the data. The downloaded data will be displayed in the text window.

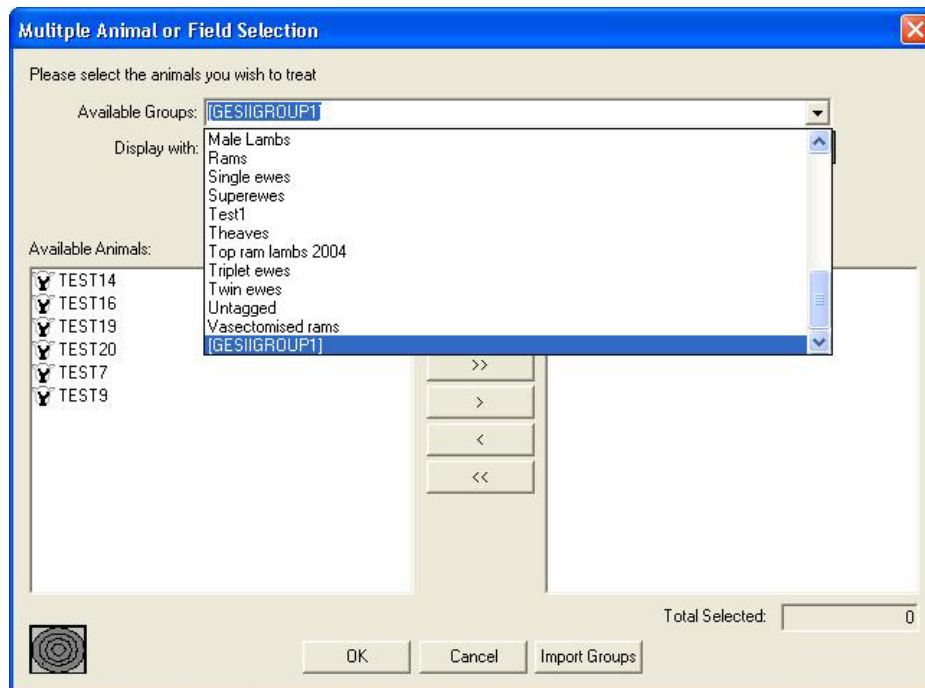
Click on the 'OK' button to continue.

At this point you will be able to save the data if you wish to - it may come in useful for future reference, but it is not essential so you can cancel it if you do not wish to save a copy. If you do wish to save, we advise you save it with a name that will mean something in the future, e.g. "Sheep To market 22/08/05"

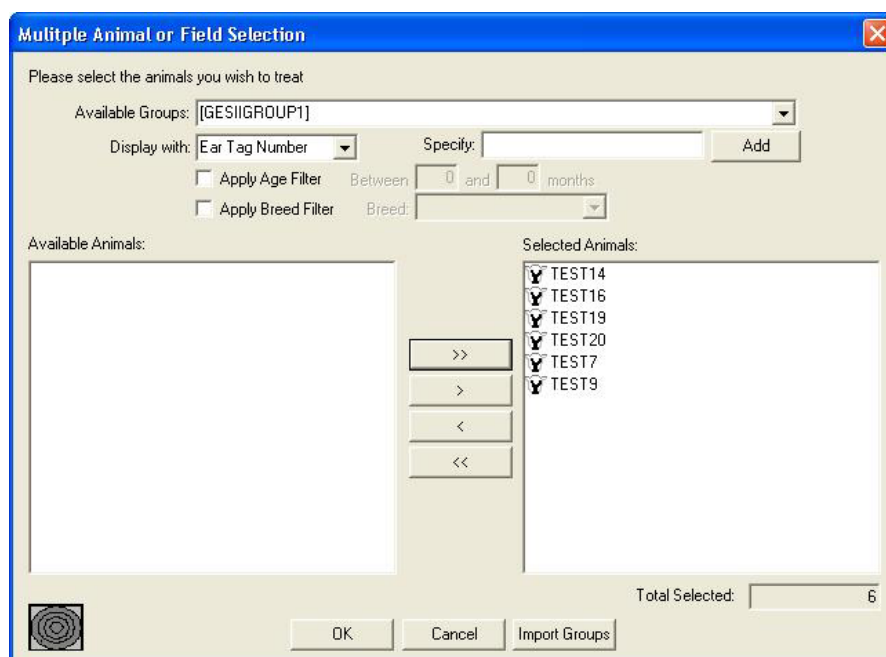
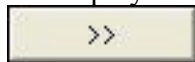


Now you will find that you are back on the multiple animal selection window. Click the small down arrow on the available groups box, scroll down the list to the bottom where you will see the GESIIGROUPS. These groups have been added depending on the specific group numbers you entered when collecting the data in the field.

Select the one you grouped the sheep into, in this example we saved all the sheep to group 1 so we need to select [GESIIGROUP1].



The available animal list will now display all the animals in the group. To select all the animals simply click on the top button.



Then press 'Ok' to complete the process and add the animals to the movement form.

Send Animals To Market - Stock Movement

From Holding: Cannon Farm Movement No: Assign Next
 To Holding: Movement Type: Animal off Holding
 Details Animal Type: SHEEP
 Our Ref: Confirmed: ☐
 Select Animals

Sending Address: Cannon Farm, Cannon, Llanerfyl, Welshpool, Powys
 Delivery Address: Holding No: 52/140/0075 Movement Date: 23/08/2005

Item	Ear Tag Number	Class	No.	Breed	Sex	Status	Age (Mths)	Confirmed
☐ 1	TEST12		1	WHSF	RAM		4	
☐ 2	TEST16		1	WHSF	EWE		4	
☐ 3	TEST2		1	WHSF	RAM		4	
☐ 4	TEST6		1	WHSF	EWE		4	
☐ <ne...								

Total Animals: 4 Select All Tick animals to confirm sale at market Export Animal Details

Haulage Details:
 Company: Means of Transport: Notes:
 Vehicle Reg: Permit No:

Save And Confirm Save (Confirm Later) Close Delete

Complete the movement form and once you have filled in the relevant information click the 'Save and Confirm' or 'Save (Confirm Later)' button (see the relevant section in the help files). The individual animal records are then updated to reflect the movement.

Note: 'Save (Confirm Later)' allows you to create a movement record prior to the movement being done, for example in the morning of going to market, then confirm the movement upon return, identifying animals as sold or returned to the farm. Animals returned to farm still need to be recorded as having been moved to a holding but returned on the same day.

Creating Management Groups

Before You Start

Creating management groups allows you to group animals within the FarmIT database to simplify treatments, feeding and field grazing. Rather than needing to know individuals you simply select the management group to treat or feed etc. For example you may create a group call 2005Lambs, listing all lambs born in the year, whenever you treat all of them, all you need do is select the entire group.

We create management groups within the system, selecting the animals for the group in the same manner as we do for movements etc. therefore the reader is set-up for 'Group Selection' if you wish to create two or more groups or 'Movements' if you wish to just create one group (the latter puts all the animals scanned into a default of 'Group1').

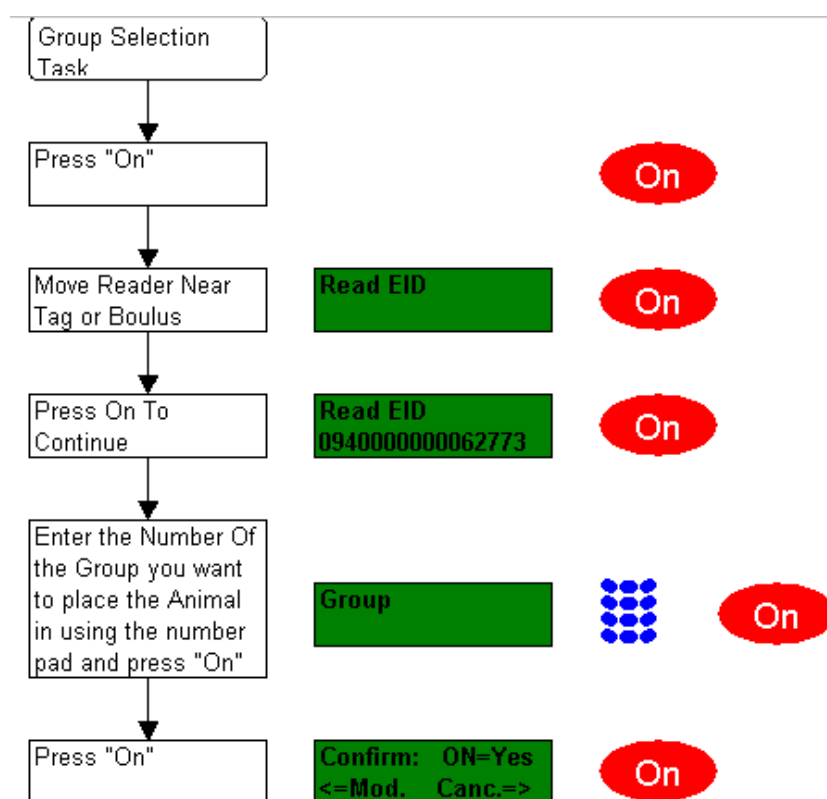
First ensure that the reader is configured for group selection or movements and has the EID/ear tag numbers of the animals in the database loaded.

In The Field

The objective is to simply read each animal and record the animal into a group. It is best to ensure that the animals are under control in a race or a relatively small pen.

1. Turn the Reader On.
2. Select 'Group Selection' or 'Movements' from the definitions (see page 16)
3. Select Option 2 - Control

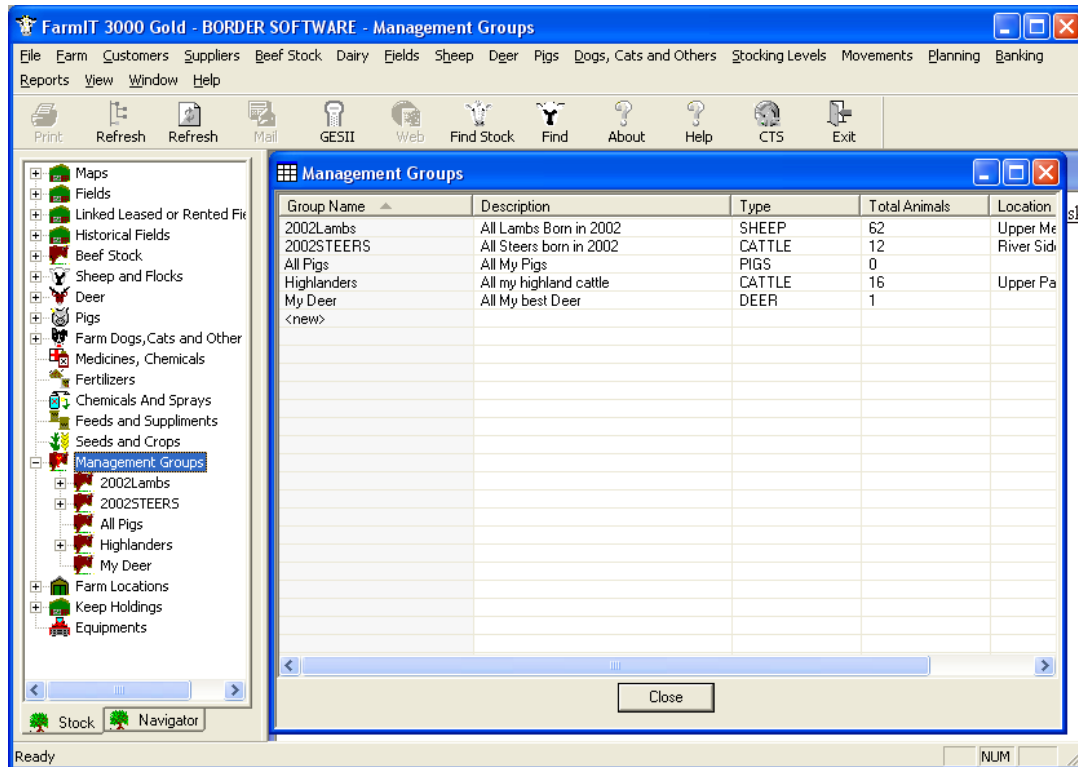
Using the group selection task to record animal movements is simple and fast, just scan the EID and enter a group, putting all the sheep that have been moved in one group. **N.B. If you are using the movements task rather than the group selection the group will default to 1.**



Repeat until all the animals have been scanned.

Back In The Office

Once you have recorded the animals you need to record the data into FarmIT 3000. Open the management groups window by double clicking on the Management Groups list in the tree view.



Double click <new> the bottom of the list to open the New Management Group form.

Group Name: Type:

Description:

Track Movements: ☐ Location: Organic Status:

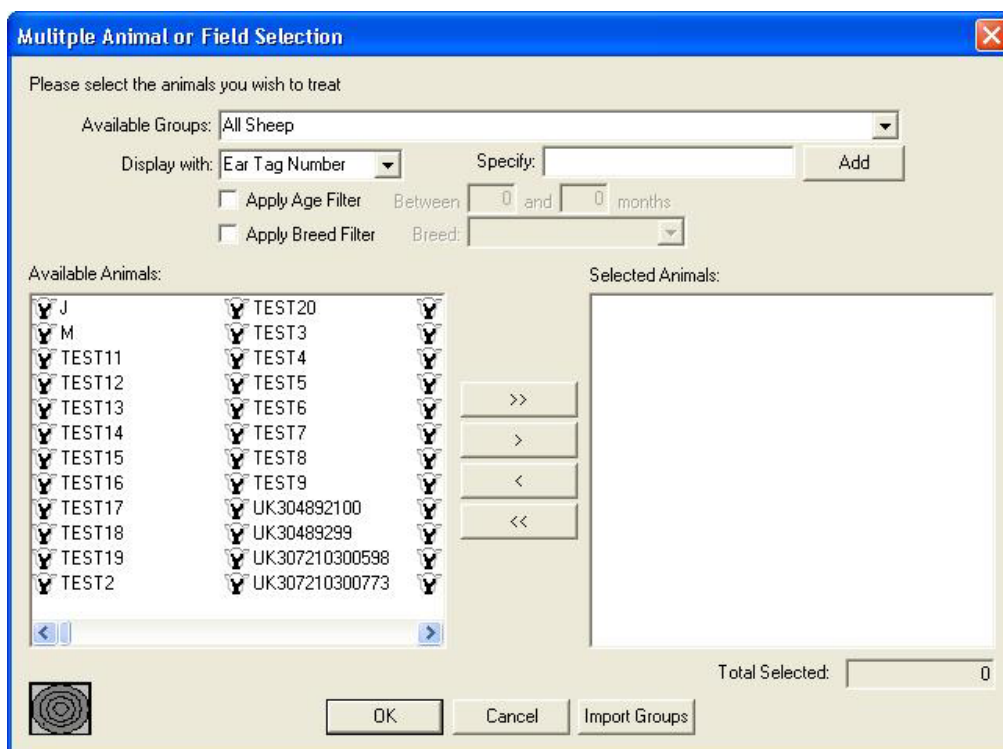
Animals:

Ear Tag Number	Farm Tag	Breed	DOB	Sex	Age In Months

Total Animals:

Enter a name for the group for example '2005 Lambs' then select the animal type from the drop down list. E.g. select 'SHEEP'. You may also enter a description.

Then click on the 'Select Animals' button to select the animals.

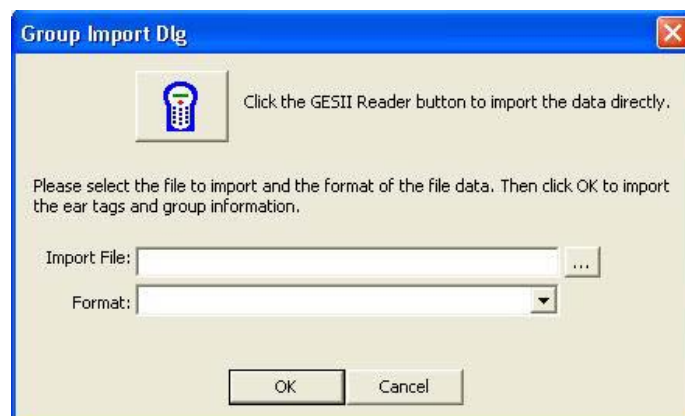


You may at this stage simply select the animals manually or from the list of available default groups However:

To Import The Lists From The Reader

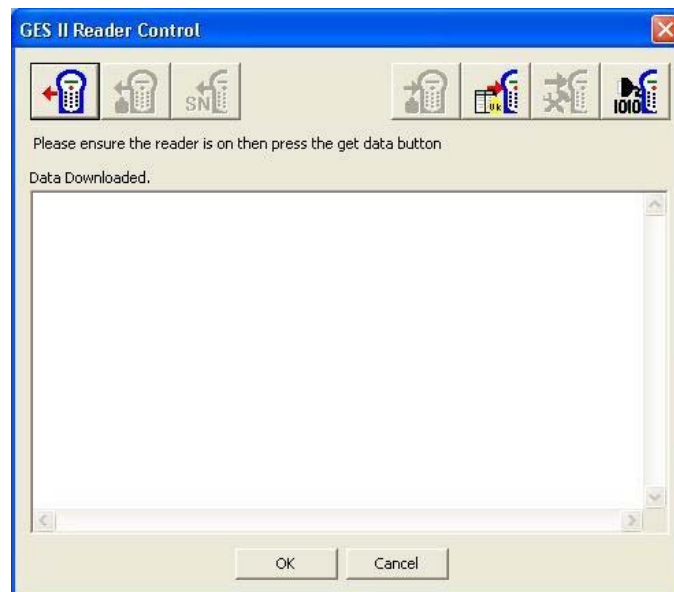
Click on the "Import groups" button at the bottom of the window. The 'Group Import Dlg' is displayed.

Next click the button with the image of the GES II Reader on it.



The GES II Control Panel is then displayed.

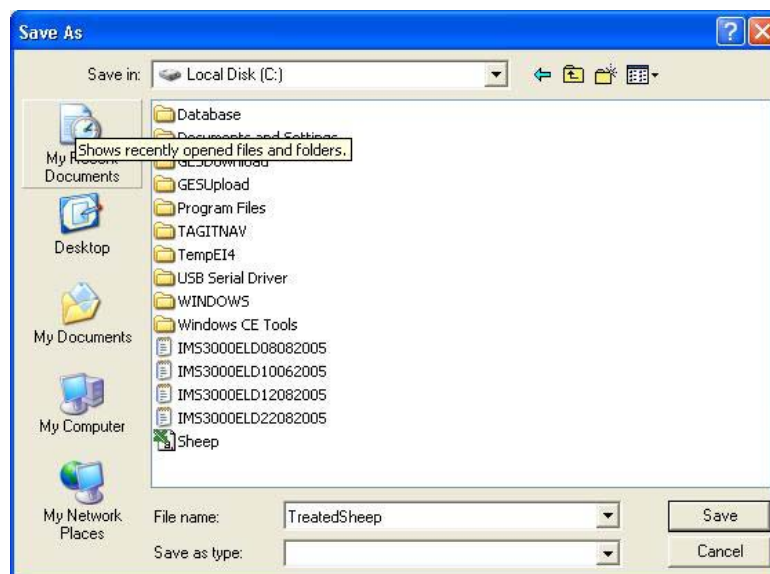
Ensure the reader is 'ON' and displaying '1.Read'



Click on the 'Get Data' button, the software will then attempt to communicate with the reader and download the data. The downloaded data will be displayed in the text window.

Click on the 'OK' button to continue.

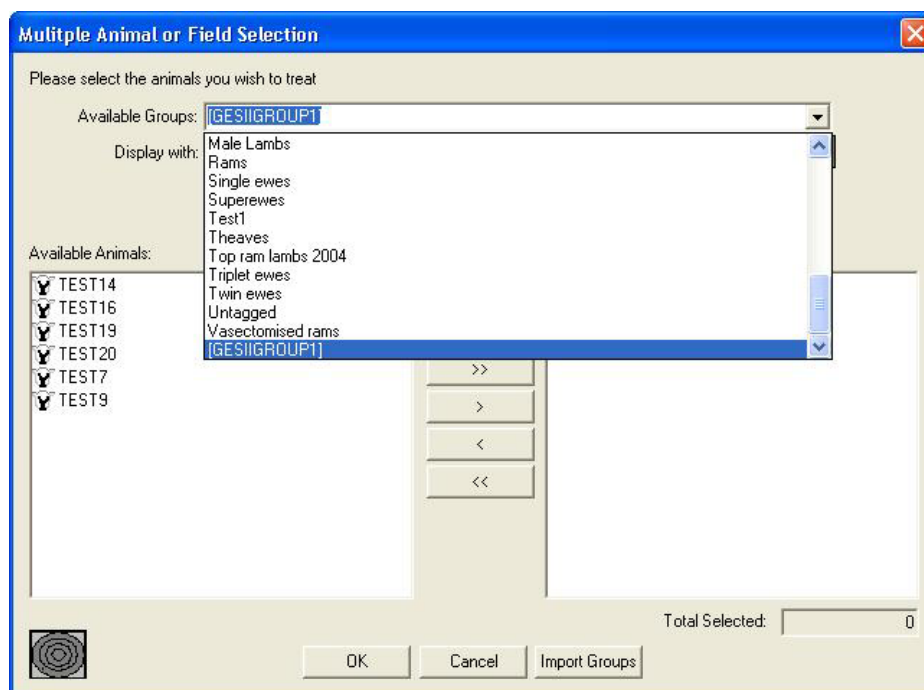
At this point you will be able to save the data if you wish to - it may come in useful for future reference, but it is not essential so you can cancel it if you do not wish to save a copy. If you do wish to save, we advise you save it with a name that will mean something in the future, e.g. "Lambs 2005 01-07-05"



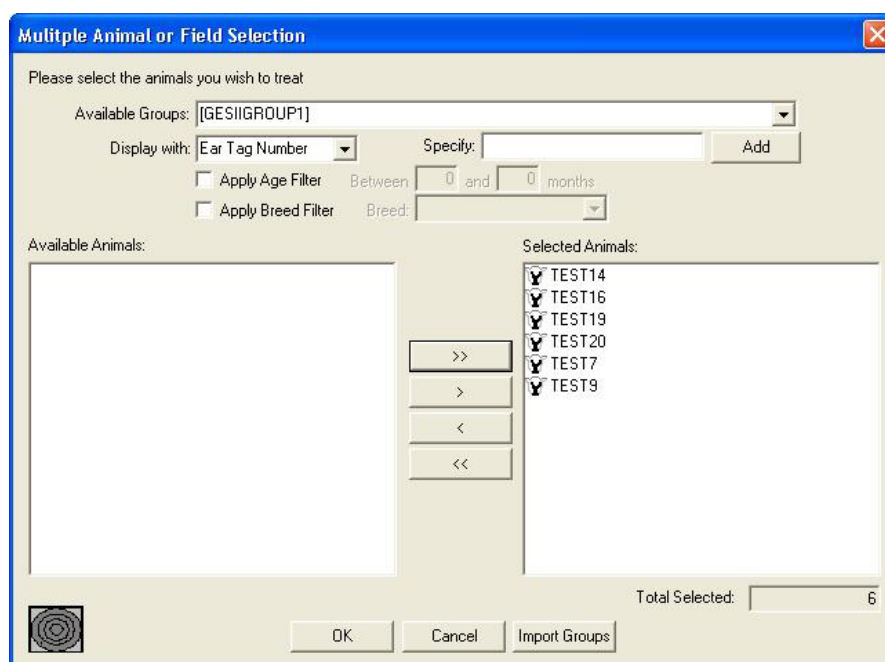
Now you will find that you are back on the multiple animal selection window. Click the small down arrow on the available groups box, scroll down the list to the bottom where you will see the

GESIIGROUPS. These groups have been added depending on the specific group numbers you entered when collecting the data in the field.

Select the one you grouped the sheep into, in this example we saved all the sheep to group 1 so we need to select [GESIIGROUP1].



The available animal list will now display all the animals in the group. To select all the animals simply click on the top button. 



Then press Ok to complete the process and add the animals to the management group

Click 'SAVE' to save the management group.

Scanning

Before You Start

Creating scanning records allows you to group animals within the FarmIT database into management groups for special treatment but also to prepare for lambing and analyse scanning records for ewes. Scanning is an entry that is added to the ewes lambing records along with tupping, lambing, abortions, prolapses and fostering.

We create scanning records from groups within the system, with the group representing the number of lambs. We select the animals for the group in the same manner as we do for movements etc. therefore the reader is set-up for Group Selection.

Our experience has identified that however slick we are with the reader we can not quite keep up with the man doing the scanning, so we have to resort to spraying them, then recording the scanning groups after he has finished.

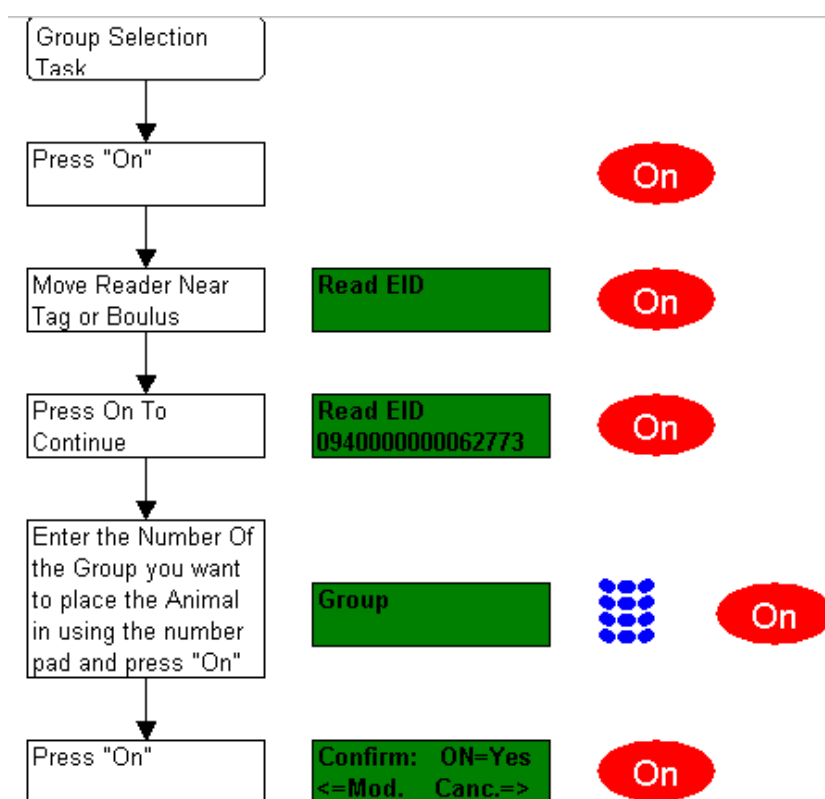
First ensure that the reader is configured for Group Selection and has the EID/ear tag numbers of the animals in the database loaded.

In The Field

The objective is to simply read each animal and record the number of predicted lambs. It is best to ensure that the animals are under control in race or relatively small pen.

1. **Turn the Reader On.**
2. **Select 'Group Selection' from the definitions (see page 16)**
3. **Select Option 2 - Control**

Use the group selection task to record scanning results by entering the animals into groups relating to the lambs they are thought to be carrying. I.e. barren ewes would go into 'Group 0', singles into 'Group 1' etc.

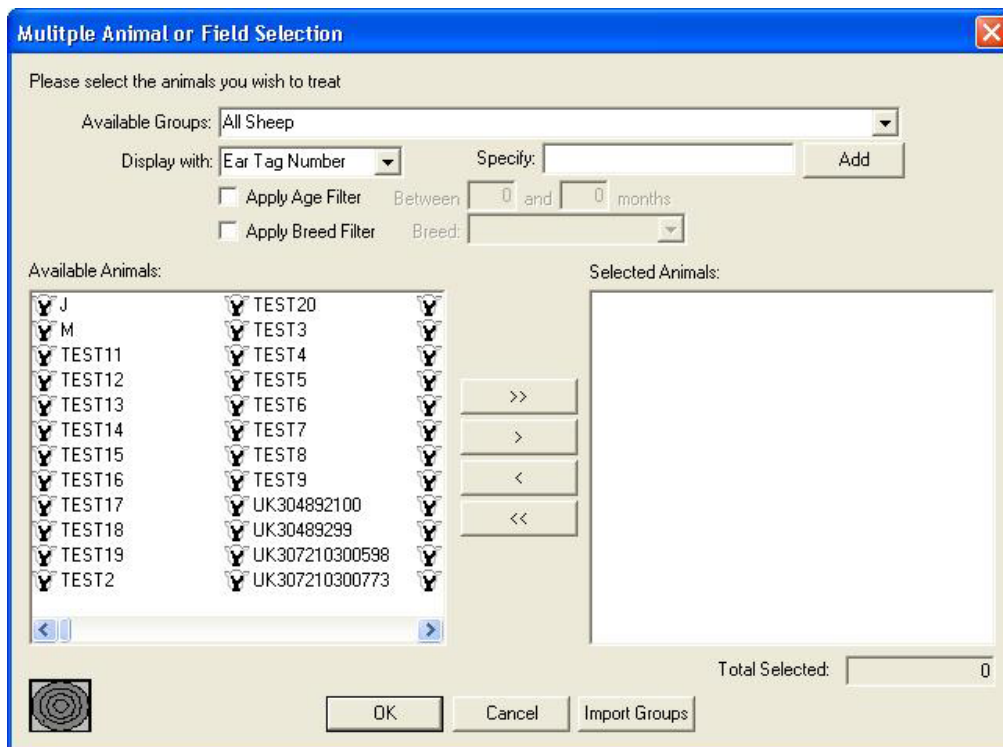


Repeat until all the animals have been scanned.

Back In The Office

Once you have recorded the animals you may create the scanning records from the group data.

From the sheep menu select the 'Enter Bulk Scanning Record' option. The animal selection dialog is displayed.



To Import The Lists From The Reader

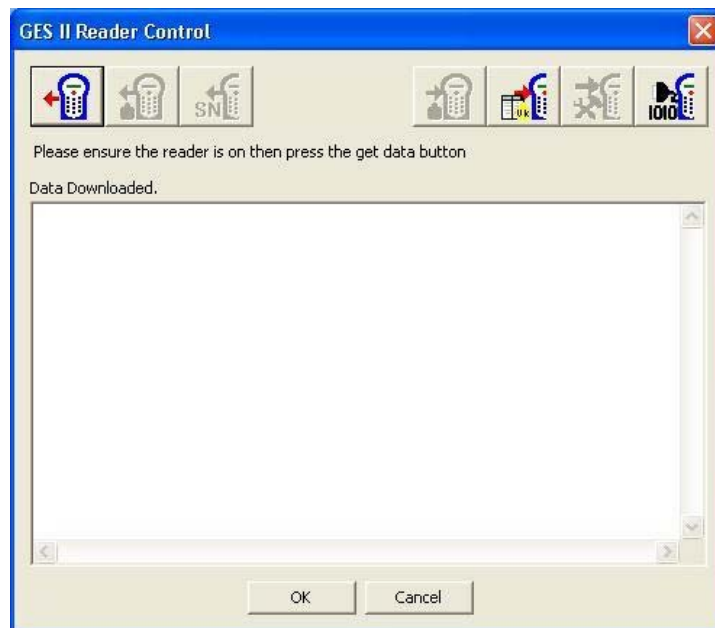
Click on the "Import Groups" button at the bottom of the window. The 'Group Import Dlg' is displayed.

Next click the button with the image of the GES II Reader on it.



The GES II Control Panel is then displayed.

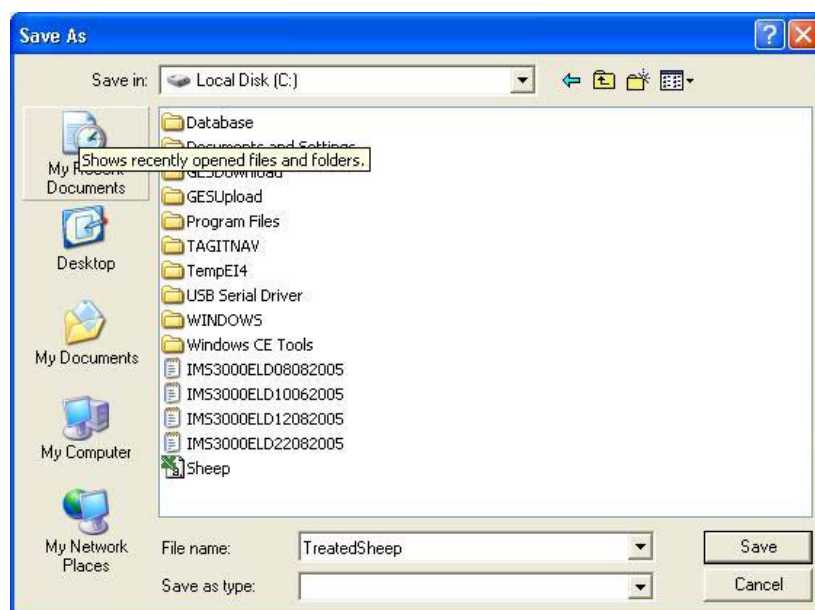
Ensure the reader is 'ON' and displaying '1.Read'



Click on the 'Get Data' button, the software will then attempt to communicate with the reader and download the data. The downloaded data will be displayed in the text window.

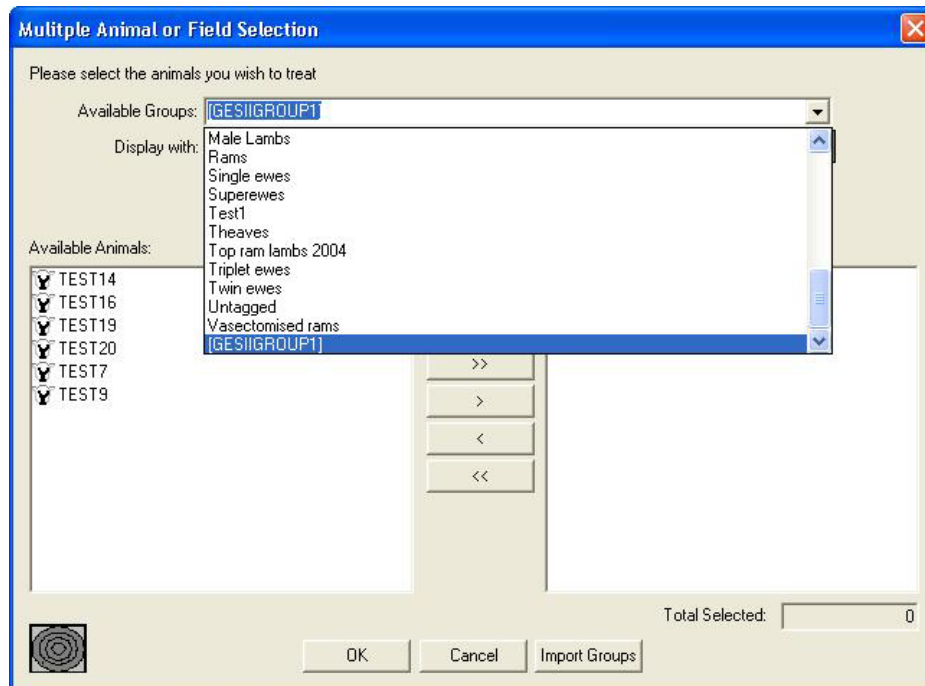
Click on the 'OK' button to continue.

At this point you will be able to save the data if you wish to - it may come in useful for future reference, but it is not essential so you can cancel it if you do not wish to save a copy. If you do wish to save, we advise you save it with a name that will mean something in the future, e.g. "Scanning results 22/12/05"

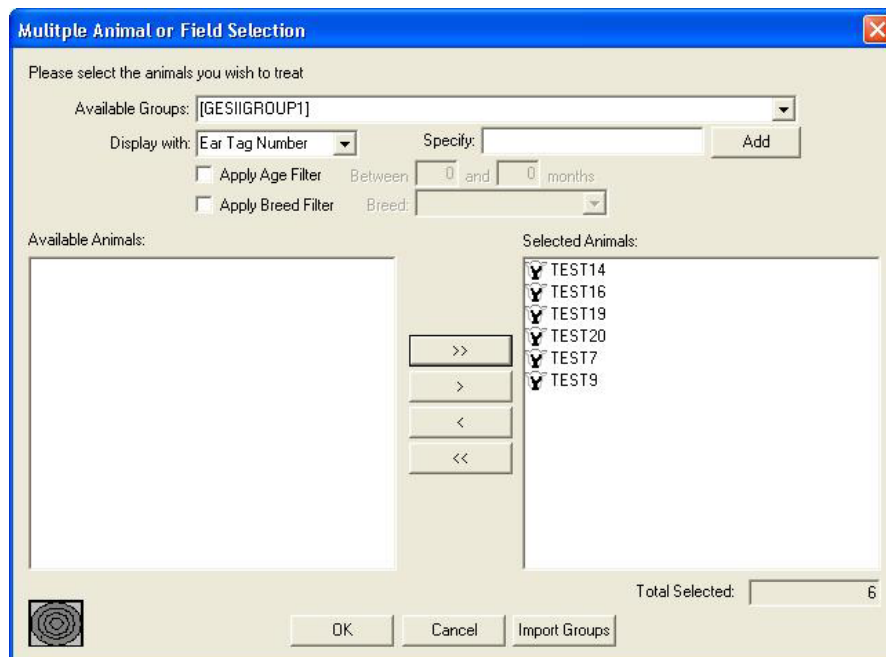


Now you will find that you are back on the multiple animal selection window. Click the small down arrow on the available groups box, scroll down the list to the bottom where you will see the GESIIGROUPS. These groups have been added depending on the specific group numbers you entered when collecting the data in the field.

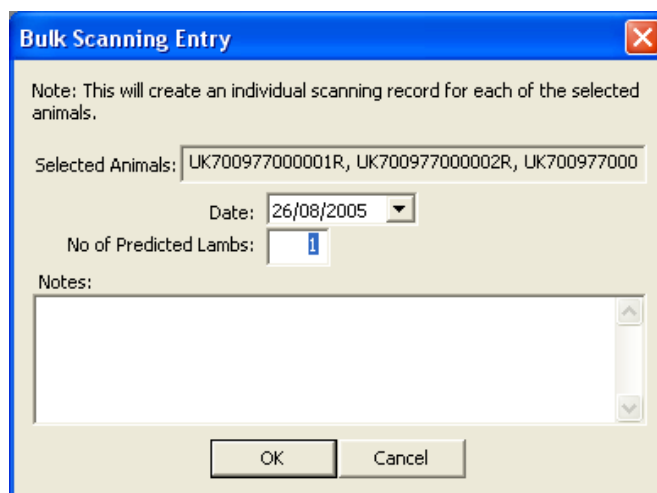
Select the GESII Group representing the ewes e.g. singles would be GESIIGROUP1.



The available animal list will now display all the animals in that group. To select all the animals simply click on the top button.



Then press Ok to complete the process and display the bulk scanning record form. Complete the form by confirming the number of lambs, and add any notes. Make sure that the number of lambs reflects the group that you are working with.



Bulk Scanning Entry

Note: This will create an individual scanning record for each of the selected animals.

Selected Animals: UK700977000001R, UK700977000002R, UK700977000

Date: 26/08/2005

No of Predicted Lambs: 1

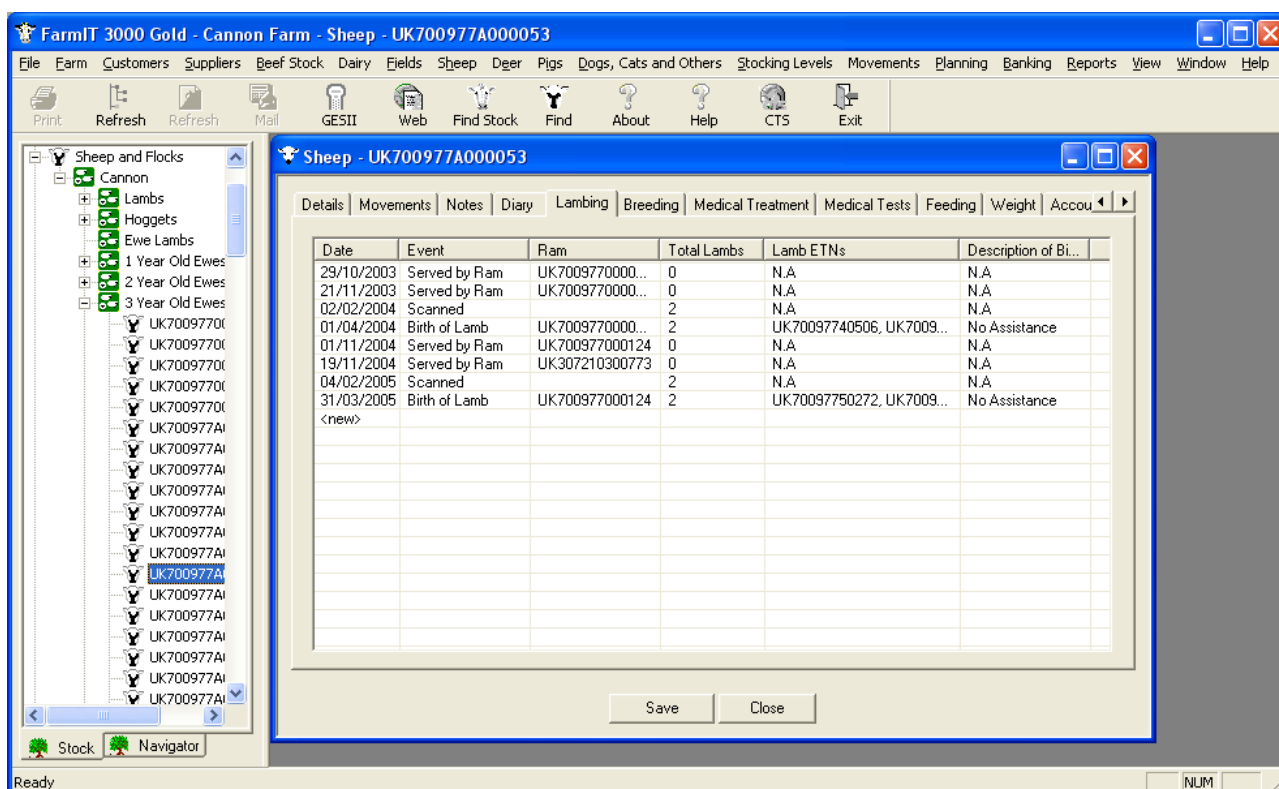
Notes:

OK Cancel

Click 'OK' to save the scanning record for each individual.

You will need to repeat this whole process to enter the scanning records for each of the groups.

You may view a scanning record for an individual animal by opening the animals record, and looking at the 'Lambing' tab (breeding ewes only).



FarmIT 3000 Gold - Cannon Farm - Sheep - UK700977A000053

File Farm Customers Suppliers Beef Stock Dairy Fields Sheep Deer Pigs Dogs, Cats and Others Stocking Levels Movements Planning Banking Reports View Window Help

Print Refresh Refresh Mail GESII Web Find Stock Find About Help CTS Exit

Sheep - UK700977A000053

Details Movements Notes Diary Lambing Breeding Medical Treatment Medical Tests Feeding Weight Accou

Date	Event	Ram	Total Lambs	Lamb ETNs	Description of Bi...
29/10/2003	Served by Ram	UK7009770000...	0	N.A	N.A
21/11/2003	Served by Ram	UK7009770000...	0	N.A	N.A
02/02/2004	Scanned		2	N.A	N.A
01/04/2004	Birth of Lamb	UK7009770000...	2	UK70097740506, UK7009...	No Assistance
01/11/2004	Served by Ram	UK700977000124	0	N.A	N.A
19/11/2004	Served by Ram	UK307210300773	0	N.A	N.A
04/02/2005	Scanned		2	N.A	N.A
31/03/2005	Birth of Lamb	UK700977000124	2	UK70097750272, UK7009...	No Assistance
<new>					

Save Close

Ready NUM

Treating / Feeding Animals

Before You Start

Animals may be treated or feed as individuals, by management groups or by selecting animals using the Animal Selection form and importing groups from the reader. All treatments are recorded by ear tag number so if an animal moves between management groups its treatment records will still be correct.

Under most circumstances we would recommend that you try to group animals depending on whether they have the 1st treatment, 2nd treatments, or both for example.

Group 1 represents animals having only treatment 1.

Group 2 represents animals having only treatment 2.

Group 3 represents animals having both.

We would also recommend that you add into the system the details of the medicine or chemicals being used before you do the treatment (please refer to the FarmIT Help for details). You may also add the list of individuals who will be treating the animals on the Farm and define the problem and diseases you are treating for.

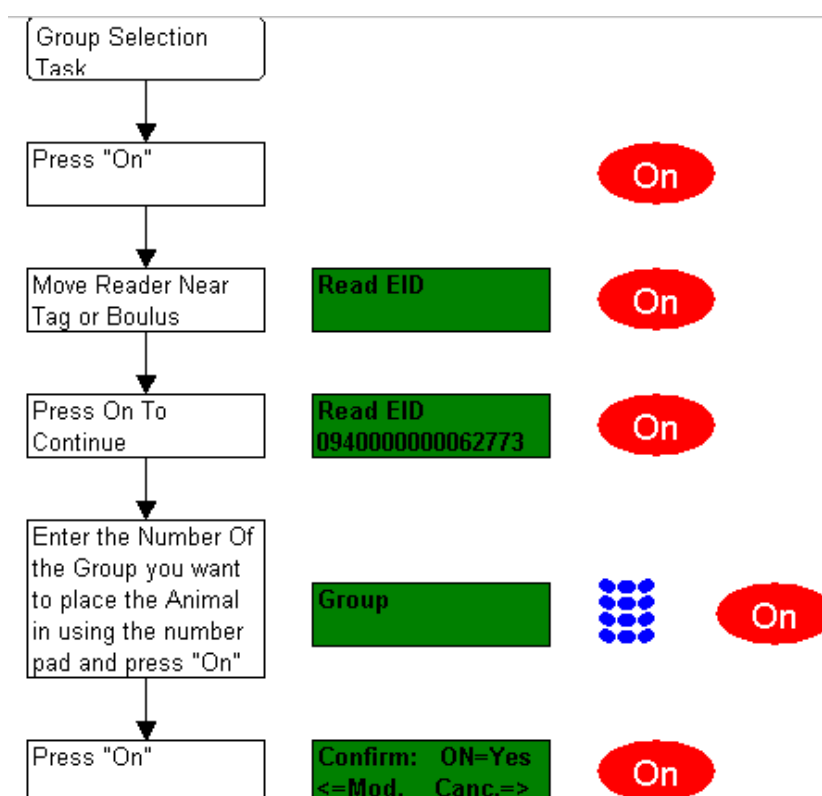
First ensure that the reader is configured for group selection and has the EID/ear tag numbers of the animals in the database loaded.

If you are only carrying out one treatment, or all the animals will be getting exactly the same it would be possible to use the 'Movement' configuration as this has a default that puts all the animals scanned into the same group and could make the process quicker.

In The Field

1. Turn the Reader On.
2. Select 'Group Selection' or 'Movements' from the definitions (see page 16)
3. Select Option 2 - Control

Using the group selection task to record animal movements is simple and fast, just scan the EID and enter a group, putting all the sheep that have been moved in one group. **N.B. If you are using the Movements definition rather than the Group Selection the group will default to 1.**



Repeat until all the treated animals have been scanned.

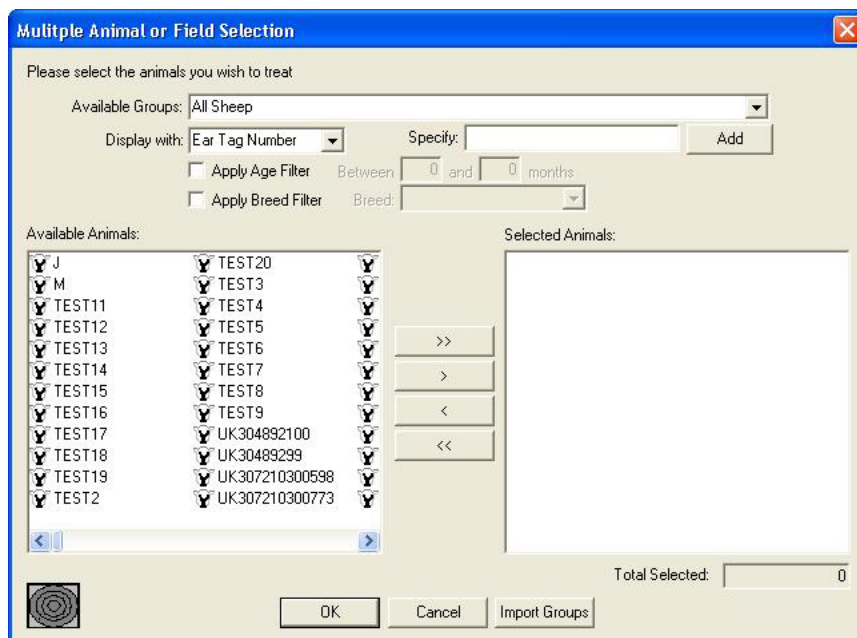
Back In the Office

Once you have recorded the animals you have treated you need to record the data into FarmIT 3000. Go to the menu corresponding to the stock you want to treat, for this example we are using sheep.

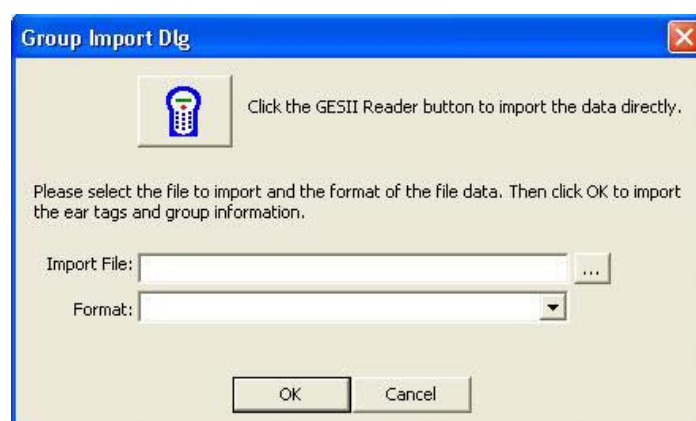
Go down the menu and select "Treat Selected Animals"



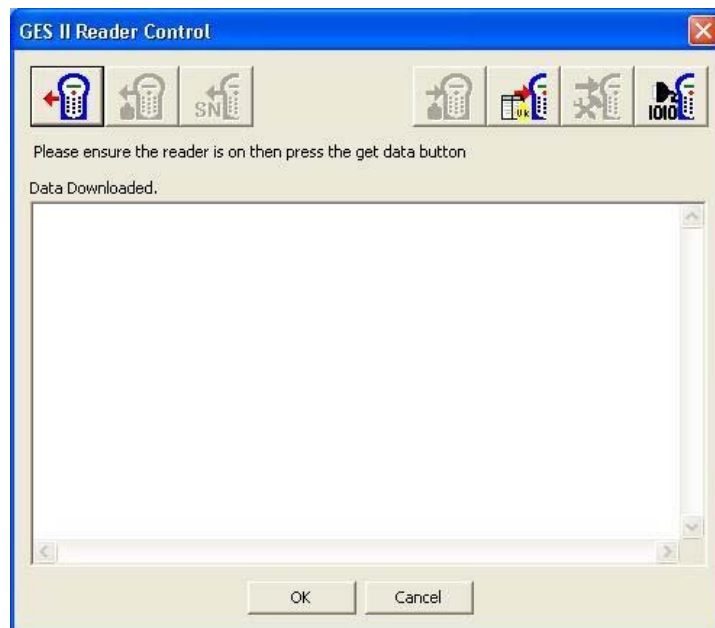
The Animal selection window is displayed. Click on the "Import Groups" button.



The 'Group Import Dlg' is displayed. Click on the GES II Reader Button to open the GESII Control Panel.



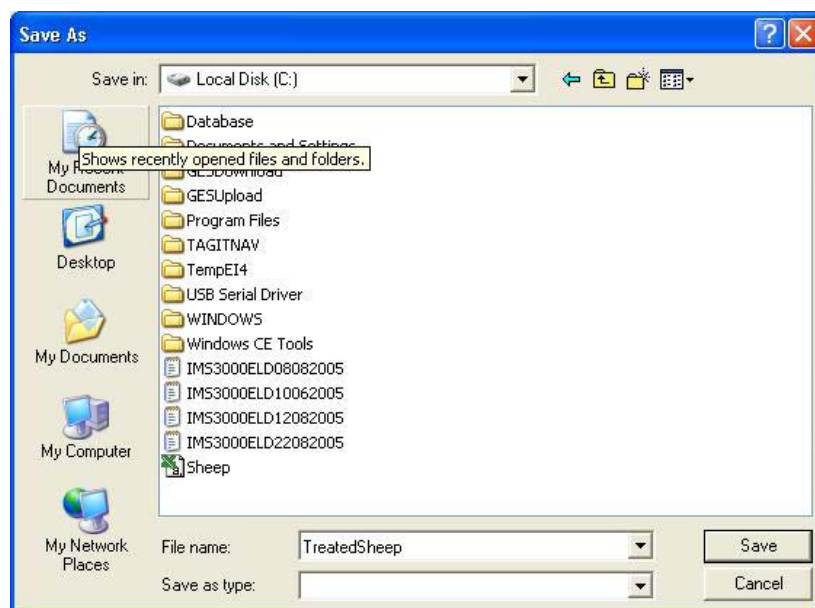
Ensure the reader is 'ON' and displaying '1.Read'



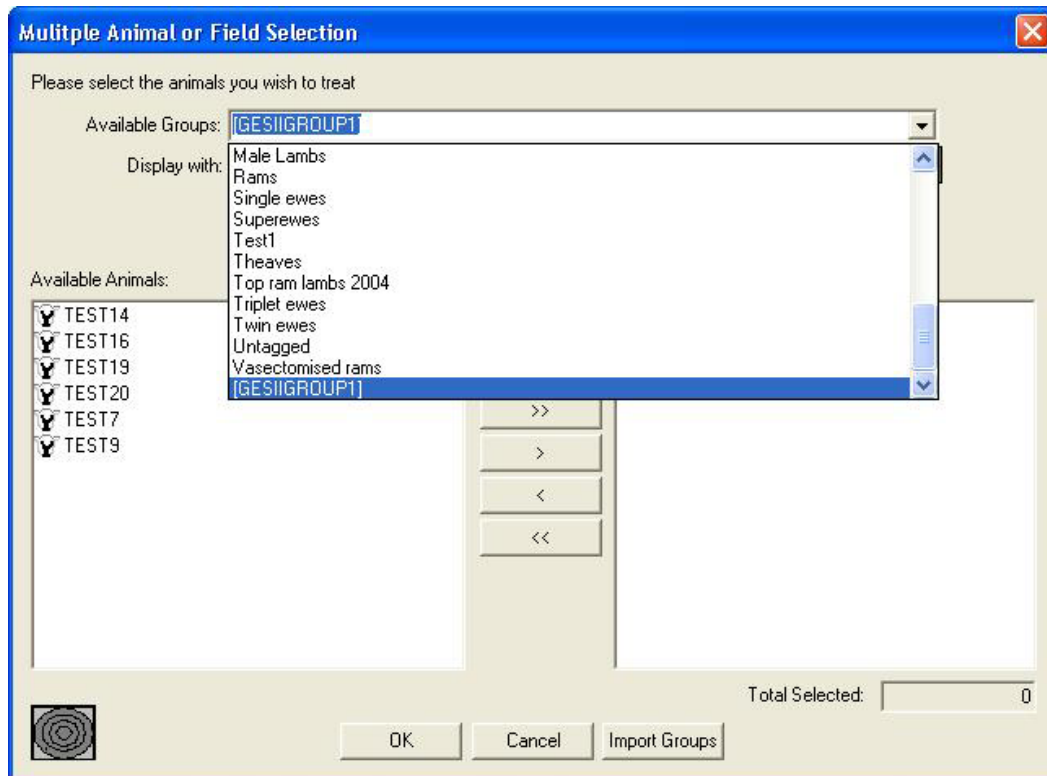
Click on the 'Get Data' button, the software will then attempt to communicate with the reader and download the data. The downloaded data will be displayed in the text window.

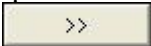
Click on the 'OK' button to continue.

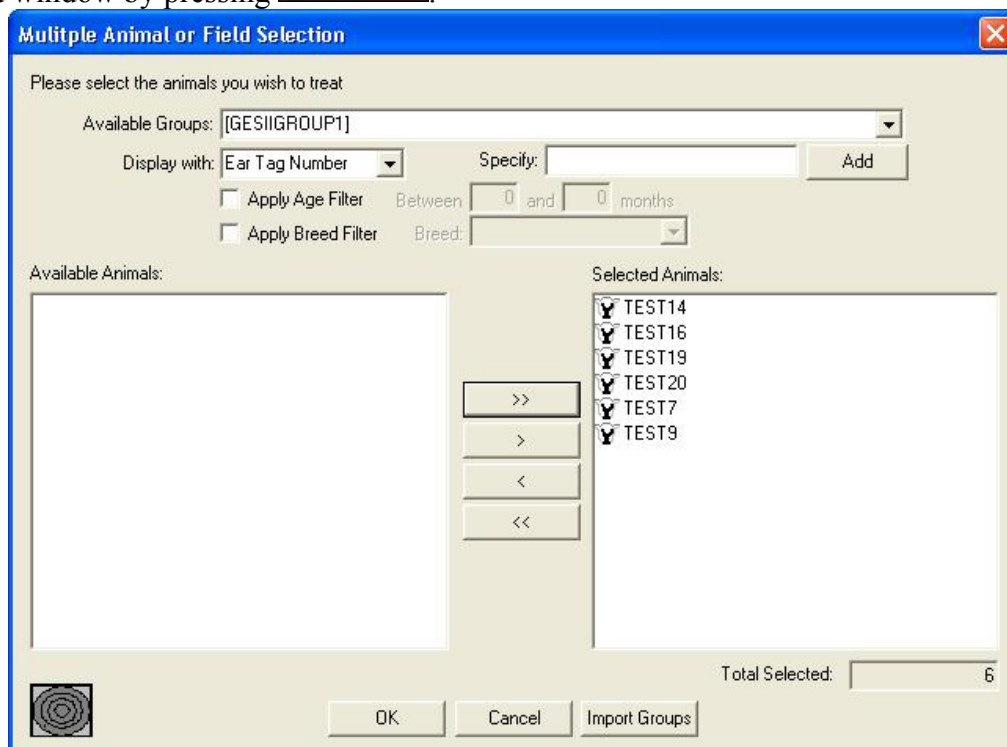
At this point you will be able to save the data if you wish to - it may come in useful for future reference, but it is not essential so you can cancel it if you do not wish to save a copy. If you do wish to save, we advise you save it with a name that will mean something in the future, e.g. "Sheep Treated 22/08/05"



You will find that you are back on the multiple animal selection window. Click the small down arrow on the 'Available Groups' box. Scroll down the list to the bottom where you will see the GESIIGROUPS. Select the one you saved the sheep you treated with a particular treatment into, in this example we saved the sheep to group 1 so we need to select [GESIIGROUP1].

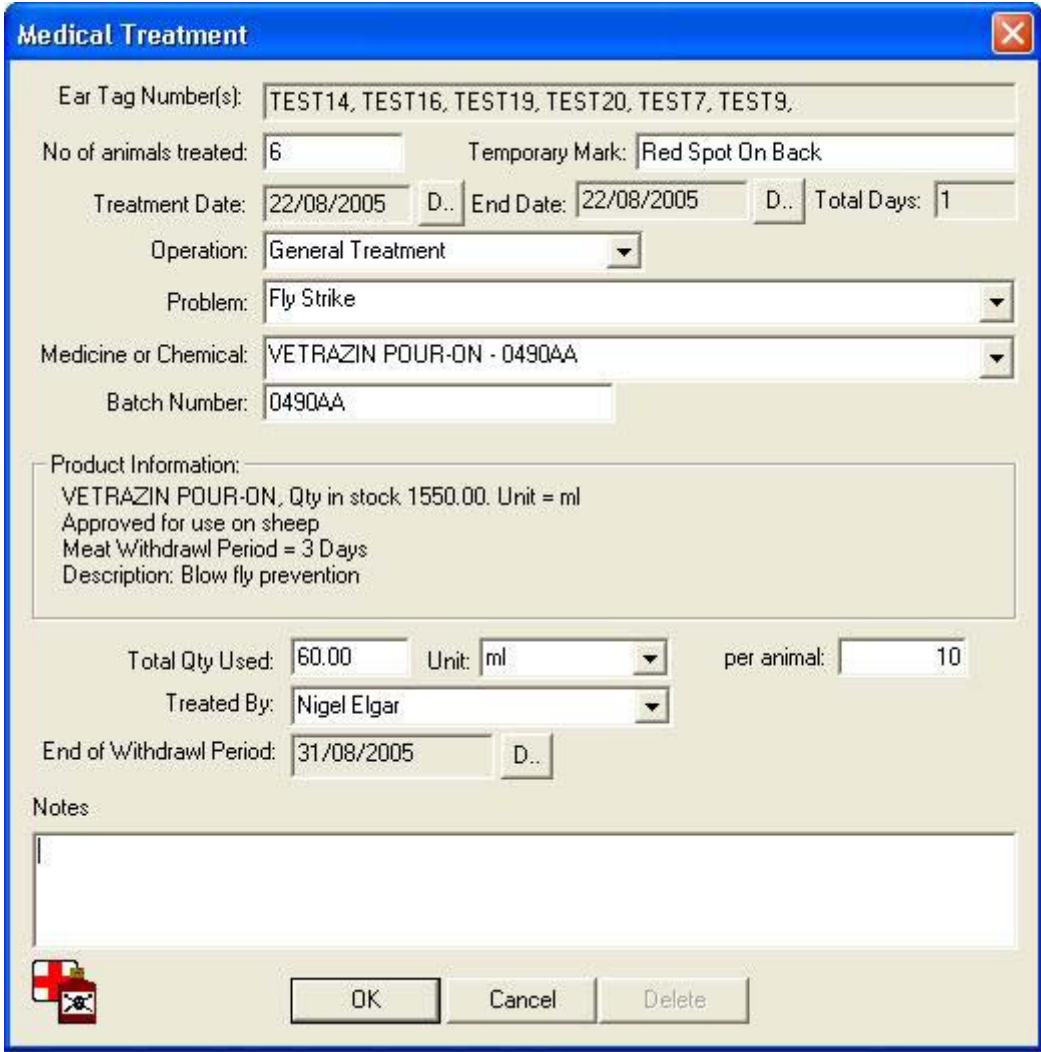


Once you have selected the group from the drop down list you can transfer the whole group to the right-hand window by pressing .



Then press Ok.

Next you will need to enter the relevant information about what you treated the sheep for, just as you would for individual animal treatments (see the relevant section of the help file).



The image shows a 'Medical Treatment' dialog box with a blue title bar and a close button (X) in the top right corner. The form contains the following fields and controls:

- Ear Tag Number(s):** A text box containing 'TEST14, TEST16, TEST19, TEST20, TEST7, TEST9'.
- No of animals treated:** A text box containing '6'.
- Temporary Mark:** A text box containing 'Red Spot On Back'.
- Treatment Date:** A date picker showing '22/08/2005' with a 'D..' button.
- End Date:** A date picker showing '22/08/2005' with a 'D..' button.
- Total Days:** A text box containing '1'.
- Operation:** A dropdown menu showing 'General Treatment'.
- Problem:** A dropdown menu showing 'Fly Strike'.
- Medicine or Chemical:** A dropdown menu showing 'VETRAZIN POUR-ON - 0490AA'.
- Batch Number:** A text box containing '0490AA'.
- Product Information:** A text area containing:
VETRAZIN POUR-ON, Qty in stock 1550.00. Unit = ml
Approved for use on sheep
Meat Withdrawl Period = 3 Days
Description: Blow fly prevention
- Total Qty Used:** A text box containing '60.00'.
- Unit:** A dropdown menu showing 'ml'.
- per animal:** A text box containing '10'.
- Treated By:** A dropdown menu showing 'Nigel Elgar'.
- End of Withdrawl Period:** A date picker showing '31/08/2005' with a 'D..' button.
- Notes:** A large text area for additional notes.
- Buttons:** At the bottom are three buttons: 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Delete'. There is also a small icon of a first aid kit in the bottom left corner.

Once you have filled in the relevant information click the OK button and the database will be updated to reflect this information against all the animals involved.

Weighing Animals

Before You Start

FarmIT 3000 allows you to create individual animal weight records for analysis of daily live weight gains etc. Inputting animals weight manually into the system is possible but of course requires the weights to be written down then typed in. Using the GES II Reader this is much quicker and importing the data only takes a few seconds.

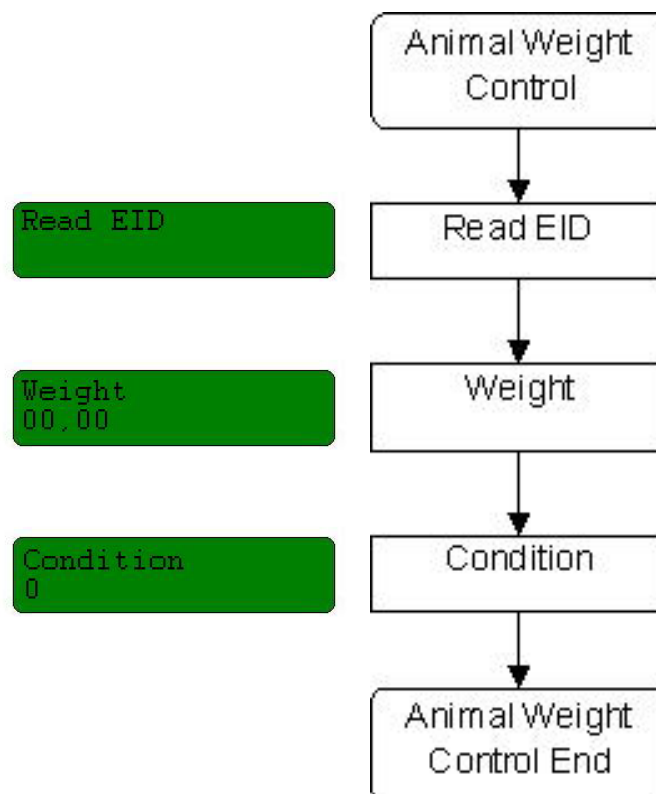
We have however stopped short of connecting the reader to an automated weigh crate, as our experience has been that it is simply quicker to key in the weight. Also we then get the opportunity to add extra data for example a condition score, and of course we don't need the extra expense of buying a new crate.

First ensure that the reader is configured for Weighing and has the EID/ear tag numbers of the animals in the database load.

In The Field

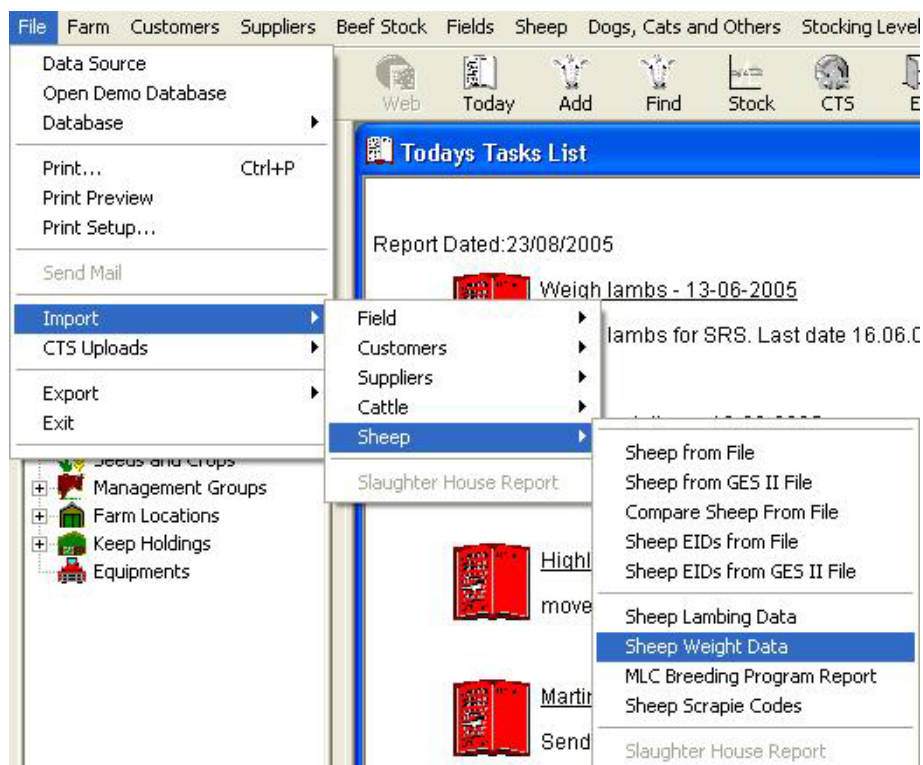
- 1. Turn the Reader On.**
- 2. Select 'Weighing' from the definitions (see page 16)**
- 3. Select Option 2 – Control**

Using the weighing task on the reader is simple, all you need to do is read the EID then enter the weight and score the condition of the animal.

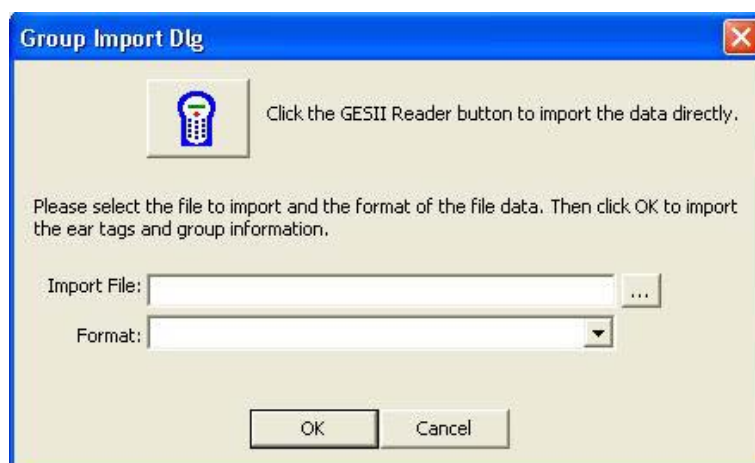


Back In The Office.

Once you have weighed the stock, for this example we are using sheep, and you have entered the data into the reader you will want to get the data into FarmIT 3000. To do this simply click on 'Sheep Weight Data'.



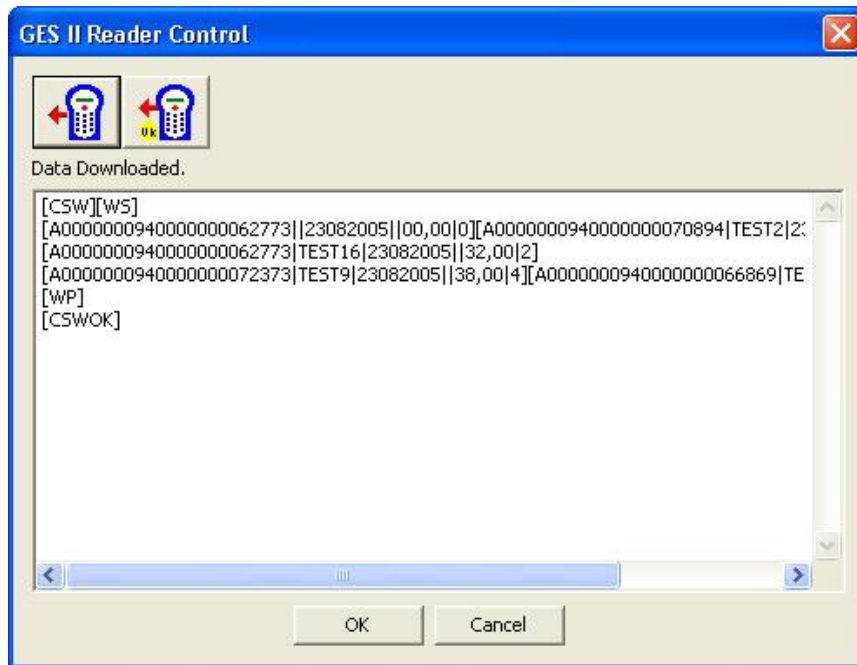
Click the button with the image of the GESII Reader on the 'Group Import Dlg'.



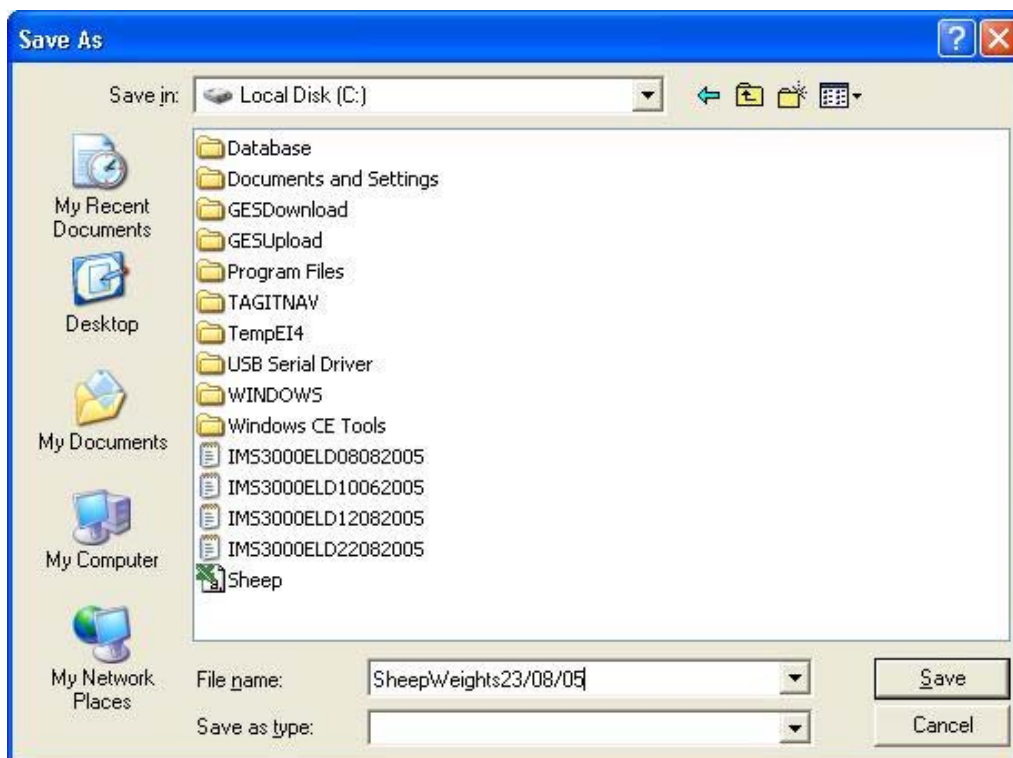
The GESII Control Panel is then displayed.

Ensure the reader is 'ON' and displaying '1.Read'

Click the download data button. The data will be downloaded and displayed in the text box area.



Click on the 'OK' button to continue. A save window will appear, it is not necessary to save this data but if you want to it is recommended that you use a meaningful name, e.g. 'SheepWeights23/08/05'



Next you will need to make sure that the white boxes under 'Animal Details' contain the columns that reflect the title to the left of the boxes. The columns can be changed from the dropdown lists. Confirm the columns are in the right order, then press OK.

Import Stock Weights from file.

Summary of file contents.

Accessing File
 Total Columns = 4
 Column Number 1, Name = ETN
 Column Number 2, Name = Date
 Column Number 3, Name = Weight
 Column Number 4, Name = Condition
 Total Records = 5

Animal Details

Ear Tag Number: [COLUMN1-ETN]
 Weight: [COLUMN3-Weight]
 Date: [COLUMN2-Date]
 Condition: [COLUMN4-Condition]

Select which column of the import file will be used as the value for the animal details. The available columns are extracted from the file, so all you need to do is select which column contains the appropriate information.

OK Cancel

After you have pressed ok you will get a report that shows the data that has been added to the database and updated all the records of the animals involved.

C:\Program Files\Border Software\FarmIT 3000\Reports\WeightImport23082005.htm

Stock Weight Import - 23-08-2005



Adding Weight Record - TEST2, 35.00 3, Date = 23-08-2005, to database.
 new weight record added to database.
 Adding Weight Record - TEST16, 32.00 2, Date = 23-08-2005, to database.
 new weight record added to database.
 Adding Weight Record - TEST9, 38.00 4, Date = 23-08-2005, to database.
 new weight record added to database.
 Adding Weight Record - TEST14, 37.00 3, Date = 23-08-2005, to database.
 new weight record added to database.

Lambing



Before You Start

FarmIT 3000 allows you to create lambing records for individual lambs detailing the number of lambs, assistance given, ear tags of lambs, sex etc. You may also do this manually within the system from the ewes lambing tab. When you create a lambing record you have the option to create the individual records for the lambs at the same time.

The GES II Reader allows us to collect lambing data in the field (or shed) for import into FarmIT 3000. The routine described below expects you to tag the new lambs and record their tag numbers as you record the details of the lambing.

Once collected you may import the lambing data, generating the individual lambing records for the ewes and the new lambs individual records automatically.

You may import other lambing records for animals from file, so if you have existing records for example in Microsoft Excel you may import these.

There are three lambing routines for capturing lambing information in the field using the GES II Reader, the selection of the routine being dependant on whether the lambs are tagged and the type of tag (EID tag or standard tag).

The four routines are as follows

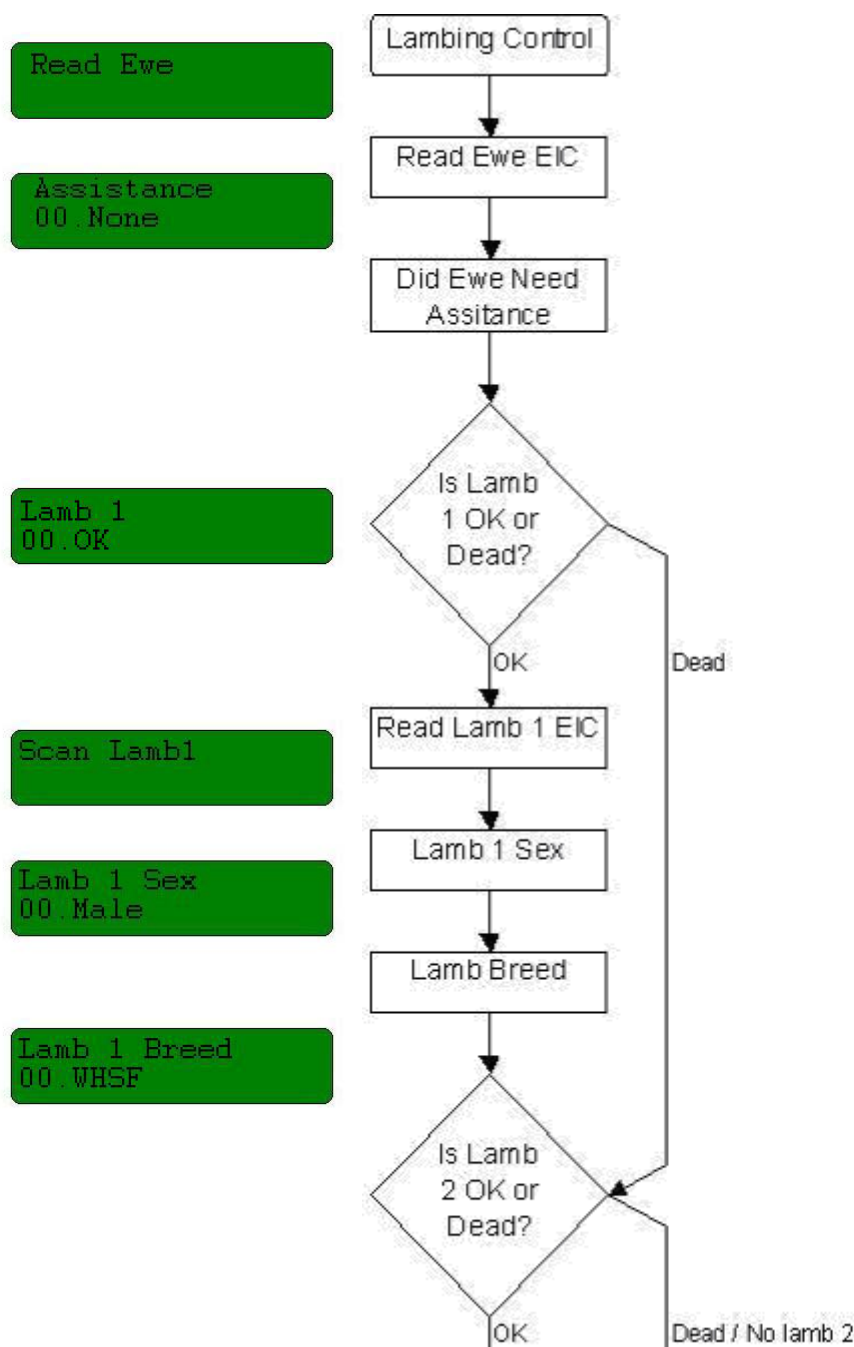
1. Lambing-Auto – For lambs tagged with EID Tags you may read the tag number using the EID.
2. Lambing-Manual – For lambs tagged with conventional non-EID tags you will be prompted to enter the last identifying digits of the tag number (i.e. excluding the flock number)
3. Lambing-Numeric – For untagged lambs you record just the numbers of male/female dead and alive, in order to identify ewe performance. (Lambs are NOT then added to the system).
4. Lambing-Ewe-No – For outdoor lambing where you enter manually a short ewe management number with electronically tagged lambs.

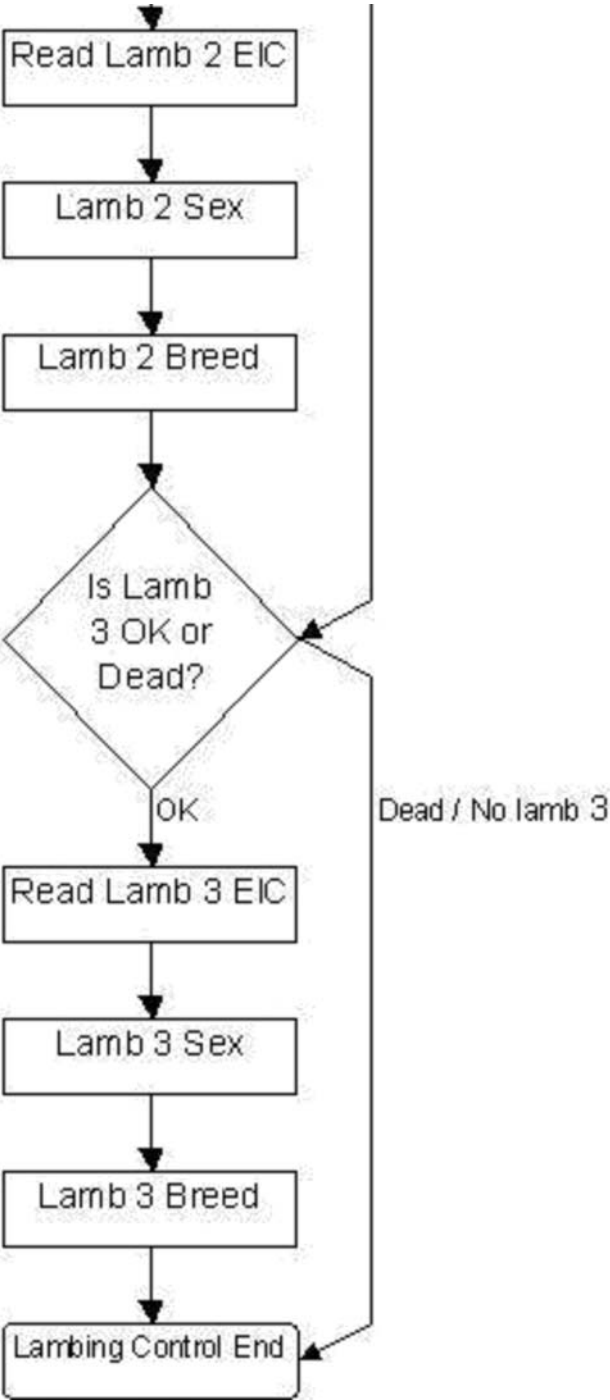
First ensure that the reader is configured for Lambing and has the EID/ear tag numbers of the animals in the database loaded and any tag bucket provided by the manufacture of the new tags (for the lambs)

In The Field - LambingAUTO

The lambing routine is the most complex of our routines as it gives you the option of specifying if lambs are born dead or alive and then changing its routine to record the ear tag or not, for up to 3 lambs. You also have the ability to simply scan the tag of the lamb if it has an EID tag.

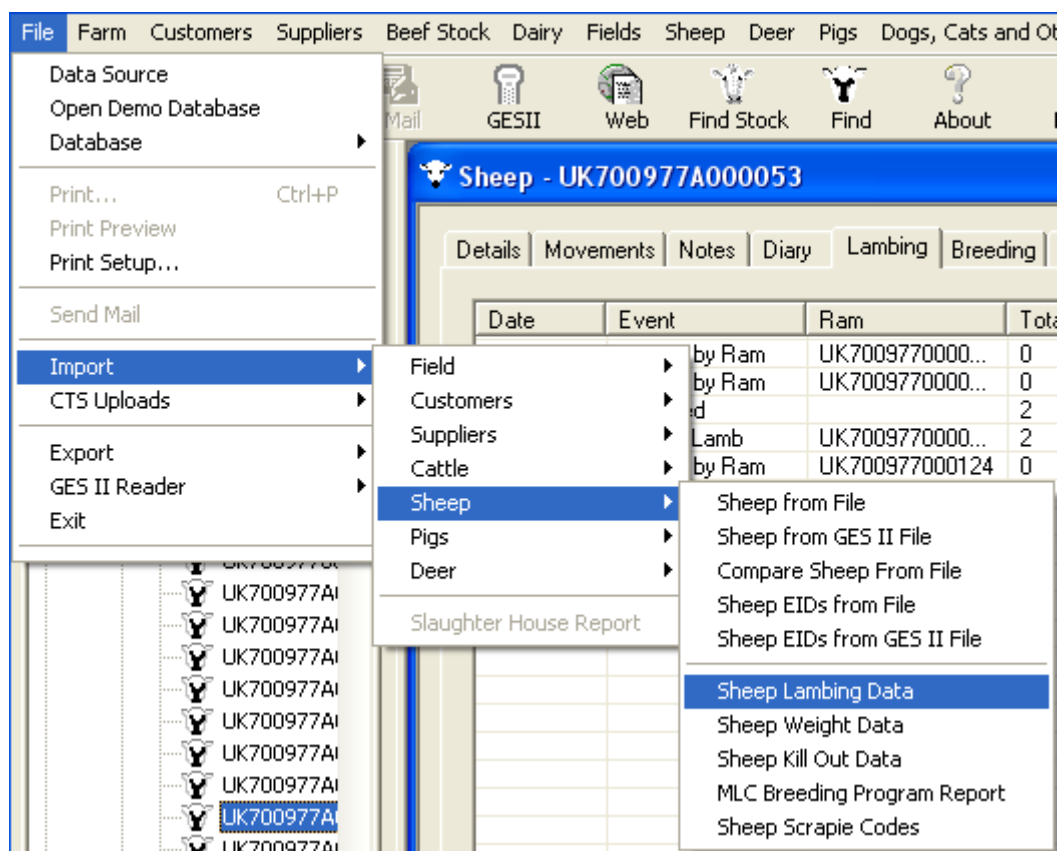
1. Turn the Reader On.
2. Select 'Lambing' from the definitions (see page 16)
3. Select Option 2 – Control





Back in the Office

To import the lambing data select 'Sheep Lambing Data'



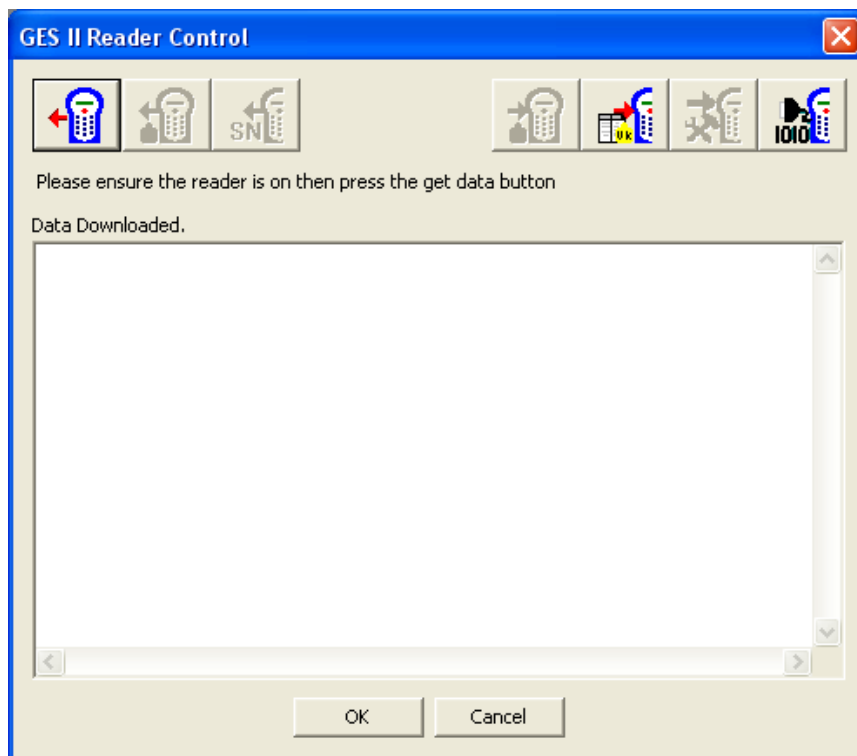
The Group Import Window is then displayed.



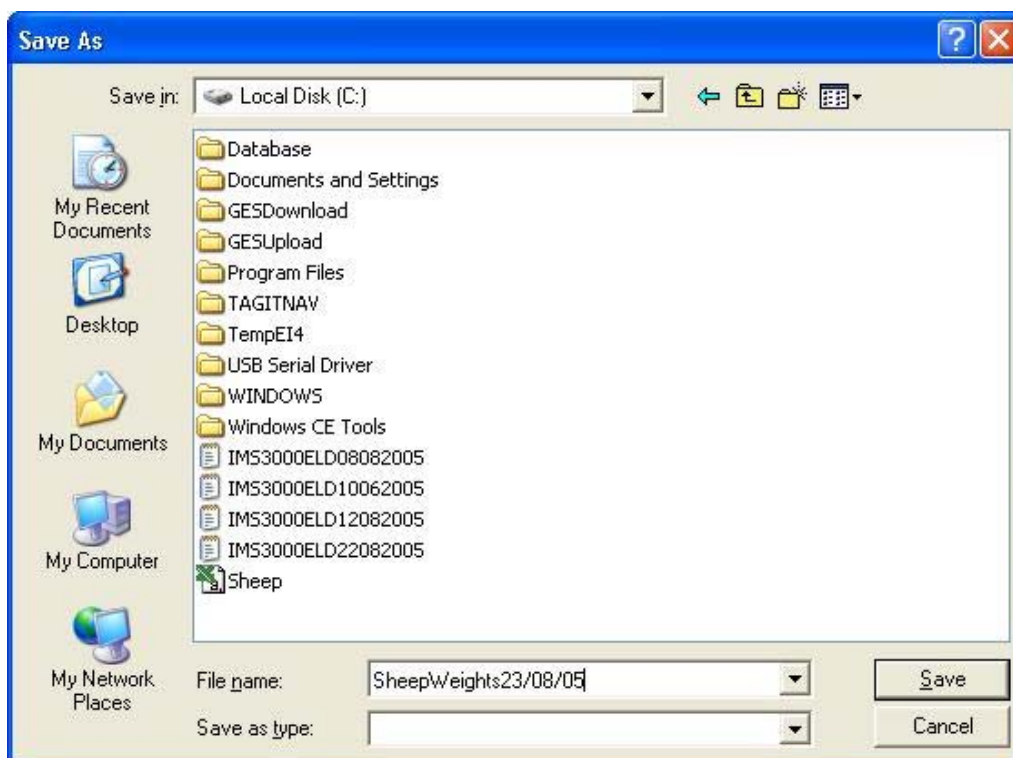
Click on the GESII Reader Button to open the GESII Reader Control panel.

Ensure the reader is 'ON' and displaying '1.Read'

Click on the download data button.



A save window will appear, it is not necessary to save this data but if you want to it is recommended that you use a meaningful name, e.g. 'Lambings23/08/05'



The lambing import dialog is then displayed.

Import Sheep Lambing from file.

Summary of file contents.

Accessing File C:\GESDownload\Cannon Lambing 2005\BS110310.txt
 Total Columns = 17
 Column Number 1, Name = ETN
 Column Number 2, Name = Date
 Column Number 3, Name = F0
 Column Number 4, Name = F1
 Column Number 5, Name = F2
 Column Number 6, Name = F3

Ewe Ear Tag No: [COLUMN1-ETN] Select which column of the import file will be used as the value for the animal details. The available columns are extracted from the file, so all you need to do is select which column contains the appropriate information.

Date: [COLUMN2-Date]

Ram Ear Tag No: []

Birth Assistance: [COLUMN3-F0]

Lamb 1 Lamb 2 Lamb 3 Lamb 4

ETN: [COLUMN4-F1] ETN: [COLUMN7-F4] ETN: [COLUMN10-F7] ETN: []

Sex: [COLUMN5-F2] Sex: [COLUMN8-F5] Sex: [COLUMN11-F8] Sex: []

Breed: [COLUMN6-F3] Breed: [COLUMN9-F6] Breed: [COLUMN12-F9] Breed: []

☒ Automatically Create Lamb Records ☐ Add Flock Prefix

OK Cancel

The column settings are automatically configured, but please check that they look correct.

If you wish to create the lambs as individual animal records in the system automatically tick the check box. If the lamb tag numbers do not contain the flock prefix you may also add this automatically.

Click 'OK' to import the lambing records. A report of the added records will be produced and displayed.

AFTER IMPORTING LAMBING RECORDS IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO UPDATE THE LAMB EIDS EITHER FROM THE READER OR THE TAG BUCKET – SEE UPDATING ANIMAL EIDS

Animal Tracking and Identifying Lost animals

One of the major benefits of EID is that by recording animals individually we have the chance to identify missing stock and also audit stock more efficiently.

To that end every time animal information is imported into Farm IT 3000 from an EID reader we record the EID reading, allowing us to produce a report of animals not seen on the farm. This information is displayed on the animals individual records 'EID Audit' tab.

Date	ETN	EID	Reference
02/02/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Sheep Stock Comparison
01/04/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Lambing Data Import
09/05/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
09/05/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
31/05/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
31/05/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
25/08/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
19/09/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
08/10/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
01/11/2004	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
19/01/2005	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
04/02/2005	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Animal Selection Import
31/03/2005	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Lambing Data Import
14/06/2005	UK700977A000...	A0000000964000000481788	Stock Weights Import

FarmIT 3000 also provides a specific 'Stock Audit View', which will identify the last reading for all animals on the farm and a report of the last EID reading thus ensuring you can identify lost sheep as soon as possible. You may then update the status of missing sheep as lost or lost presumed dead.

Analysis and Reporting

Collecting the data is of course only the first part and we don't want to collect data just to satisfy the government. It is essential that we can analyse the data and then make management decisions to improve our farm and its profitability.

FarmIT 3000 comes with a wide range of reports and a number of analysis tools for this job. The data is also stored in a standard Microsoft Access Database that you may analyse using other tools.

The reports have been designed to meet the requirements for Farm Assurance and Organic Schemes, with FarmIT 3000 being supported by the Soil Association and Organic farmers and Growers.

The followings samples show data from Cannon Farm in Mid Wales, and is shown by kind consent of Mr Nigel Elgar who has been recording with FarmIT 3000 for over 3 years. Nigel has over 1000 breeding ewes and produces over 1200 lambs a year. The reports shown are directly available within the software and require no other manipulation other than clicking on the reports menu. These samples show only a small selection of the reports available and more and better tools are being added. Please check the Farm IT Help for details.

Breeding Performance.

The breeding analysis tool may be used to analyse both dam (ewe or cow) and sire (Ram or Bull) performance, in regard to number of offspring, number of medical treatments, breeding index and average weights of offspring (based on weighing points). You may also filter the listed animals based on breed, sire, birth status age and scrapie code (sheep only).

Breeding Analysis

Select / Modify Animals

Add To Management Group

☐ Display with Farm Tag

Sire: Any

Breed: Any

Birth Status: Any

Age: Any

Scrapie: Any

Total Animals: 914 - Min Index = -23, Max Index = 312, Avg Index = 130

Ear Tag No	Breed	Age	Med Index	Index	Traits	SPC	Birth St.	Born	Rams	Ewes	Birth Weight	8 Week Weight	20 Week Wei...
UK7009770052G	WHSF	5	10	206	0		0: 0	6	4	2	0.00	23.25	27.75
UK7009770289G	WHSF	5	10	227	0		0: 0	5	3	2	3.31	19.76	25.75
UK7009770269G	WHSF	5	10	79	0	ARR/ARR	0: 0	5	2	3	3.26	19.10	22.50
UK7009770144B	WHSF	6	10	144	0			5	2	3	2.94	22.38	22.50
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	134	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	4	0	0.00	15.00	15.33
UK700977Z986	WHSF	4	10	113	0	ARR/ARR	Single	4	2	2	0.00	24.00	25.00
UK700977Z889	WHSF	4	10	149	0	ARR/ARR	Single	4	3	1	4.05	20.75	25.67
UK700977Z853	WHSF	4	10	97	0	ARR/AHQ	Single	4	1	3	3.25	18.75	24.17
UK700977Z812	WHSF	4	9	87	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	1	3	3.37	18.17	21.00
UK700977Z778	WHSF	4	10	35	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	2	2	3.53	19.83	19.75
UK700977Z643	WHSF	4	10	128	0	ARR/ARQ	Twin	4	2	2	0.00	18.51	22.50
UK700977Z582	WHSF	4	11	46	0	ARR/ARQ	Single	4	1	3	3.12	22.50	24.50
UK700977Z513	WHSF	4	10	136	0		0: 0	4	3	1	3.53	22.75	25.50
UK700977Z318	WHSF	4	10	135	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	1	3	3.04	20.25	23.67
UK700977Z1635	Welsh...	5	10	105	0		0: 0	4	2	2	0.00	28.38	0.00
UK700977Z1288	WHSF	4	10	140	0	ARR/ARR	0: 0	4	3	1	0.00	24.25	31.13
UK700977Z1210	WHSF	4	10	148	0	ARR/ARQ	0: 0	4	1	3	3.51	23.00	27.50
UK700977Z1043	WHSF	4	10	92	0	ARR/ARR	Single	4	3	1	0.00	20.50	26.50
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	81	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	1	3	3.56	16.25	17.50
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	132	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	1	3	3.69	17.75	23.17
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	131	0	ARR/ARR	Twin	4	0	4	3.84	0.00	0.00
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	174	0	ARR/ARQ	Twin	4	0	4	2.90	17.50	21.50
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	160	0	ARR/ARQ	Single	4	1	3	0.00	17.00	21.33
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	125	0	ARR/ARQ	Single	4	3	1	0.00	18.17	17.50
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	165	0	ARR/ARQ	Single	4	1	3	3.30	18.13	18.67
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	151	0		Twin	4	3	1	0.00	21.13	23.50
UK700977A000...	WHSF	3	10	124	0	ARR/ARQ	Twin	4	2	2	0.00	20.17	26.50

Close

Lambing Performance.

Breaks down the lambing records for analysis as a whole, providing year-by-year analysis of lambs born and lambing percentages.

Lambing Statistics										
Cannon Farm										
Sheep Lambing Statistics										
Report Dated: 26/08/2005 16:45:51										
Sheep lambing Statistics										
Year	Sires	Total Served	Scanned 0	Scanned 1	Scanned 2	Scanned 3(+)	Singles	Twins	Triplets(+)	Bc
2004	20	880	48 (5.76%)	428 (51.32%)	352 (42.21%)	6 (0.72%)	422 (52.62%)	373 (46.51%)	7 (0.87%)	11
2005	18	1005	123	496 (49.70%)	373 (37.37%)	6 (0.60%)	347 (51.10%)	326 (48.01%)	6 (0.88%)	96

Sire Performance.

Identifies the performance of sires including conception rates and lambing percentages for individual sires.

Sheep Breeding Ram Statistics										
Cannon Farm										
Sheep Breeding Ram Statistics										
Dated: 26/08/2005 16:52:02										
Lambing statistics for all breeding Rams										
	Breed	AI	Total Served	Singles	Twins	Triplets(+)	Total Born	Total Lost	Conception %	Lambing %
977000121	WHSF		100	42 (52.50%)	36 (45.00%)	2 (2.50%)	115 (95.83%)	5 (4.17%)	80.00	115.00
977000096R	WHSF		98	37 (49.33%)	38 (50.67%)	0 (0.00%)	107 (94.69%)	6 (5.31%)	76.53	109.18
977000125	WHSF		100	31 (45.59%)	36 (52.94%)	1 (1.47%)	105 (99.06%)	1 (0.94%)	68.00	105.00
977000097R	WHSF		100	43 (55.84%)	33 (42.86%)	1 (1.30%)	105 (93.75%)	7 (6.25%)	77.00	105.00
977000123	WHSF		100	25 (44.64%)	30 (53.57%)	1 (1.79%)	86 (97.73%)	2 (2.27%)	56.00	86.00
977000124	WHSF		100	27 (47.37%)	30 (52.63%)	0 (0.00%)	86 (98.85%)	1 (1.15%)	57.00	86.00
950C106	WHSF		89	26 (50.00%)	26 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)	73 (93.59%)	5 (6.41%)	58.43	82.02
950Z158	WHSF		80	47 (77.05%)	14 (22.95%)	0 (0.00%)	66 (88.00%)	9 (12.00%)	76.25	82.50
977000332C	WHSF		42	13 (38.24%)	21 (61.76%)	0 (0.00%)	54 (98.18%)	1 (1.82%)	80.95	128.57
210300598	Meatline		274	12 (38.71%)	19 (61.29%)	0 (0.00%)	50 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	11.31	18.25
950C152	WHSF		100	22 (75.86%)	7 (24.14%)	0 (0.00%)	33 (91.67%)	3 (8.33%)	29.00	33.00
892100	Texel		156	5 (23.81%)	15 (71.43%)	1 (4.76%)	32 (84.21%)	6 (15.79%)	13.46	20.51
15314C	UNKNOWN	Yes	43	3 (30.00%)	7 (70.00%)	0 (0.00%)	17 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	23.26	39.53
992003	BADGERFACE		13	3 (33.33%)	6 (66.67%)	0 (0.00%)	15 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	69.23	115.38
210300773	Meatline		300	1 (20.00%)	4 (80.00%)	0 (0.00%)	7 (77.78%)	2 (22.22%)	1.67	2.33
89299	Texel		198	3 (60.00%)	2 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)	7 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2.53	3.54
	UNKNOWN		0	4 (80.00%)	1 (20.00%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (50.00%)	3 (50.00%)	0.00	0.00
977000054R	WHSF		43	1 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (100.00%)	2.33	0.00
977A000150	WHSF		43	2 (66.67%)	1 (33.33%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	6.98	0.00

Treatments

Treatment reports are available in both summary and detail

Medicines and Chemicals Summary of Usage			
Date Period:	This Year	Start Date:	01/01/2005
		Finish Date:	01/01/2006
Medical and Chemical Treatments Summary			
Report Dated: 26/08/2005			
Summary report of the application of the medicines and chemicals on the farm between 01-01-2005 00:00:00 and 31-12-2005 23:59:59			
Product	Qty Used	Unit	Batch Number
CALCIJECT 20 CM	250.00	ml	4492-70
CALCIJECT 20 CMP	680.00	ml	3393-70
CALJECT PMD	800.00	ml	1111428660
CALJECT PMD	400.00	ml	417572
COMBIVIT	50.00	ml	410281
COMBIVIT	7.50	ml	410281:2
CROVECT	15540.00	ml	P674/152
Drontal Plus	3.00	tablet	1082959337
Drontal Plus	8.00	tablet	KP02XVR
ESTRUMATE	1.50	ml	1119359093
FASINEX	1298.00	ml	1105454937
FASINEX 5%	15424.00	ml	34861

Problems and Diseases Analysis

Problems and diseases are captured as part of the treatment and death records and allow us to analyse sick deaths and treatments year upon year.

Disease and Problem Analysis

Date Period: Last Year Start Date: 01/01/2006 Finish Date: 31/12/2007

Problem: Calcium Deficiency Add To Management Group Display with Farm Tag

Sire: Any Breed: Any Status: Any Class: Any Scrapie: Any

Total Animals: 23, On Holding: 1, Total Deaths = 1 (Treated = 0, Untreated = 1), Total Treatments = 29, Average Treatments per Animal = 1

Ear Tag No	Breed	DOB	DOD	Age ...	Status	Problem	Last Treated	Ram	Ewe	SPC	Trea...	Prog...	Prog...
UK70097700215	WH5F	01-04-1998	04-02-2006	94	Lost Presumed D...	Calcium Deficiency	24-03-2005			ARR/...	2	2	0
UK700977RA9	Welsh ...	01-04-1997	29-12-2007	128	Lost Presumed D...	Calcium Deficiency	19-02-2005				2	3	0
UK70097702088	WH5F	01-04-1999	05-01-2006	81	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	14-03-2005				1	2	0
UK7009770299G	WH5F	01-04-2000	04-02-2006	70	Lost Presumed D...	Calcium Deficiency	21-03-2005			ARR/...	1	4	0
UK7009770160B	WH5F	01-04-1999	04-02-2006	82	Lost Presumed D...	Calcium Deficiency	26-03-2005				1	0	0
UK7009770090G	WH5F	01-04-2000		99	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	12-02-2006				1	4	0
UK70097740742	WH5F	05-04-2004	11-03-2006	23	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	10-03-2006	UK7009...	UK70...	ARR/...	4	0	0
UK700977A000...	WH5F	10-04-2002	12-09-2006	53	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	28-02-2006				2	3	0
UK7009770111G	WH5F	01-04-2000	03-03-2006	71	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	01-03-2006			ARR/...	1	4	0
UK700977A000...	WH5F	04-04-2002		75	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	06-03-2006				2	4	0
UK7009770000...	WH5F	14-04-2001	22-05-2006	61	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	08-03-2006				1	2	0
UK700977A000...	WH5F	30-03-2002		76	On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	11-03-2006			ARR/...	1	7	0
UK700977Z1043	WH5F	19-04-2001	22-05-2006	61	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	19-03-2006			ARR/...	1	4	0
UK7009770291G	WH5F	01-04-2000	31-03-2006	71	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	24-03-2006				1	2	0
UK700977A000...	WH5F	30-03-2002	22-05-2006	50	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	24-03-2006				1	5	0
UK70097740940	WH5F	09-04-2004	21-05-2006	25	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	26-03-2006	UK7009...	UK70...	ARR/...	1	0	0
UK70097740762	WH5F	05-04-2004	22-05-2006	25	Slaughtered	Calcium Deficiency	27-03-2006	UK7009...	UK70...	ARR/...	1	2	0
UK700977A000...	WH5F	08-03-2002		69	Sold	Calcium Deficiency	31-03-2006			ARR/...	1	5	0
UK70097740379	WH5F	30-03-2004	08-04-2006	25	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	02-04-2006	UK7009...	UK70...	ARR/...	1	0	0
UK700977Z600	WH5F	11-04-2001		80	Sold	Calcium Deficiency	03-04-2006			ARR/...	1	4	0
UK700977A000...	WH5F	12-04-2002	18-04-2006	48	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	11-04-2006				1	2	0
UK7009770153G	WH5F	10-04-2000	26-04-2007	84	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	03-04-2007				1	5	0
UK7009770179G	WH5F	01-04-2000	07-04-2006	72	Died On Holding	Calcium Deficiency	07-04-2006			ARR/...	0	3	0

Weighing Analysis

Weighing analysis view allows us to analyse weights of lambs born, by sex, sire, birth status etc.

Weight Analysis

Date Period: No Selected Start Date: 01/01/1970 Finish Date: 01/01/1970

Animals Born: 2005 Select / Modify Animals Weighing Point: Show Animals Not Weighed

Sire: UK700977000100C Breed: WHSF Birth Status: Twin Sex: RAM Age: Any

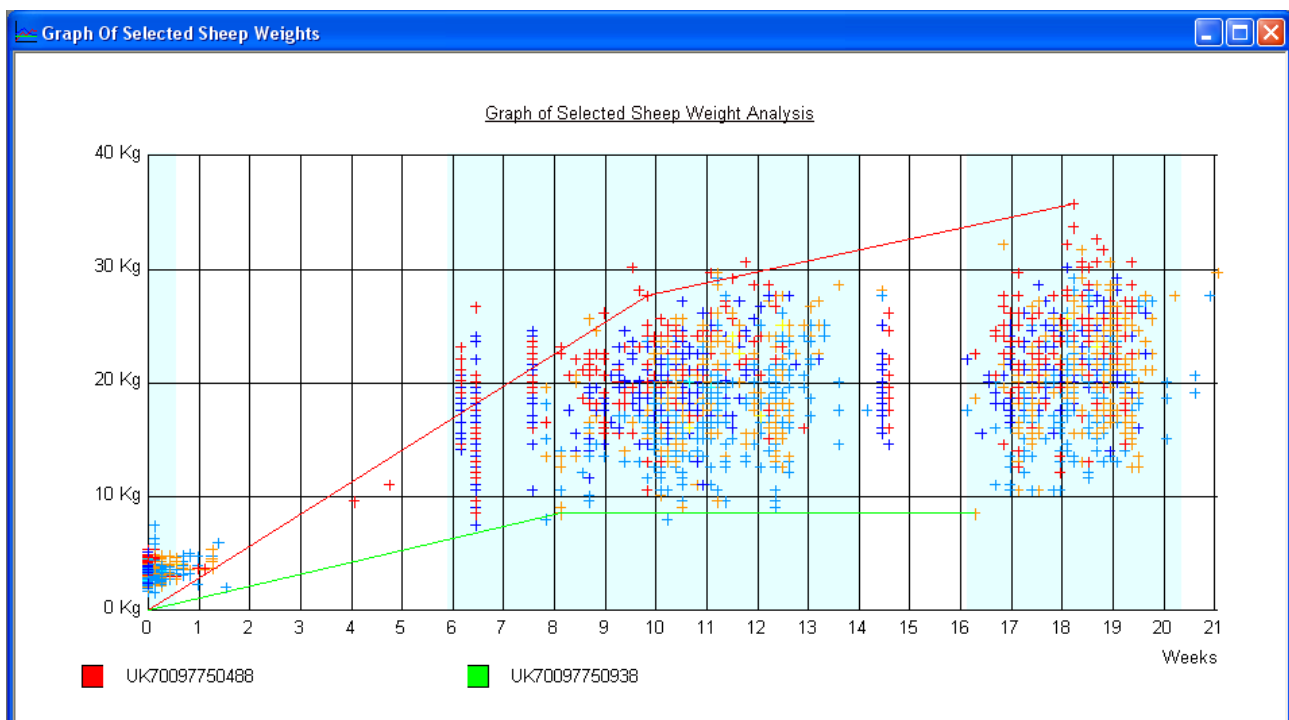
Total Animals = 22, Max Weight = 27.00 Kg, Min Weigh = 2.32 Kg, Av Weight = 20.06 KG, Max Gain = 0.28 Kg, Min Gain = 0.00 Kg, Avr Gain = 0.16 K

Ear Tag Number	Breed	DOB	Sex	Sire	Dam	Birth St.	Date	Prev WT	Last WT	Gain
UK70097750602	WHSF	07/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770125G	Twin	27/06/2005	UNKNOWN	22.50	22.5C
UK70097750617	WHSF	07/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770116G	Twin	24/06/2005	UNKNOWN	17.50	17.5C
UK70097750738	WHSF	10/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009772934	Twin	13/08/2005	25.00	27.00	2.00
UK70097750462	WHSF	07/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770125G	Twin	13/08/2005	22.50	25.50	3.00
UK70097750079	WHSF	28/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770202G	Twin	13/08/2005	24.00	26.50	2.50
UK70097750416	WHSF	02/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009772702	Twin	13/08/2005	25.00	25.50	0.50
UK70097750175	WHSF	30/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009772986	Twin	13/08/2005	25.00	25.50	0.50
UK70097750088	WHSF	28/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000152	Twin	13/08/2005	24.00	25.00	1.00
UK70097750521	WHSF	05/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000162	Twin	13/08/2005	16.50	22.00	5.50
UK70097750173	WHSF	30/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977000069R	Twin	13/08/2005	23.50	23.00	-0.50
UK70097750618	WHSF	07/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770116G	Twin	13/08/2005	20.50	21.50	1.00
UK70097750041	WHSF	28/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770139B	Twin	13/08/2005	16.50	21.00	4.50
UK70097750006	WHSF	25/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000372	Twin	13/08/2005	24.00	21.00	-3.00
UK70097750075	WHSF	28/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009770024B	Twin	24/06/2005	3.43	13.00	9.57
UK70097750146	WHSF	30/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK70097701895	Twin	13/08/2005	15.50	20.00	4.50
UK70097750798	WHSF	11/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000663	Twin	13/08/2005	16.50	18.00	1.50
UK70097750084	WHSF	28/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000152	Twin	13/08/2005	15.00	18.50	3.50
UK70097750313	WHSF	02/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000173	Twin	13/08/2005	15.00	17.50	2.50
UK70097750315	WHSF	02/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000173	Twin	13/08/2005	17.50	17.00	-0.50
UK70097750810	WHSF	11/04/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000663	Twin	13/08/2005	14.50	15.00	0.50
UK70097750065	WHSF	27/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK700977A000190	Twin	13/08/2005	16.00	16.50	0.50
UK70097750037	WHSF	25/03/2005	RAM	UK700977000100C	UK7009772393	Twin	25/03/2005	UNKNOWN	2.32	2.32

Close

Weighing Graphs

Graphical analysis identifies the spread of weights, lambs are shown based on their age at the time of weighing, individuals may be picked out and viewed by double clicking on the cross.



EID Audit Trail And Missing Animals

On large farms it is very difficult identifying missing or lost animals, and given that sheep do go missing whether dead or not, means we need a method of identifying lost animals and subsequently have a method for updating their records.

The Stock EID Audit view allows you to view all or selected animals, including their last EID reading date. It also allows you to tick off missing animals and update their records. Further more you may check the listed animals against any downloaded list of EID data, for example group selection records, movements or lambing data.

Stock Audit							
Date:	10/03/2006	Select / Modify Animals		Check Against List			
Right click animal to confirm loss, left click to confirm on holding.							
Ear Tag Number	Breed	DOB	Sex	Location	Last Reading	Lost	
☒ UK7009770001...	WHSF	28/03/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770002...	WHSF	29/03/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770002...	WHSF	29/03/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	Yes	
☒ UK7009770002...	WHSF	29/03/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	Yes	
☒ UK7009770004...	WHSF	06/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770005...	Perendale/Texel	06/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770005...	WHSF	09/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770005...	WHSF	08/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770006...	WHSF	08/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770006...	WHSF	10/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770007...	Perendale/Texel	10/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770007...	WHSF	11/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770007...	WHSF	13/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770007...	WHSF	14/04/2003	RAM	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770009...	Perendale/Texel	01/05/2003	EWE	Old shed	13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770009...	WHSF	01/04/2003	RAM		13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770009...	WHSF	01/04/2003	RAM		13-04-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770000...	WHSF	20/03/2003	EWE		09-05-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770000...	WHSF	23/03/2003	RAM		09-05-2004	No	
☒ UK7009770000...	WHSF	23/03/2003	RAM		09-05-2004	No	
Total Animals:	2355	On Holding:	18	Unknown:	2335	Lost:	2
						Update Missing Animals As Lost	
						Update Missing Animals As Lost/Died	
Close							

FACT SHEET

1. What is EID

EID stands for **E**lectronic **I**dentification by means of electronic transponders and electronic reading devices that energise the transponder, which in turn transmits its code to the reader.

2. Hand Held and Static Readers

There are basically two type of reader: Hand held - designed for you to walk around with (pocket sized - almost) and static readers designed to work with races. Static readers have bigger antenna and therefore a greater range, and operate with mains or a large battery. Hand holds are normally powered by a rechargeable battery.

3. Unique Number

Each EID Transponder is manufactured with a unique number, which is 25 characters long. However only the last 16 is normally used, with the rest being '0'. Some hand held readers will display all 25 numbers, some only 16. A typical number would look like this

A0000000940000000067563

4. EIDS and Ear Tag Numbers

The EID number could be used to identify the animal on its own, however it would be incredibly difficult to write down such numbers and we humans may not remember them. Also we have already devised a system for tagging our sheep revolving around the flock number. We therefore have to link the EID to the Ear Tag Number (what is actually printed on the ear tags) in our computer systems. Some of the readers allow you to create this link by typing in the ear tag number against a read EID. This is then held in the readers memory and displayed when you read the animal again. The EIDs and ear tag numbers can then be downloaded from the reader to a computer or uploaded to the reader from the computer.

5. Tag Buckets

When you buy electronic ear tags printed with individual ear tag numbers, most tag manufacturers will provide you with a list of the ear tag numbers and associated EIDs. This is often referred to as the 'Tag Bucket' but in reality tends to be either an Excel spread sheet or Comma Separated Text File (.CSV).

6. Computer

Most of the readers are designed to communicate with your computer and come with there own basic software for loading tags and extracting data. Most farming software now support direct communication with at least one reader, but there is no standard and just because your software talk to one reader does not mean it will talk to another manufacturers reader.

7. Identification and More.

The basic aim of the EID reader is merely to read the EID, the more sophisticated readers however will also let you then type in other information for example, weights, lambing data or treatments. This however depends on the Setup of the readers which themselves are programmable and the

exact routines provided to you may vary. Some readers only allow you to enter numbers whilst others will allow you to enter letters as well.

8. Reading Range

The range of a hand held readers is relatively short i.e. for example 20 - 30 cm max because of the limited size of their antennas. Static readers tend to have a larger range because they can accommodate larger antenna - but the exact range will depend on the model.

9. Bolus or Tag

The EID transponder is a small electronic device encapsulated in glass. It measures around 2cm long and is approximately 5mm in diameter. Whether in a tag or a bolus the device is the same. The bolus is normally ceramic with the transponder in the centre and comes in a variety of sizes. Tags look exactly the same as normal tags except they are a little thicker to accommodate the transponder.

10. Tag Loss

Tag loss in sheep will ultimately depend on the design of the tag. EID has little effect on this. EID tag manufacturers have however made considerable improvements in the tag design with very good results. The idea that tagging lambs is a waste of time because the tag will brake and come out is simply not true.

11. Bolus Loss

Bolus loss depends on the size of the bolus, however small sheep cannot be bloused with large boluses. It is normal to bolus ewe-lambs at around 18 months if using larger boluses. Bolus retention is around 98%.

12. Reading a Bolus compared to a tag

Bloused animals may be more difficult to read with a hand held device than ear tagged animals as you have to bend down and it can be awkward in a race. To overcome this most manufacturers provide stick antenna extensions for the hand held readers, which can ease the work considerable, one possible downside being that you then need an extra hand.

13. Reader Costs

Hand held readers start from around £350 and go up, but you do not necessarily get more functionality for more money.

14. Tag Costs

Tags at present cost around 50p more than a normal tag, but vary between manufacturers.

15. Stick Antenna

Stick antenna are available for most hand held readers, they are simply EID antennas incorporated into poles allowing you to reader the EID of an animal more easily, for example when reading a bolus.