



FARMER LED, FARMER DRIVEN

REPORT












**Cattle & Sheep
Recording Software
What's Right for Your
Farm**

MEETING REPORT

It's No Different from Buying a Tractor!

Ask yourself these question:

-  Do you need it, and will you use it?
-  Who will be using it?
-  What do you want it to do?
-  Can it do the jobs you want it to do?
-  Do you need a basic model, or any additional features?
-  Will it fit with existing machinery such as EID recorders or weigh cells?
-  How much does it cost and what are the on-going costs?
-  Can you get a free demo?
-  Is there good aftersales care and support?

Do your homework and research. It is worthwhile speaking to friends or neighbours to ask what they are using and how they find it.

"After sales service and support is a vital consideration. You need have someone you contact if you have any issues or get stuck. Having contact with other farmers using the same system is also very helpful – sometimes there can be a glitch with software and you can share hints and tips."

Andrew McFadzean – South Mains Farm, Maybole



Having a good support network can help you overcome any glitches.

Key Considerations



FEATURES

Write a list of all the essential features you will need.

Do you need fertility reports or in-depth profit analysis?

Is imperative the software links with your current weighing machines?

Do you need a basic package or more features?

COMPATABILITY

Check the software you are looking at is compatible with the rest of your record keeping on your farm such as EID readers, weighers and passport barcode scanners.

Some livestock management programs also link with accounts programs which can save you valuable data entry time and ensure accuracy of data.

Does the app work without internet connection and sync when in signal?

MOBILE ACCESS

Many livestock management software solutions offer mobile applications or cloud-based platforms, allowing farmers to access and update data from anywhere using their smartphones or tablets.

If this is important to you, make sure the software you choose has an optional mobile app.

MOVEMENT OF CURRENT DATA

If you are moving from a different software supplier, always check if parts of your existing data can be moved across. You don't want to lose any precious information and have to start from scratch.

SUPPORT, SUPPORT, SUPPORT!

Always check what software support is available. You want to choose a company who has an expert team based in the UK that you can easily contact whenever you inevitably encounter questions.

It may also be worth checking how many updates they do a year to ensure the program will always be current.

NOTHING IS PERFECT

Computer software is always a moving feast by its very nature!

It will never be 100 per cent perfect and continuously evolves with software updates.

Remember: you only get out what you put in!



INFORMATION

Edinburgh University have launched a [website](#) for training people in agriculture to use the databases connected with tech equipment out there on the market.

Links to Software

[iLivestock](#)

[Farm Solutions](#)

[Farm Matters](#)

[Breedr](#)

[Herdwatch/Flockwatch](#)

[Landmark Systems \(Sheep/Cattle Data\)](#)

[Agriiweb](#)

[SUM-iT](#)

[Shearwell Data \(Farmworks\)](#)

If you want to find out more about using data, your farm businesses can sign up to be part of the Monitor Farm Programme in Scotland (2022-2026).

To find out more visit [monitorfarms](#)

The Farm Advisory Service (FAS) in Scotland has useful resources about farm technology and runs topic specific event on farm and online. To find our more visit [fas.scot](#)





MONITOR FARM Scotland

To find out more or to sign up, please contact:

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Initiative supported by:



Scottish Government
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