

Going into Goats

Module 3

Published 2022

Industry obligations



Image: Emily Watts (Catlok Goats)

What to do?

Aside from the standard obligations that come with running a business, such as taxation, occupational health and safety and employment laws, goat enterprises have an additional set of obligations and codes of practice to which they must adhere. These requirements work to ensure the integrity of the products the Australian goat industry produces by guaranteeing the quality and safety of products, which ultimately enables continued market access and customer confidence for industry.

Specifically, these requirements are focused around:

- animal welfare
- livestock health and disease management
- identification, movement and sale of goats
- farming goats
- quality assurance programs
- biosecurity – biological threats to your enterprise.

Meeting your requirements under the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program and National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) will help ensure you meet these obligations listed.

LPA and NLIS are the two key programs that make up Australia's red meat integrity system, which guarantees the quality and safety of red meat products to ensure continued market access and customer confidence for industry. Under state and territory legislation, it is compulsory for producers to comply with NLIS. Accreditation with the LPA program is voluntary but it is highly recommended as LPA NVDs can only be accessed by LPA-accredited producers. Many processors will also only accept livestock from LPA-accredited properties. More information on integrity system programs is available in *Tool 3.7 and the Integrity system requirements for goats* section of this document.

Regardless of LPA accreditation status, however, all Australian producers must abide by the national legislation and the legislation in their state or territory around animal welfare, food safety and biosecurity. Many of these obligations are outlined in the module below, but producers need to be mindful of their specific state and territory legislation and obligations, which may vary. Contacting your [state or territory department of agriculture or primary industries](#) is one way you can check your obligations as a goat producer in your locality.

Complying with the obligations outlined below will not only aid the success of your business but will also help ensure the Australian goat industry can continue to maintain access to key markets while safeguarding its premium prices and reputation.

How to do it?

Animal welfare

◆ Animal welfare legislation

Each state and territory has its own legislation relating to animal welfare. This legislation aims to prevent cruelty and promote responsible animal management.

◆ National Codes of Practice

There are a range of National Codes of Practice that have been developed to provide guidance on animal welfare. Those codes of practice that relate to goat producers include the:

- Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Livestock – The Goat
- Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Livestock – Animals at Saleyards
- Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Livestock – Feral Livestock Animals.

These model codes present guidelines on animal welfare but may be modified at state level to suit the specific requirements of the different states and territories.

To find out the details of the specific laws and codes of practice relating to animal welfare in your state or territory start with the state department of agriculture or primary industries. A list of useful contacts is provided in *Tool 3.1*.

◆ Australian Industry Standards and Guidelines for Goats

In 2016, the Australian Industry Standards and Guidelines for Goats was released to provide industry welfare standards and guidelines for goat production in Australia that reflect contemporary scientific knowledge, provide competent animal husbandry advice and meet mainstream community expectations.

When producers become accredited with the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program, they agree to abide by the standards and guidelines in this document.

This document also aims to provide a template for a nationally uniform regulatory approach to goat welfare that could be developed in the future.

The Australian Industry Standards and Guidelines for Goats is available on the [ISC website](#).

◆ Livestock Production Assurance (LPA)

LPA is industry's on-farm assurance program delivered by ISC. LPA-accredited producers must adhere to the LPA rules and standards to ensure on-farm management fulfils customer expectations around food safety and ethical production.

One of the seven key requirements of the LPA rules and standards concerns animal welfare. To meet the animal welfare requirement of the LPA program, accredited goat producers must follow the Australian Industry Standards and Guidelines for Goats. More information on how [to meet the animal welfare requirements](#) of the LPA program.

◆ Other resources

Other resources that provide standards and guidelines on goat welfare include:

- model codes of practice or standards and guidelines for livestock species, saleyards, livestock processing (slaughter) establishments
- [Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Goat](#)
- [the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock](#)
- [the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines - Land Transport of Livestock](#)
- [MLA's Fit to Load Guide](#)

Livestock health and disease management

Contact your local veterinarian for help with sick or injured livestock.

Disease management is important to ensure livestock health.

Notifiable diseases are diseases that are of significance for one or more of the following reasons:

- the disease is exotic to Australia
- the disease is present in Australia, but not in a particular state
- the disease is subject to a particular control or eradication program
- the disease has special significance for export or other reasons
- the disease can infect humans.

Check your state or territory department of agriculture or primary industries website for a list of notifiable diseases affecting goats in your state. Tool 3.3 contains a national list of notifiable diseases for goats and other terrestrial animals.

If you suspect that an animal has a notifiable disease then you must report this to a local veterinarian or your state or territory's department of primary industries or agriculture. Refer to your state or territory department of agriculture or primary industries for more information or call the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888.

More information about goat diseases can also be found in *Module 6 – Husbandry*.

The most significant obligation for any meat industry is to produce a food that is safe for human consumption. Every producer must undertake steps to ensure that animal treatments are administered in a safe and responsible manner that minimises the risk of chemical residues and physical hazards. Delivering safe and responsible animal treatments is a requirement of the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) quality assurance program, that provides access to LPA National Vendor Declarations (NVDs). To deliver safe and responsible animal treatments in line with LPA requirements, producers must:

- regularly review and complete the [safe and responsible animal treatments checklist](#)
- document and file all [animal treatment](#) details

- complete a chemical user's course
- record when equipment used for livestock treatment is cleaned
- ensure they have written authorisation and directions for any off-label use of chemicals or drugs
- note animals that may have been exposed to physical contaminants such as broken needles.

LPA is one of the Australian red meat integrity system programs delivered by Integrity Systems Company (ISC). For more information about LPA, visit the [ISC website](#) or refer to Tool 3.7 for more information about ISC and its delivery of the LPA program as part of the red meat integrity system.

When feeding or administering animal treatments to goats, producers must also only use products that are legally registered for use in goats. This caution also applies to the use of any chemicals, such as herbicides, applied to areas where goats are grazing. If you are unsure about the suitability of a particular drug or chemical for use with goats, seek advice from a veterinarian or the product manufacturer.



Image: Emily Watts (Catlok Goats)

Integrity system requirements for goats

The Australian red meat integrity system combines livestock traceability with on-farm assurance to maintain the integrity and reputation of Australian red meat. This system underpins our livestock selling system and delivers customer confidence in the red meat products we produce.

Two key programs, delivered by ISC, form the foundations of the integrity system. These programs are:

- LPA— the Australian red meat industry's on-farm assurance program
- NLIS – Australia's system for the identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats.

These programs are connected through LPA National Vendor Declarations (LPA NVDs), which link on-farm assurance to livestock traceability. This makes LPA NVDs the legal document guaranteeing the quality, safety and traceability of Australian red meat products.

It is compulsory for Australian goat producers to comply with the requirements of the NLIS program. The NLIS is underpinned by state and territory legislation, which forms the regulatory framework for the system.

Accreditation through the LPA program is voluntary but it is highly recommended. Producers who are not LPA-accredited or who are withdrawn from the program are not able to buy or use LPA NVDs. Without an LPA NVD, your livestock may be rejected by a buyer or processor as most meat processors require livestock to be source from LPA-accredited properties.

To meet their integrity system requirements for LPA and NLIS, producers need to follow the obligations outlined below around the identification, sale and movement of goats as well as quality assurance. Further information on integrity system requirements is available on the [ISC website](#).

◆ Identification of goats

» NLIS and tagging requirements for goats

The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is Australia's system for the identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats. NLIS enhances Australia's ability to track livestock during disease and food safety incidents. The traceability of red meat products provided by NLIS also serves to ensure consumer trust in the industry.

The NLIS program is one of the key Australian red meat integrity system programs delivered by ISC. For more information on ISC and the integrity system, including NLIS, refer to Tool 3.7.

The National Livestock Identification System for Sheep and Goats commenced on 1 January 2006. The basic requirements of the scheme are as follows:

- All properties, including those with goats, must have a property identification code (PIC).
- All goat movements must be accompanied by a National Vendor Declaration or alternate documentation, as outlined in Tool 3.2 – Rules pertaining to the movement of goats.
- All goats must have an [approved NLIS tag](#) displaying the current owner's registered PIC and the NLIS logo before moving from a property unless a tagging exemption applies. In all states except Victoria, approved NLIS devices for goats include either an electronic (RFID) device or a visual (NLISID) tag. In Victoria, all kids born since 1 January 2017 must be fitted with individual RFID tags before they leave their PIC of birth (unless an exemption applies).
- When moving goats that are non-vendor bred animals and which have not been previously tagged, post-breeder devices must be applied (unless there is a tagging exemption for the movement).

» Tag free movement options

Exceptions to the above rules for identifying goats apply in some states and territories when:

- harvested rangeland goats (as defined in the NLIS Sheep and Goat Standards 2021) are consigned direct for slaughter or to one registered goat depot prior to slaughter
- dairy and earless goats are being moved between properties (P2P movement only).

In these instances, goats are not required to be tagged. Check your state or territory requirements for tagging goats to see if these tagging exemptions apply to your enterprise.

Note that dairy and earless goats will remain exempt from tagging for movements between properties (P2P movement) until suitable alternative identification methods are found, but must still be tagged if going to a saleyard or abattoir.

NVDs must be completed recording the details of animals exempt from tagging.

This is a national policy developed with input from industry and state governments. It is subject to regular review and therefore may change over time. Its implementation may also vary between states. For further updates on the NLIS program [contact ISC](#), or your [state or territory department of agriculture or primary industries](#).

◆ Movement of goats

» NVDs

Any goats to be moved off a property must be accompanied by a current version LPA NVD and Waybill, or the alternative movement document used in your state if you are not LPA-accredited.

The LPA NVD is a signed, legal document that guarantees the safety of red meat products and enables the traceability of those products along each link in the value chain. Tool 3.4 gives an example of the current version LPA NVD.

This document connects the two key programs of the integrity system – LPA (providing on-farm assurance) and NLIS (providing lifetime traceability for livestock) – to ensure market access, food safety and the premium reputation of Australian red meat products. This [video](#) and [flyer](#) provide further explanation of how the NVD connects these two core integrity system programs.

To access LPA NVDs, you must be LPA-accredited. LPA is the red meat industry's on farm assurance program delivered by ISC that underpins market access and consumer confidence in Australian red meat.

The NVD is a declaration of compliance with LPA rules and standards that means producers can stand by what they sell.

Producers who are not LPA-accredited can move or sell livestock using the alternative movement documentation required by their state or territory. However, without an LPA NVD, your livestock may be rejected by a buyer or processor as most meat processors require livestock to be sourced from LPA-accredited properties.

Producers can use hard copy NVD books or the electronic National Vendor Declaration (eNVD) system to complete their NVD. The eNVD system is the fast, free and easy way to complete all livestock consignment paperwork digitally, including NVDs.

Log in to your LPA account via myMLA and follow the instructions in [this video](#) to complete an eNVD. Alternatively, log in to myMLA to access MLA and ISC's [catalogue of products and services](#) and order your hard copy NVD books. Producers should note that both hard copy and electronic NVDs have the producer's unique PIC printed on them and they can only be used for movements from that PIC. When moving goats from another PIC such as an agistment paddock, an NVD from that PIC must be used. In this circumstance check with your state or territory authority on what is required. More about myMLA or [logging in to your LPA account via myMLA](#).

For more information on the LPA program refer to Quality Assurance or visit the [LPA webpage](#) on the ISC website. Tool 3.7 also provides more information on LPA and the red meat integrity system delivered by ISC.

» National Goat Health Declarations

Movement of goats between states requires additional documentation. Goats must be accompanied by a completed National Goat Health Declaration.

Tool 3.5 provides an example of a National Goat Health Declaration. Some states and territories also have extra conditions and rules pertaining to the movement of goats across their borders. The rules pertaining to the movement of goats, *Tool 3.2* provides some guidance on this matter, but you should also contact your state department of agriculture or primary industries for clarification.

» Import of goats into WA

A completed [LB1 form \(Parts 1 and 2\)](#) must accompany goats being moved into WA.

All goats being moved into WA must meet WA's import requirements outlined in [LB1 Form \(Part 3\)](#), which must be read before completing Parts 1 and 2 of the form.

» NLIS and movement of goats

Each time any livestock, including goats, are moved off a PIC, a livestock movement must be recorded on the NLIS database. Movements of goats with visual NLIS tags are recorded using a mob-based movement on the database. In Victoria, goats must be tagged with eID/RFID tags and [movements recorded for all individual devices](#). In other states, goats with eID/RFID devices can be transferred using either the [mob based](#) or [individual device](#) method.

The buyer or receiver of livestock is legally responsible for completing the transfer on the NLIS database. The exception to this is that if livestock are bought, sold or moved through a saleyard, the transfer in the NLIS database must be completed by the saleyard.

When agents or third-party providers complete NLIS transfers on a producer's behalf, it is still the responsibility of the receiver to confirm this has been completed in the NLIS database.

However, to ensure the traceability of livestock and maintain their LPA accreditation, producers should always ensure all livestock transfers on and off their PICs have been completed on the NLIS database. [More information](#) on responsibilities when completing NLIS transfers.

NLIS accounts are free to own and operate and should be checked frequently – [learn how to log in or create your NLIS account](#). ISC's range of [NLIS how-to guides](#) are also available for more help with using your NLIS account.

◆ Sale of goats

All goat sales are subject to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)'s goat levy, and managed by the Levy Revenue Service (LRS) This is a cents-per-head charge and is levied on every transaction. Levies that are collected are then apportioned to Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), the National Residue Survey and Animal Health Australia and is used to assist in industry research and development, marketing, monitoring and market access activities. For more information on transaction levies, refer to *Tool 3.6*.

All goats offered for sale must be accompanied by a current version LPA NVD and Waybill, or the alternative movement document used in your state if you are not LPA-accredited.

◆ Quality assurance

» Livestock Production Assurance (LPA)

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program assures on-farm livestock management of biosecurity, animal welfare and food safety. LPA-accredited producers must adhere to the program's seven key requirements outlined in the LPA rules and standards, which includes:

1. Property risk assessments
2. Safe and responsible animal treatments
3. Stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments
4. Preparation for dispatch of livestock
5. Livestock transactions and movements
6. Biosecurity
7. Animal welfare.

LPA accreditation is the official stamp of quality for red meat products. Being LPA-accredited means that the producer is exercising best practice for producing safe and ethically produced red meat on-farm and can provide the evidence to demonstrate this.

The Livestock Production Assurance Program supports the declarations that are made on the LPA National Vendor Declaration (NVD) and Waybill. To access LPA NVDs to transport livestock, you must be accredited with the LPA program.

The LPA program is one of the key Australian red meat integrity system programs delivered by Integrity Systems Company (ISC).

More information about program requirements is provided in further sections of this guide (see *Animal welfare, livestock health and disease management, food safety and biosecurity*).

The [LPA webpage](#) on the ISC website also provides additional information on the LPA program. For more information on ISC and the integrity system, refer to Tool 3.7.



Farming goats

Some local governments have rules and regulations relating to goat farming. If you are considering setting up a goat enterprise, you should contact your local shire or council to find out if there are any restrictions or special conditions that you need to meet.

The only state governments that place restrictions on goat farming are Western Australia and South Australia.

◆ Western Australia

» Pastoral zone

- Harvested rangeland goats can only be domesticated on pastoral properties that have been approved for the purpose by the Pastoral Lands Board (PLB) and meet the specifications of the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA). The properties will be required to operate according to the [Best Management Practice Guidelines for Goats in the Pastoral Areas of Western Australia](#).
- Farmed goats are only allowed in specific areas within the pastoral zone, as determined by the PLB.
- Sale or movement of harvested rangeland goats from pastoral areas is subject to rules set out by the Agricultural Protection Board (APB).
- Sale or movement of domesticated goats from pastoral areas requires that the goats are fence trained, individually identified and are transported with the appropriate waybills.

» Agricultural zone

- No permits are required for the farming of domesticated goats.
- However, if sourcing domesticated goats (previously harvested rangeland) from the pastoral zone, they must come from properties that have been approved by the PLB as domestic goat grazing enterprises.
- Feral goats can only be brought into agricultural areas, for the purposes of domestication and farming, under a permit issued by the Agricultural Protection Board (APB). These permits set out specific rules for the management of goats that are being introduced into agricultural areas.

◆ South Australia

- At the time of writing this document, goats are not allowed to be farmed in the pastoral region of South Australia.
- Goat farming is permitted in the agricultural regions.

Food safety – chemical residues

Quality assurance focuses on maximising product quality and safety. The previous section on animal health discussed the importance of responsible use of animal treatments. This included the importance of:

- using registered products
- adhering to instructions on the product label
- observing withholding periods (WHP)
- export slaughter intervals (ESI) and maintaining treatment records.

Off-label use of animal treatments should only be conducted under the direction of a veterinarian. These practices are vital to ensuring food safety. The LPA NVD and Waybill asks producers to declare that they are meeting these requirements.

Another important aspect is care with the use of supplementary feeds. Any supplements being fed to your animals should be free from harmful chemical residues. It is your responsibility to ensure that the feeds you provide to your stock are safe.

All introduced stock feeds should be accompanied by a commodity vendor declaration (CVD) to guarantee that the feed purchased is safe from chemical contamination.

Biosecurity – biological threats to your enterprise

Biosecurity relates to preventative measures designed to reduce the risk of transmission of infectious diseases, invasive pests or weeds.

Pests, weeds and diseases can threaten the livestock, pastures, trees and shrubs and water supply on your property.

LPA-accredited producers must implement a range of on-farm biosecurity practices to minimise biosecurity risks from affecting livestock. This includes having a formal, documented Farm Biosecurity Plan for each Property Identification Code. For further information on biosecurity requirements and Farm Biosecurity Plans, visit the [biosecurity webpage](#) on the ISC website.

◆ Diseases and parasites of animals

Some of the [diseases of importance for goats](#) include Johne's disease, footrot, lice and worms. You should also consider the potential impact of an exotic disease outbreak, such as foot and mouth disease (FMD).

Animal diseases and parasites negatively impact on the health, performance and saleability of product.

Producers should aim to minimise the risk of introducing disease and parasites to your property.

To report a suspected outbreak of animal disease call your local veterinarian, or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888.

» Potential disease and parasite management strategies

- Purchase goats from reputable suppliers, who are able to provide vendor declarations as to the health status and treatment history of the stock that they are selling. Only purchase goats from herds with the same or higher health status than your own animals.
- Saleyards increase the risk associated with buying stock due to the number of animals moving through the yards. Extra care should be taken if purchasing livestock through saleyards.
- Minimise the number of properties from which you buy goats. The more properties you buy from the greater the potential for exposure to diseases and parasites.
- Carefully examine goats before purchase and when new stock arrive at your property, look for signs of disease or parasite infestation.
- Treat incoming goats with appropriate parasite treatments and vaccinations. Allow them to empty out in the yards before moving them to another location.
- Quarantine newly introduced goats for at least seven days and monitor them for any sign of health issues.
- Keep thorough records of any health problems, stock purchases/sales, health treatments, use of introduced fodder, use of chemicals on the property etc, so that if something goes wrong it is traceable. Individual goat identification and records are recommended.
- Establish and maintain an appropriate health program for all your livestock. This should include appropriate vaccinations and parasite control strategies.
- Regularly monitor the health of all stock and treat accordingly. If unsure seek advice from a veterinarian or government animal health officer. Report any unusual deaths. A list of notifiable diseases is provided in Tool 3.3.
- Isolate any sick animals from the rest of the mob.

- Dispose of any carcasses carefully, where they cannot be accessed by other animals.
- Ensure that boundary and internal fencing is secure to prevent the unwanted movement of stock. Be vigilant with fence maintenance. Incorporating belts of trees along boundary fences is an option which gives the added protection of a double fence along the property boundary, whilst also providing shade and shelter for stock and pastures and habitat for wildlife.
- Be aware that diseases can be physically transported on to your property by visitors and their vehicles. Minimise unnecessary contact between visitors and stock. Wearing protective clothing, hand washing and cleaning footwear can further reduce the risks. Minimise the movement of foreign vehicles in areas trafficked by goats.
- Ensure that stockfeed is stored securely to prevent contamination by vermin, domestic animals and livestock.
- Purchase stockfeed from reputable sources. Request a vendor declaration stating the origin, feed components, chemical status and quality of the feed.
- Some diseases can be spread in water, e.g. Johne's disease (JD) can be spread via faecal contamination of streams by infected animals. Fencing to exclude livestock from creeks, rivers and drainage lines will minimise the risk of spread and exposure to water borne diseases. In such cases, off-stream watering points must be provided.

◆ Pests and diseases of plants

Examples include pasture mites (e.g. red-legged earthmite), fungal diseases (e.g. root rot) and locusts.

Plant pests and diseases have the potential to reduce the growth and persistence of fodder plants, which will in turn reduce feed availability. They can also damage trees and shrubs, thus reducing opportunities for shade and shelter.

It can be difficult to control the movement of insect pests or fungal spores, which may travel on the wind. However, there are some actions that you can take to minimise the risk of introduction and the impact if the problem does arise, including:

- Use only certified seed when sowing new pastures, thus ensuring that it is weed and disease free. Seed treatments are available to protect seeds and seedlings from fungal and insect attack.
- Minimise the movement of visitors and foreign vehicles across your property – shoes, vehicle tyres and chassis can easily become contaminated with mud and plant material carrying pests and diseases.
- If contract machinery is being used on your property, ensure that it has been cleaned before it comes on to your property.
- Monitor pastures, trees and shrubs for signs of disease or pest attack. Treat accordingly.
- Purchase fodder from reputable sources, whose products are free from plant pests or diseases.

◆ Animal pests

For example rabbits, foxes, birds of prey, wild pigs, feral and domestic dogs. In some cases native animals, such as kangaroos, wallabies and wombats can also cause problems.

The most obvious concern with pest animals is predation. However, they can also pose a threat in terms of their potential to spread disease, damage fences and compete with goats for food and water.

Some suggested management actions to reduce the threat include:

- Undertake an on-farm pest control program to reduce pest numbers e.g. fox and rabbit baiting, harbor removal. A pest control program will be most effective if undertaken on a district basis, rather than as individual properties. If native animals are a concern, seek advice from the relevant government authority in your state before taking any action.
- Manage the threat predators pose at kidding time. For further information on strategies to manage this risk see the Birth Table in Module 6 – Husbandry.
- Fence to exclude unwanted animals. See Module 4- Infrastructure.
- Dispose of rubbish and carcasses carefully as they may attract unwanted animals.

◆ Weeds

Weeds are simply plants growing where they are not wanted. The biggest concerns are noxious weeds, weeds with particularly aggressive growth habits which displace desirable plant species, plants with the physical ability to cause harm (e.g. damage to eyes, hides and fibre) and toxic plants. The following is a list of management actions that will help reduce the potential for spread of weeds:

- Minimise foreign vehicle and visitor traffic across your property.
- Ensure contract machinery is as clean as possible.
- Regularly use and monitor certified pasture seed.
- Establish thick belts of trees and shrubs along property boundaries. This will create a winder filter trapping seed heads that may be carried on prevailing winds, e.g. serrated tussock.
- When feeding bought-in fodder, limit the feeding of the product to as few paddocks as possible and always feed in the same paddocks. That way if weeds are introduced they are confined to a relatively small area, making observation and control easier.

More information on weeds and weed management practices is available from MLA's [Weed Control Resource Hub](#) and also a guide to [Weed control using goats](#).

◆ Algal blooms

For example blue green algae.

Algal blooms reduce palatability of water supply and in some circumstances can be toxic.

Algae are present in most surface waters, but the things that stimulate their growth are nitrogen and phosphorus, sunlight and elevated water temperature.

Management options to reduce the growth of algae include:

- Minimise the nutrient load in water sources by excluding stock, maintaining a filter of plant cover around the perimeter, controlling erosion and taking care with the use of fertiliser near water sources.
- Maintain low water temperatures – shade, deep water and water movement/mixing (encourage air movement).

Toolkit 3 – Industry obligations

Tool 3.1 – Finding further information

Tool 3.2 – Rules pertaining to the movement of goats

Tool 3.3 – National list of notifiable diseases of goats

Tool 3.4 – National Vendor Declaration Declaration (Goats) and Waybill

Tool 3.5 – National Goat Health Statement

Tool 3.6 – Transaction levies

Tool 3.7 – ISC and integrity system requirements

Case studies

Take a look at [these articles on MLA's news page](#) to see how other goat producers are meeting industry requirements while operating a successful business.

Tool 3.1 - Finding further information

Useful contacts

◆ Goat Industry Council of Australia (GICA)

GICA is the industry's peak national body and a Commodity Council of the National Farmer's Federation. GICA works with government, industry bodies, producers and other peak industry councils to develop goat industry policy for all breeds of goats.

GICA's members include representatives from state farmer organisations and commodity-based members spanning dairy, meat, fibre and dairy. Associate members from the Australian Meat Industry (AMIC) also form part of the organisation.

Visit the [GICA website](#) for more information or to contact GICA directly.

◆ Integrity Systems Company (ISC)

ISC is a subsidiary of Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) which works collaboratively with government and industry stakeholders to design and deliver Australia's red meat integrity system. This includes industry's on-farm assurance program – the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program – as well as the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS), Australia's system for the identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats.

Visit the ISC website for information about integrity system programs or for more assistance, contact ISC Customer Service on 1800 683 111 or at info@integritysystems.com.au.

Farmer groups

◆ National Farmers' Federation

Tel: 02 6269 5666

www.nff.org.au

◆ NSW Farmers' Association

Tel: 02 9478 1000

www.nswfarmers.org.au

◆ Victorian Farmers' Federation

Tel: 1300 882 833

www.vff.org.au

◆ Western Australian Farmers

Tel: 08 9486 2100

www.wafarmers.org.au

◆ Pastoralists and Graziers' Association of Western Australia

Tel: 08 9212 6900

www.ppsa.org.au

◆ Primary Producers SA

Tel: 08 8297 0899

www.ppsa.org.au

◆ Tasmanian Farmers' and Graziers' Association

Tel: 03 6332 1800

www.tfga.com.au

◆ AgForce Queensland

Tel: 07 3236 3100

www.agforceqld.org.au

◆ Australian Rangeland Society

Tel: 0467 802 430

www.austrangesoc.com.au

References and resources

Information provided in this manual has been sourced from information and materials provided by [Meat & Livestock Australia \(MLA\)](#), [Integrity Systems Company \(ISC\)](#) and state and territory departments of agriculture.

More information on goat health and biosecurity is available on the [Animal Health Australia website](#).

A [flyer](#) containing information on integrity system requirements for goat producers is available on the ISC website. For information on stockfeed vendor declarations also visit the [ISC website](#). Access more information and assistance with LPA, NLIS and the red meat integrity system by contacting ISC Customer Service on 1800 683 11 or at info@integritysystems.com.au.

Animal welfare requirements: more information

More information and details of the specific laws and codes of practice relating to animal welfare in each state or territory can be found at the following sites:

◆ Australian Animal Health

www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au

- ◆ NSW Department of Primary Industries

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

- ◆ Agriculture Victoria

www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

- ◆ South Australia Research & Development Institute

www.pir.sa.gov.au/research

- ◆ Primary Industries and Resources South Australia

www.pir.sa.gov.au

- ◆ Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment Tasmania

www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au

- ◆ Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

www.agric.wa.gov.au

- ◆ Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

www.daf.qld.gov.au

- ◆ Northern Territory Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade

www.industry.nt.gov.au

- ◆ Federal Department of Agriculture

www.agriculture.gov.au

Tool 3.2 – Rules pertaining to the movement of goats

State/territory	Documentation to accompany stock transport	Extra documentation required for movement to another state	Documentation required for movement into the state
South Australia	Current version National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill or in some circumstances the SA Sheep & Goat Movement Waybill may be used - seek guidance from the Department of Primary Industries and Regions on this.	The National Goat Declaration	
Western Australia	Current version National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill	The National Goat Declaration	All stock entering WA must have some approved form of identification, e.g. brand, ear tag, tattoo. All stock must meet the published import requirements for entry into WA, or else obtain an import permit. More information on importing stock into WA is available on the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) website.
New South Wales	Current version National Vendor Declaration (Goats) or Waybill, or Transported Stock Statement (TSS) or Permit issued by a Local Land Services office or a NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Biosecurity and Food Safety authorised officer.	The National Goat Declaration	
Victoria	Current version National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill.	The National Goat Health Declaration	
Northern Territory	National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill, or Waybill from the Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines.	The National Goat Health Declaration	Health Certificate and Waybill. Extra conditions relate to bovine Johne's disease, ovine Johne's disease and cattle ticks.

State/territory	Documentation to accompany stock transport	Extra documentation required for movement to another state	Documentation required for movement into the state
Tasmania	Current National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill	The National Goat Health Certificate	Waybill, a completed Health Certificate for Goats Entering Tasmania, and the National Goat Health Declaration. Extra conditions may apply for the import of goats into Tasmania and especially Flinders Island. Seek further advice from the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment.
Queensland	<p>National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill. Low risk livestock, including goats, do not require a biosecurity certificate but must meet the 'risk minimisation requirements' stated in the biosecurity manual. A declaration on the NVD must state how these minimisation requirements have been met.</p> <p>and</p> <p>Travel permits are required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When travelling from cattle tick infested areas to cattle tick protected or free areas in QLD. Goats must be treated for tick two weeks prior to shipment. On the day of shipment a Department of Primary Industries inspector will inspect and treat goats for ticks at a designated inspection station (appointments must be made in advance of transportation date). A certificate of inspection will be stapled to the waybill. • When property of origin is quarantined. • When stock are suspected of being diseased. • When travelling to RNA Showgrounds in Brisbane. 	The National Goat Declaration	Waybill

Tool 3.3 - National list of notifiable diseases of goats

Sheep and goat diseases, infections and infestations

Contagious agalactia (clinical disease)
Infection with *Brucella melitensis*
Infection with *Chlamydophila abortus* (enzootic abortion of ewes, ovine chlamydiosis)
Infection with *Mycoplasma capricolum* subsp. *capripneumoniae* (contagious caprine pleuropneumonia)
Infection with Nairobi sheep disease virus
Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus
Infestation with *Psoroptes ovis* (sheep scab)
Infection with *Salmonella abortus-ovis* (salmonellosis)
Infection with sheep pox virus or goat pox virus
Infection with Wesselbron virus
Maedi-visna
Pulmonary adenomatosis (Jaagsiekte)

Multiple species diseases, infections and infestations

Bluetongue (clinical disease)
Encephalitides (tick borne)
Epizootic haemorrhagic disease (clinical disease)
Infection with Australian bat lyssavirus
Infection with *Bacillus anthracis* (Anthrax)
Infection with Borna disease virus
Infection with Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus
Infection with *Echinococcus multilocularis*
Infection with *Ehrlichia ruminantium* (Heartwater)
Infection with foot and mouth disease virus
Infection with *Francisella tularensis* (Tularaemia)
Infection with Japanese encephalitis virus
Infection with *Leishmania* spp.
Infection with *Mycobacterium bovis*
Infection with *Mycobacterium caprae*
Infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
Infection with alcelaphine herpesvirus-1 (malignant catarrhal fever, wildebeest-associated)
Infection with rabies virus
Infection with Rift Valley fever virus
Infection with rinderpest virus

Infection with *Trichinella* spp.

Infection with *Trypanosoma cruzi* (Chagas disease)

Infection with *Trypanosoma evansi* (Surra)

Infection with vesicular stomatitis virus

Infestation with *Chrysomya bezziana* (Old World Screwworm)

Infestation with *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (New World screwworm)

Infestation with Warble-fly (warble-fly myiasis)

Paratuberculosis (Johne's disease)

Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (bovine spongiform encephalopathy, chronic wasting disease of deer, feline spongiform encephalopathy, scrapie)

Trypanosomosis (tsetse fly associated)

West Nile Virus (clinical disease)

For more information, go to the [DAFF website](#).

Tool 3.4 – Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) National Vendor Declaration (Goats) and Waybill

NATIONAL VENDOR DECLARATION (GOATS) AND WAYBILL G0720 38888888

Part A To be completed by the owner or person who is responsible for the husbandry of the goats.

Owner of goats: FULL TRADING NAME: _____
Property/place where the journey commenced: _____
Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property: ABCD1234
Description of goats: _____
Consigned to: _____
Destination (if different) of goats: _____
Destination PIC (REQ: WA & TAS): _____
Details of other statutory documents relating to this movement, e.g. health statement: _____
Are all goats in this consignment eligible to be moved tag free? Yes No (If no, move to question 2)
Harvested ringed goats can be moved tag free if they are moved from the property on which they were captured to an abattoir for slaughter or directly to a registered goat dealer.
If No, either:
A. Confirm that you have listed all PICs on all NVD tags in this consignment in the description table above – Yes OR (do not tick both)
B. Confirm that you have tagged all the goats in the consignment with the PIC printed on this NVD or your WA brand as in description table above – Yes
3. For farmed goats, were all of them bred by the owner or vendor? (Skip question if declared eligible to be moved tag free)
Yes No If No, how long were the goats obtained or purchased? (If purchased at different times, tick the box corresponding to the time of the most recent purchase.)
A. Less than 2 months B. 2-6 months C. 6-12 months D. more than 12 months
4. Have any of the goats in the consignment ever been consigned to a feedlot or subjected to any chemical or veterinary treatment? Yes No

Part B To be completed by the person in charge of the goats while they are being moved. Completion of this part is optional in SA and VIC.

Movement commenced: / /20 (am/pm)
Vehicle registration number(s): _____
I, _____ am the person in charge of the goats during the movement and declare all the information in Part B is true and correct.
Signature _____ Date / /20 Tel no. _____
*When more than one truck is carrying the goats, other vehicle registration numbers are to be recorded.

Producers can use hard copy NVD books or the electronic National Vendor Declaration (eNVD) system to complete their NVD. The eNVD system is the fast, free and easy way to complete all livestock consignment paperwork digitally, including NVDs.

Log in to your LPA account via myMLA and follow the instructions in [this video](#) to complete an eNVD.

Alternatively, log in to myMLA to access MLA and ISC's [catalogue of products and services](#) and order your hard copy NVD books. Learn more about myMLA or [logging in to your LPA account via myMLA](#).

Producers should note that hard copy NVD books have the producer's unique PIC printed on them – so if using hard copy NVDs, these forms must be taken from a book purchased for their PIC.

Watch [this video](#) to learn how to complete the NVD or visit the [MLA website](#) to access more helpful tips on completing the latest version (version 0720) of the Goat NVD.

For further information and assistance with completing LPA NVDs, including eNVDs, contact ISC Customer Service on 1800 683 111 or at info@integritysystems.com.au.

Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program

By ticking the box on your NVD, you are pledging that the meat from your farm has been produced safely, ethically and meets biosecurity standards – it means you stand by what you sell.

Producers who choose to become LPA-accredited commit to carrying out on-farm practices that support the integrity of the entire system. These requirements cover:

- property risk assessments
- safe and responsible animal treatments
- stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments
- preparation for dispatch of livestock
- livestock transactions and movements
- biosecurity
- animal welfare.

These requirements are outlined in the LPA rules and standards, as well as the LPA Guidebook. These resources are available on the [ISC website](#).

LPA-accredited producers must fulfil all of these requirements to remain accredited with the program and access LPA NVDs.

Audits of the record keeping and management systems of accredited producers are conducted each year to ensure on-farm practices comply with program rules and standards, and to identify opportunities to improve operations to maximize the integrity of the product.

For more information or assistance with the LPA program, contact ISC Customer Service on 1800 683 111 or at info@integritysystems.com.au. More information about LPA and the integrity system delivered by ISC is also available in *Tool 3.7*.

Tool 3.5 – National Goat Health Declaration

This is an example of the National Goat Health Declaration. Most states prefer that this Declaration is provided every time you transport goats. For information on your state or territory's health statement requirements, contact your state department of agriculture or primary industries.

These organisations will also be able to provide you with assistance on how to complete the form.

NATIONAL GOAT HEALTH DECLARATION Version 4, October 2016

SECTION 1 – CONSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Owner of goats:
 (Full trading name)
 Property/place where the journey commenced:
 (Address)
 (Address continued) (Town/suburb) (Postcode) (State)

Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property
 This MUST be the PIC of the property that the stock are being moved from: []

Number	Year born (Month)	Description (Breed, sex)	Brands or Earmarks
Total			

Details of other statutory documents relating to this movement e.g. NVD

(Document type)	(Number)	(Office of issue)	(Expiry date)

SECTION 2 – JOHNE'S DISEASE (JD)

1. This consignment has an assurance rating of: (refer and complete overleaf)
 Section A Section B
Consigning Herd Rating + Risk Management Rating = TOTAL ASSURANCE RATING

2. Were all these goats born on the above property? Yes No
 If no, date introduced:/...../.....
 Assurance rating of introduced goats at time of introduction:

3. Have goats with a lower assurance rating than the consigned goats been introduced into the herd in the last 2 years? Yes No
 If yes, what was the lowest assurance rating of those introduced goats?

4. How many different sources of goats have been introduced to the consignor's property in last 2 years?
 None 1-5 6+ Bucks only

5. Are all the goats in this consignment from a GoatMAP flock? Yes No
 Status: Expiry date:/...../.....

SECTION 3 – FOOTROT

6. Have the goats in this consignment been observed for, and any suspect goats examined for, signs of FOOTROT during the past 14 days? Yes No

7. To the best of your knowledge, are the goats in this consignment free from VIRULENT FOOTROT? Yes No

8. To the best of your knowledge, are all sheep and goats on the consignor's property free from VIRULENT FOOTROT? Yes No

SECTION 4 – OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION

9. Is the herd CAPRINE ARTHRITIS ENCEPHALITIS (CAE) ACCREDITED FLOCK?
 Flock Accreditation No. Expiry Date:/...../..... Yes No

10. a. The goats in this consignment are derived from a herd which has had a whole herd negative test for CAE within the past 120 days. Yes No
 OR
 b. The goat herd has undertaken a negative whole herd test for CAE within the last 12 months.
 Date of last test:/...../..... Property reference number:

11. To the best of your knowledge, are the goats in this consignment free from LICE? Yes No

12. Treatments	Product	Date of last treatment
External Parasite Treatment		
Drench		
Vaccination (more than JD)		

DECLARATION
 (Full name of the person responsible for the husbandry of the goats in this consignment)
 I, as the owner and/or person responsible for the husbandry of the goats in this consignment, declare that the information in this statement is true and correct.
 Signature* Date*/...../20.....
 Only the person whose name appears above may sign this declaration, or make amendments. All signatures must be initialed.

SECTION A: Choose 1 Category in this section
 Tick only one rating in this section and enter the rating at the bottom of Section A.

The herd from which the goats are consigned	Rating
In the GoatMAP with MN3 status	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
In the GoatMAP with MN2 status	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
In the GoatMAP with MN1 status	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
Not known infected and has no risk factors	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
Not known infected and has risk factors ⁽¹⁾	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
Restricted 2 status – RD2 ⁽²⁾	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
Restricted 1 status – RD1 ⁽³⁾	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
Infected but undertaking an approved Property Disease Management Plan ⁽⁴⁾	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
Infected or suspected of being infected ⁽⁵⁾	0 <input type="checkbox"/>

CONSIGNING HERD RATING SECTION A:/...../.....

SECTION B: Choose 1 Category in this section
 Tick the number where applicable and add them at the bottom of Section B

The following management factors reduce the risk of Johne's disease in this herd:

The herd is not in the GoatMAP, but has had a Check Test ⁽⁶⁾ with negative results in the past 12 months	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
The consignment of goats are Approved Vaccinated Goats ⁽⁷⁾	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
The consignment of goats has been reared under a nationally approved and independently audited kid rearing plan ⁽⁸⁾	1 <input type="checkbox"/>

RISK MANAGEMENT RATING FOR SECTION B:/...../.....

TOTAL ASSURANCE RATING = A + B =

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Risk Factors:**
 - The herd contains goats that were born or raised with dairy goats. The herd contains dairy breeds or dairy cross bred goats. Exceptions are goats that are from GoatMAP herds, or goats born and raised in WA.
 - The herd has grazed land in the past 5 years that is at risk of Johne's disease (JD) contamination. Land at risk of JD contamination includes land that is being grazed, or has been grazed in the preceding 12 months, by:
 - Dairy breeds or dairy cross bred goats, which are not sourced from GoatMAP herds.
 - Goat herds with RD2 or lower status.
 - Dairy cattle with a Dairy Assurance Score of less than 7.
 - Beef cattle, other than those in the CattleMAP, Johne's Beef Assurance Score 6 or greater.
 - Sheep other than SheepMAP flocks from areas without an audited Regional Biosecurity Plan which includes ovine Johne's disease.
- RD2:** A herd which has had a second negative herd test of all animals over 12 months of age in the herd, at least 2 years after RD1 status was achieved. This is part of an Approved Property Disease Management Plan approved by the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) of the jurisdiction.
- RD1:** A herd with a history of infection which has had 1 negative herd test of all animals over 12 months of age in the herd, at least 12 months after the last infected animal was removed from the herd. This is part of an approved Property Disease Management Plan approved by the CVO of the jurisdiction.
- Infected but undertaking an approved Property Disease Management Plan:** An infected herd that has not yet progressed to RD1 status but is complying with an on-farm disease control program combining elements of testing, kid rearing and biosecurity that has been approved by CVO of the jurisdiction.
- Infected or suspected of being infected:** Means infected or suspected of being infected with JD. Herds are no longer regarded as infected or suspected of being infected when a Property Disease Management Plan, which has been approved by the CVO of the jurisdiction, has been completed.
- Check Test:** A test of 50 homestead goats over 12 months of age in the herd (or all goats over 12 months of age in smaller herds) by serology or faecal culture or pooled faecal culture of 2 pools each of 25 goats, with negative results. The animals should be selected so as to increase the probability of detecting infection, i.e. older animals, animals in poor body condition.
- Approved Vaccinated Goat:** A goat that is:
 - Vaccinated with an approved JD vaccine by 16 weeks of age; or
 - Vaccinated with an approved JD vaccine after 16 weeks, when the flock
 - was in the GoatMAP, or
 - had undertaken a negative Sample Test by PFC in the 2 years preceding the vaccination; or
 - is identified as an Approved Vaccinate in accordance with State legislation.
- Nationally approved kid rearing plan:** A kid rearing plan designed to minimise the spread of JD in intensively managed herds, which has been documented and agreed by GICA and Animal Health Committee.

Tool 3.6 – Transaction levies

All goat sales are subject to a transaction levy. Transaction levies are collected, administered and disbursed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).

The levies collected from livestock sales, conducted through an agent or processor, are documented on the sale receipts. In these circumstances, the agent or processor is responsible for directing the levy money to DAFF.

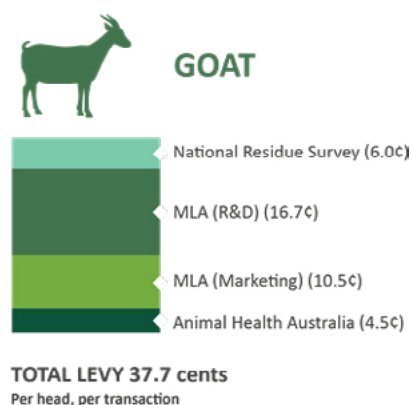
In the case of private transactions, the producer who is selling the livestock is responsible for paying the levies to DAFF. A return form must be completed and submitted with the necessary funds or alternately payments can be made by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), cheque or money order following the instructions on the [DAFF website](#). For more information or assistance, contact your local Levies Office:

ACT, NSW & QLD: 1800 625 103

SA, NT and WA: 1800 814 961

TAS and VIC: 1800

As of August 2022 the transaction levy for goat sales is 37.7 cents/head and this covers four components:



As illustrated above, a percentage of goat levies paid is allocated for investment by MLA in Research & Development (R&D) and marketing activities designed to benefit and grow Australia's goat industry.

Recent MLA R&D projects funded by the levy include a population modelling and forecasting program, an investigation into the causes and prevalence of kid loss and a national roadshow of producer events.

Recent MLA marketing projects funded by the levy include the development of the 'True Aussie Goat' brand, creation of a goat presence at domestic food shows and tracking of consumer awareness and perceptions of goatmeat.

More information about the goat levy is available on the [MLA website](#).

Tool 3.7 – ISC and the red meat integrity system

What is the integrity system?

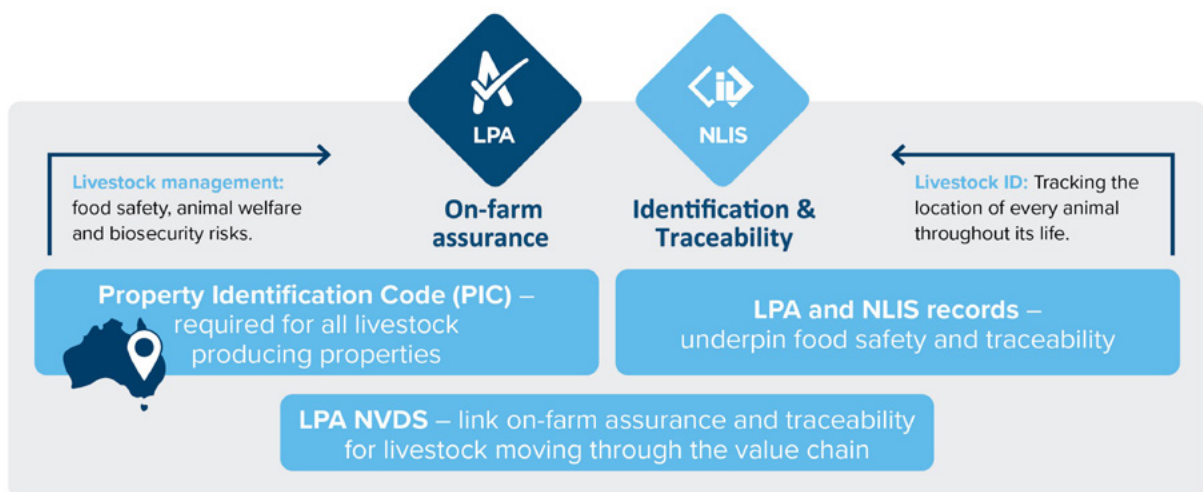
The Australian red meat integrity system combines livestock traceability with on-farm assurance to maintain the integrity and reputation of Australian red meat. This system underpins our livestock selling system and delivers customer confidence in the red meat products we produce.

What is ISC and how does it deliver the integrity system?

Integrity Systems Company (ISC), a subsidiary of Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), works collaboratively with government and industry stakeholders to deliver the programs that are the foundation of the integrity system, including:

- Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) – the Australian red meat industry’s on-farm assurance program
- the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS), Australia’s system for the identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats.

These programs are connected through LPA National Vendor Declarations (LPA NVDs), which link on-farm assurance to livestock traceability. This makes LPA NVDs the legal document guaranteeing the quality, safety and traceability of Australian red meat products.



More information on ISC and the red meat integrity system is available on the [ISC website](#) or for an overview of integrity system programs, watch [this video](#). A series of webinar recordings providing an overview of the integrity system can also be accessed from the [ISC webinar recordings and resources webpage](#).

Published by

© Meat & Livestock Australia

September 2022



Care is taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication. However, MLA cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information or opinions contained in the publication. You should make your own enquiries before making decisions concerning your interests. MLA accepts no liability for any losses incurred if you rely solely on this publication and excludes all liability as a result of reliance by any person on such information or advice.

Apart from any use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, all rights are expressly reserved. Requests for further authorisation should be directed to the Content Manager, PO Box 1961, North Sydney, NSW 2059 or info@mla.com.au.

Contact

Meat & Livestock Australia
Level 1, 40 Mount Street
North Sydney NSW 2060
www.mla.com.au

ABN: 39 081 678 364