

# NLIS REQUIREMENTS FOR SHEEP AND GOATS

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM  
MOB-BASED MOVEMENT RECORDING

*NLIS is Australia's system for the identification and tracing of sheep and goats for biosecurity, food safety, product integrity and market access purposes.*

*To enhance this system, the recording of the movement of mobs of sheep or goats between properties on the NLIS database is being progressively rolled out across all states. This commenced in New South Wales on 1 July 2010 and is now required for all movements of sheep and goats.*

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE**

Throughout Australia, producers are required to know where the sheep and goats under their management have come from and where they are going.

In New South Wales this means:

- All sheep and managed goats must be identified with an approved NLIS (Sheep) ear tag before leaving their property – be they destined for a saleyard, abattoir, sale over-the-hooks or another property with a different Property Identification Code (PIC).
- When sheep or goats are moved to a property with a different PIC, a mob-based movement needs to be recorded on the NLIS database.
- All transported sheep and goats, including feral or unmanaged goats, must be accompanied by accurate and fully completed movement documents, generally a Livestock Production Assurance National Vendor Declaration and Waybill (LPA NVD/Waybill).
- For mixed mobs including multiple PICs, all PICs within the mob must be recorded on the LPA NVD/Waybill or a pink post-breeder ear tag must be used.

**KNOW YOUR OBLIGATIONS**

## How do I record a mob-based movement?

The person responsible for the livestock at the destination PIC needs to log onto the NLIS database via the internet and record the mob movement within seven days of the movement occurring. To do this, they need to either establish an account or access their existing NLIS database account. This is the same account and database used for cattle – [www.nlis.mla.com.au](http://www.nlis.mla.com.au)

The following information is then recorded:

- The PIC the sheep or goats came from
- The PIC the sheep or goats were moved to
- The date of the movement
- The number of livestock
- The LPA NVD/Waybill number
- PICs from original ear tags for any non-vendor bred sheep and goats

Sheep and goats do not have to be individually scanned as is the case for cattle.

## Which ear tags do I use?

All sheep or goats must be identified with approved NLIS (Sheep) ear tags prior to moving them from your property. For sheep or goats bred on your property, this means using breeder tags. For non-vendor bred or introduced sheep or goats that do not have tags applied, this means using pink post-breeder tags.

For non-vendor bred or introduced sheep or goats that are still wearing their original breeder tags, you must record the PICs from their tags on the LPA NVD/Waybill or use a pink post-breeder tag.

## What movement documents are required?

All sheep and goat movements require original appropriate movement documentation such as a fully completed LPA NVD/Waybill or Transported Stock Statement (TSS).

You must retain all movement documentation on your property for seven years after the movement of the livestock.

## What do I do if I am moving sheep or goats interstate?

If sheep or goats are being transported out of New South Wales, both New South Wales and destination state requirements for NLIS and livestock movement documentation must be complied with (along with the requirements of any other state that the livestock pass through during the journey).

## Are there exemptions for New South Wales?

Exemptions are in place in New South Wales for harvested feral or unmanaged goats as well as eligible dairy goats. Producers should contact Industry & Investment NSW for further details.

**IF IN DOUBT,  
FIND OUT**

## Industry & Investment NSW

Phone: 1300 720 405  
[www.industry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au)

## Livestock Health and Pest Authority

[www.lhpa.org.au](http://www.lhpa.org.au)

## Meat & Livestock Australia

[www.mla.com.au/NLISSheepAndGoats](http://www.mla.com.au/NLISSheepAndGoats)

## National Livestock Identification System

[www.nlis.mla.com.au](http://www.nlis.mla.com.au)