

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 from 1 July 2010.

Mob-based movement recording is currently voluntary in Queensland but there is an industry expectation to record movements on the NLIS database. In the near future it will become compulsory to record sheep and goat movements.

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 Queensland 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).
- 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.

When sheep and goat movement recording becomes compulsory in Queensland, producers will need to record movements of sheep or goats on the NLIS database whenever they are moved to a property with a different PIC. Producers can voluntarily record movements now if they desire.

NLIS REQUIREMENTS FOR SHEEP AND GOATS

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM MOB-BASED MOVEMENT RECORDING

KNOW YOUR OBLIGATIONS

How do I record a mob-based movement?

To ensure a smooth introduction of mob-based movement recording, producers should familiarise themselves with the process while it is still voluntary.

Under the incoming requirements, the person responsible for the livestock at the destination PIC will need to record movements of sheep and goats between properties with different PICs on the NLIS database.

To do this, they log onto the NLIS database via the internet and record the movement within 48 hours of the movement occurring. 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

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

Which ear tags do I use?

You must identify your sheep or goats with approved NLIS (Sheep) ear tags prior to moving them from the property. Approved NLIS (Sheep) ear tags are imprinted with the PIC and NLIS logo. For sheep or goats bred on your property a colour-coded (birth year) tag is preferred but not compulsory.

For non-vendor bred or introduced sheep or goats that do not have tags applied, use pink post-breeder tags.

What movement documents are required?

All sheep and goat movements require appropriate movement documentation such as a fully completed LPA NVD/Waybill. You must retain all movement documentation on your property for at least five 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 Queensland, both Queensland 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 Queensland?

Exemptions are in place in Queensland for harvested feral or unmanaged goats as well as registered dairy goats. Producers should contact the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation for further details.

IF IN DOUBT, FIND OUT

Department of Employment, Economic
Development and Innovation –
Biosecurity Queensland

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www.qdpi.qld.gov.au

Meat & Livestock Australia
www.mla.com.au/NLISSheepAndGoats

National Livestock Identification System
www.nlis.mla.com.au