



Integrity Systems

red meat customer assurance



Integrity system — for grain fed beef producers

A system of food safety measures, quality assurance and traceability from paddock to plate guarantees the integrity of Australia's \$22.9 billion red meat industry — including the \$4.5 billion beef feedlot industry — to our customers. This integrity system protects the disease-free status of Australian red meat and underpins the marketing of our product as clean, safe and natural.

Adhering to the requirements of the integrity system means producers can stand by what they sell.

The integrity system is made up of three elements:

1 Livestock Production Assurance



The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian red meat industry's on-farm assurance program underpinned by seven key elements covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the value chain. Visit www.mla.com.au/lpa

2 National Vendor Declaration



The LPA National Vendor Declaration (LPA NVD) certifies Australia's reputation as a reliable supplier of safe red meat to domestic and international markets. It asks a series of questions about the livestock's history, and contains a declaration from the livestock owner that all information provided is correct. The current LPA NVD is required for all livestock movements, including property to property, through saleyards, to processors, and to and from feedlots. It is available electronically (the eNVD) free of charge or in hard copy. Visit <https://lpa.nlis.com.au>

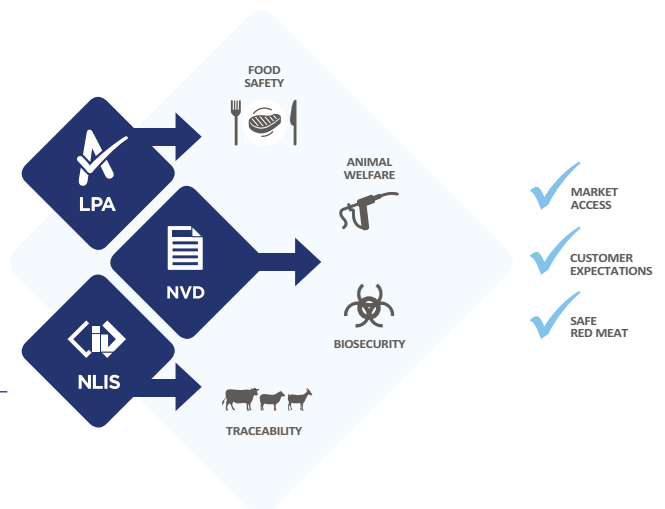
3 National Livestock Identification System



The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is Australia's system for the identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats. The NLIS combines three elements to enable the lifetime traceability of animals: a visual or electronic ear tag, a Property Identification Code (PIC) for identification of physical location, and an online database to store and correlate the data. Visit www.nlis.com.au



National Vendor Declarations are now available electronically (the eNVD)



Australia's red meat integrity system



Meeting NLIS requirements

As cattle move along the supply chain, each movement is recorded centrally so that animals can be traced as required by National Traceability Performance Standards. A valid Property Identification Code (PIC) is needed to buy, sell or move cattle and to complete National Vendor Declaration forms. PICs are allocated to properties on which livestock graze and are issued by the state agriculture departments. Download the NLIS (Cattle) Traceability Standards from www.nlis.com.au

Meeting LPA requirements

The seven requirements of the LPA program cover property risk assessment; safe and responsible animal treatments; stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments; preparation for dispatch of livestock; livestock transactions and movements; biosecurity; and animal welfare. For details on how to meet each requirement, download the *LPA Guidebook* from www.mla.com.au/integrity (see Tools & Resources) or complete the LPA Learning training modules at www.mla.com.au/LPALearning.

New requirements (biosecurity): Biosecurity relates to measures taken to reduce risk of infectious diseases, invasive pests or weeds. Under LPA, producers must have a Farm Biosecurity Plan. A template is available at www.mla.com.au/integrity (see Tools & Resources). There are 17 priority diseases for cattle. Cattle tick has the highest estimated economic impact in the north (\$156 million) while internal parasites has the highest impact in the south (\$82 million)¹.

New requirements (animal welfare): Producers must be able to demonstrate that on-farm systems have been implemented to ensure handling of livestock is consistent with the requirements of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines for Cattle*. Download at www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au/cattle

Grain fed beef producers who are National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) accredited will be meeting all LPA requirements. For more information on the NFAS, visit www.ausmeat.com.au (see Services, NFAS)

LPA accreditation

To access LPA NVDs for their livestock, grain fed beef producers must be LPA accredited. Grain fed beef producers seeking accreditation for the first time are required to work through LPA Learning (online training modules), complete a short assessment and declaration. All grain fed beef producers need to renew their accreditation every three years. They must also complete a short assessment and declaration online. A hardcopy accreditation

¹ Priority list of endemic diseases for the red meat industries, GHD Pty Ltd (2015)

Fast facts:

Australian grain fed beef industry

293

agricultural feedlot businesses

3rd largest

beef exporter in the world

1.12 million

cattle on feed at feedlots

51%

of grain fed beef exports go to Japan

Around 2004

people employed in the feedlot industry

Asia

is Australia's largest grain fed beef market (Japan, China, South Korea largest markets)

27%

of total beef exports in FY2017-18 were grain fed beef

Queensland

is home to the majority of Australian feedlots

References: www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/prices--markets/documents/trends-analysis/lot-feeding-brief/mla_lot-feeding-brief_august-2018.pdf and www.ibisworld.com.au/industry-trends/market-research-reports/agriculture-forestry-fishing/agriculture/beef-cattle-feedlots.html

pack including the LPA Learning training modules is also available. All accredited NFAS producers are exempt from the LPA accreditation fee.

Livestock Data Link

Livestock Data Link (LDL) is an online feedback system which allows producers to efficiently receive, analyse and compare results about their livestock's carcass compliance and animal disease information. This information helps producers understand opportunities to improve their business performance. Non-compliance with market specifications costs the Australian beef industry an estimated \$127–\$163 million per year, according to research conducted by MLA across four key markets.

myMLA

myMLA is a customised online dashboard that provides personalised, relevant content to each user. It allows grain fed beef producers to have just one user name and password to access key integrity systems — NLIS, LPA, NVDs and LDL. Visit www.mla.com.au/myMLA

Where can I find out more?

Grain fed beef producers can access a range of resources to help them meet integrity system requirements.

Visit www.integritysystems.com.au, call 1800 683 111 or email us at info@integritysystems.com.au.

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