

Purchasing electronic tags for sheep and goats

Are you a sheep or goat producer? From 14 November 2016 you will be able to buy electronic tags at 'cost neutral' prices for your 2017 lambs and kids, and attractively priced electronic tags for animals born before 2017

OVERVIEW

Victorian producers are now able to purchase white electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags for their 2017 born lambs and kids at 'cost neutral' prices equivalent to the prices that they are likely to have paid for visually readable NLIS (Sheep) tags in 2016. The retail price of the cheapest 'cost neutral' electronic tag has been set at \$0.35 per tag. Other popular brands are available for slightly higher prices.

Producers can also purchase electronic tags for the identification of lambs and kids born prior to 2017 at competitive prices.

HOW TO BUY TAGS

To buy tags visit www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/nlis or request a paper application form by calling the NLIS helpline on 1800 678 779 during business hours.

Producers wishing to order 'cost neutral' (subsidised) tags will be required to declare by ticking a box that the information contained in their application is true and correct. If requested by DEDJTR, producers will be required to provide proof of purchase of visual tags in 2016, or consent to DEDJTR contacting tag suppliers for verification purposes. If any person provides false or incorrect information in their application they may be deemed ineligible for any future or additional subsidised electronic tags, and/or DEDJTR may recover the value of subsidies invalidly obtained.

When ordering 'cost neutral' tags, you will need to enter your Property Identification Code (PIC) and phone number. To

access tags at 'cost neutral' prices, you will need to provide the following evidence of your tag purchases for your 2016 lambs and kids;

- a) Property Identification Code (PIC) on the purchased tags
- b) number purchased
- c) tag manufacturer
- d) date of purchase as displayed on the invoice
- e) invoice number

Online applications must be paid by credit card. Paper applications can be paid by either cheque or credit card. Tags will typically be delivered within 10 working days of the order being received.

HOW MANY 'COST NEUTRAL' TAGS CAN I PURCHASE?

Producers are able to purchase sufficient tags at 'cost neutral' prices to, in most circumstances, identify their 2017 born sheep and goats. The allocation to each producer will be based on the number of tags purchased by the producer between 1 November 2015 and 31 October 2016 plus an allowance of an additional 10%. Producers are able to purchase either white or pink NLIS (Sheep) tags as part of their 'cost neutral' tag allocation.

As an example, a producer who purchased 500 visually readable or electronic tags for their 2016 lambs and kids will be able to purchase 550 white or pink electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags at 'cost neutral' prices that they can then use to identify the animals born on their property in 2017.

TAG PRICES IN 2018

Further advice will be provided during 2017 on tag prices for future years. This will take into account the competitive tag tender.

For more information

Visit www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/sheepEID or call the NLIS Helpline on 1800 678 779 during business hours.