Sheep and goat EID funding scenarios

Applications open on 14 November 2016

Sheep and goat producers

What do I have to do to meet the new regulatory requirements for sheep and goats in Victoria?

- Ensure sheep or goats born on or after 1 January 2017 are tagged with an electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag before being dispatched from their property of birth, regardless of their destination.

- Electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags will be available from $0.35 for sheep and goats born in 2017.

- Producers that do not introduce sheep or goats onto their property will NOT have to scan or upload information to the NLIS database.

- Producers that introduce sheep or goats NOT through the saleyard system will need to scan EID tagged introduced stock and upload the details onto the NLIS database from 31 March 2018. Wand or panel readers will be able to gather the required data.

- Producers wanting to gain productivity benefits related to EID tagged sheep or goats can purchase scanning equipment and associated software and access the co-contribution grants of up to $3,000 per applicant.

Funding applications close on 31 December 2017.

Scenario:

As a producer I can now buy 35 cent tags to meet my regulatory obligation. These won't cost me any more than the visual ones. I am also considering applying for some funding for a panel reader. To manage flock information, I will need software. Using this software, I will be able to maintain an inventory of my tagged sheep and will have a record of the sheep I sell.

Livestock transporters

What do livestock transporters have to do to meet their regulatory requirements?

- Livestock transporters must ensure sheep and goats are identified as per the standards (tagged).

- Livestock transporters are NOT required to scan sheep and goats identified with EID tags on or off properties.

- Livestock transporters wishing to offer a service of scanning a client's sheep or goats as they are delivered to the destination property can access the co-contribution grants of up to $2,500 per applicant.

Funding applications close on 31 December 2017.

Scenario:

As a transporter, I know that many of my clients will not have readers. When recording of property to property movements becomes mandatory, I might be able to offer a tag scanning service. The reader that I buy can also be used to scan cattle tags. I am still working out whether I'll apply for funding.

Saleyards
What do saleyards and agents operating in saleyards have to do to meet their regulatory requirements?

- From 1 July 2017, scanning of electronically tagged sheep and goats starts in saleyards, abattoirs and knackeries.
- From 31 March 2018, saleyards must have fully operational equipment and software that scans EID tagged sheep or goats and collects the data when they move through the saleyard.
- Agents must ensure sheep and goats tagged with EID tags are scanned through the saleyard scanners to collect data.
- Funding is available to fully fund essential modifications and equipment so saleyards meet the new requirements.

Applications will be assessed on case by case. Applications for saleyard planning and design close on 30 June 2017. Applications for saleyard infrastructure and installation close on 31 October 2017.

Scenario:

At our saleyard, we think this is an opportunity to really think about how we can use electronic identification to improve the efficiency of the saleyard. I am pleased about the two phase approach for funding, because we get to work with consultants to find out what will work best rather than just jumping in and spending money on infrastructure. Good news is money is available to help us come up with the best solution.

Livestock agents
What do livestock agents, outside the saleyard system, need to do to meet their regulatory requirements?

- From 31 March 2018, livestock agents must scan sheep and goats and upload information to the NLIS database when they conduct private property public auctions.
- Agents can also offer a service to their clients by scanning sheep and goats identified with EID tags purchased direct from a private property.
- Co-contribution funding is available up to the value of $2,500 per applicant.

Funding applications close on 31 December 2017.

Scenario

The producers say we just take margin out of the supply chain, but as agents we have a vital role to play in the industry. I can see the way I work will need to change and I am encouraged that the department will help train me in the use of scanning equipment. I can also apply for funding so I can buy my own scanner. I'm on the road a lot so being mobile is really important.

Abattoirs and knackeries
What do abattoirs and knackeries need to do to meet their regulatory requirements?

- From 1 July 2017, scanning of electronically tagged sheep and goats starts in saleyards, abattoirs and knackeries.
- From 31 December 2017, abattoirs and knackeries must be able to scan sheep and goats identified with EID tags and upload information to the NLIS database.
- Grants are available to fully fund essential modifications and equipment, so abattoirs and knackeries meet the new requirements.

Funding applications close on 31 March 2017.

Scenario

My operation is based on the safety and wholesomeness of the meat I produce. I believe electronic scanning will help me protect and enhance the reputation of my business. Customers increasingly want full traceability and I will be able to provide it. I already have some infrastructure, but funding and technical advice should help me get the most out of the technology.