It is vital that livestock can be identified and tracked from their property of birth to slaughter. Traceability - the ability to follow an animal from one point in the supply chain to another - enables monitoring for disease, food safety and underpins protection of Australia’s local and international markets.

As a business involved in the congregation, transportation and mixing of livestock, ensuring you use robust traceability practices and meet legislative requirements is very important.

**Three important requirements to start your scale operation**

****All scale operators require a:

**A Scales Property Identification Code (PIC) -** defines a property where livestock are kept, the PIC will start with ‘3SC’ indicating you run a scales business in Victoria**.** You can apply for a PICby contacting the Agriculture Victoria NLIS Helpline which operates between 9am and

 4.30pm Monday to Friday on 1800 678 779.

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**An EUSY code** - this code will be provided when you receive your scales PIC from Agriculture Victoria. Your PIC and EUSY code will be linked.

**A National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) ‘Saleyard’ account** -scales are referred to as saleyards on the NLIS database.Sign up for a NLIS saleyard (scales) account at www.nlis.com.au or by calling the NLIS Database Helpdesk from 9am-

 5pm Monday-Friday on 1800 654 743 or email support@nlis.com.au.

Scale operators must ensure animals are correctly tagged, PICs are used correctly, NLIS database transfers are completed successfully and on time and accurate vendor declarations are provided.

*Livestock traceability protecting you and the viability of the entire industry.*

**STARTING UP A SCALE OPERATION**