Fact Sheet: NLIS Requirements for Livestock Exporters

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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 that you use robust traceability practices and meet legislative requirements is very important.

INTRODUCTION

Livestock Exporters, including operators of a quarantine property/depot must meet a number of requirements including livestock identification, National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database transfers and movement declarations, to support their industry and to work within the legislated requirements.

Livestock Export companies, quarantine properties and depots must have a:

Property Identification Code (PIC)

All properties where livestock are grazed or kept, congregated for transport or sale, or properties where a livestock business operates, require a PIC. This defines the property where livestock are kept and who has responsibility for the livestock.

PICs can be applied for online at **pic.agriculture.vic.gov.au** or by calling the Agriculture Victoria NLIS Helpline **1800 678 779**.

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database account

Live exporters and associated agents require a live exporter or an agent NLIS database account in order to record livestock movements. A live exporter's or an agency Property Identification Code (PIC) is used when applying for a NIS database account.

A NLIS account can be applied for online at **www.nlis.com.au** or by calling **1800 654 743**.

PROPERTY TO PROPERTY MOVEMENTS OF LIVESTOCK

A property to property movement occurs when an animal moves between two different PICs. This includes introductions onto pre-export quarantine properties, ports and transfers to EEEEEEEE (8E's- exported), as well as private sales of animals, animals being agisted or lent and animals traded through online selling platforms such as AuctionsPlus, Gumtree and Facebook.

All livestock must be transferred onto the appropriate PIC on the NLIS database within **2 days** of introduction onto a property, port or export vessel/plane.

The NLIS database transfer is the responsibility of the owner of the introduced livestock, but a third party may be engaged to complete the transfer, including the livestock agent or livestock manager. Legislation requires a Livestock Exporter to complete the required transfer of livestock to EEEEEEEE when exported.

EXPORT CERTIFICATION

Livestock Exporters are required to apply for export certification prior to livestock being moved to a pre-export quarantine property or depot. The certification includes a statement from the Livestock Exporter that:
- cattle to be exported are NLIS identified and registered on the NLIS database against the PIC on which they currently reside
- all movements of the cattle from each property, until they are exported or rejected for export, will be recorded on the NLIS database by the live exporter, including to any assembly/depot properties, port PIC and from there to the 'exported' PIC EEEEEEEE (8E's).

CORRECTLY TAGGED LIVESTOCK

Cattle, sheep and goats must remain tagged with an NLIS-accredited tag or device from dispatch off the property of birth to slaughter or export.

Cattle:
- breeder tags are white and are used to permanently identify cattle before they leave their property of birth.
- post breeder tags are orange and are used to permanently identify introduced cattle, not already identified or that have lost their original tag.

Sheep and goats:
- breeder tags are multi coloured and are used to permanently identify sheep and goats before they leave their property of birth.
- post breeder tags are pink and are used to permanently identify introduced sheep and goats, not already identified or that have lost their original tag.

Sheep or goats born post 1 January 2017 must be tagged with an electronic NLIS tag.
Sheep or goats born interstate post 1 January 2019 must be tagged with an electronic NLIS tag prior to dispatch from a Victorian property.

NLIS cattle and sheep tags can be ordered online at **tags.agriculture.vic.gov.au** or by calling **1800 678 779**.

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CONTACTS

Agriculture Victoria Contacts

Agriculture Victoria NLIS Helpline operates between 9.00am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday.
Phone: 1800 678 779
Website: www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/nlis

NLIS Database Helpdesk Contacts

NLIS Ltd operates the NLIS Database Helpdesk from 9am-5pm (Sydney time), Monday-Friday.
Phone: 1800 654 743
Email: support@nlis.com.au

Livestock traceability protecting your livestock, your neighbours' and the viability of the entire industry.

ACCESSIBILITY

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format, please Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions Customer Service Centre on 1300 502 656.

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