

National Livestock Identification System

Quick Guide: NLIS for stock agents

Tuesday, 18 April 2023

This Quick Guide summarises the NLIS requirements which must be met by stock and station agents in NSW as set out in the Biosecurity (NLIS) Regulation 2017.

Agents have clear responsibilities under the *Biosecurity (NLIS) Regulation 2017* which began on 1 July 2017.

Agents must record the movement of livestock off their agent property identification code (PIC) to a destination PIC in the NLIS database within 2 days.

Use of agent codes

An agent code or PIC may be used if stock are bought and the PIC of the destination property is unknown by the end of sale day.

An agent must monitor the movement of stock transferred onto their agent code at all times.

An agent must move stock off their agent code to the destination PIC within 2 days using the Livestock off my current holdings (cattle); and Mob-based movement off agent PIC (sheep and goats) functions on the NLIS database. It is prohibited to move stock from one agent code to another agent code.

Not complying with NLIS rules means that livestock are very likely to be untraceable, and cattle will lose their Lifetime Traceable (LT) status.

NLIS tags and NVD

All livestock bought and sold by agents on behalf of their clients must be identified with an NLIS ear tag or device and have an accompanying National Vendor Declaration (NVD).

NLIS tags must never be printed with an agent's PIC.

Records

For stock going to slaughter, the NVD, or a copy, must be sent to the abattoir before delivery or with the stock.

For other movements the selling agent must provide a copy of the NVD to the buyer within 7 days.

The selling agent must keep a copy of the NVD for at least 2 years and be able to produce it if required.

Online sales

The owner of stock bought on-line via sites such as Auctions Plus and Elite Livestock is responsible for recording the movement of the stock onto the new property in the NLIS database. The transfer must be done within 2 days using the NLIS database functions Livestock moved onto my PIC and Mob-based movement onto my PIC.

Agents trading stock

If traded stock move directly between saleyards for on-selling, the original vendor NVD may be used in the second saleyard.

If traded stock move between saleyards via another property, a new NVD must be used at the second saleyard with the PIC of the transit property.

NLIS information – NSW DPI website

Guidelines for NSW saleyards and stock agents <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/nlis/sheep-goats/information-sheets/saleyards>

National Livestock Identification System <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/nlis>

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