

Primefact

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS):- purchasing or selling livestock online

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Animal Biosecurity, NSW DPIRD, Orange.

Property Identification Code (PIC)

Land where livestock are kept must be identified with a PIC, whether the livestock are kept for commercial production, personal consumption or as pets.

A PIC is critical for tracing livestock movements between locations. If you need a PIC, contact your [Local Land Services](#) (LLS) office or [apply online](#).

Purchasing or selling livestock online

If livestock are sold through an online auction or online selling site, they must be identified with an approved NLIS permanent identifier before they leave the location they are on and have a NLIS movement document accompanying them to the next location.

When cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs are purchased online through sites such as Auctions Plus, Elite Livestock, Gumtree, and others, the movement of livestock onto the purchaser's location must be recorded in the NLIS database (or the PigPass database for pigs).

The movement from the seller's location to the buyer's location is called a property-to-property movement, i.e., livestock are moved from one PIC to another location with a different PIC. The new stock owner or the person receiving the livestock at the new PIC is responsible for recording the movement in the NLIS database within two days of the livestock movement.

The only exception is if the online selling happens in conjunction with a physical public auction, such as an on-property stud bull or ram sale or at a saleyard. When a public auction occurs, the sale occurs under the same movement rules as a saleyard. More information about on-property sales can be found on the Prime fact for the species being sold, e.g., 'NLIS rules for on-property sheep and goat sales'.

NLIS movement document types

An NLIS movement document may be:

- Paper copy of a Livestock Production Assurance National Vendor Declaration and Waybill (LPA NVD), or
- Electronic version of an LPA NVD (eNVD), or
- PigPass NVD, or

- Transported Stock Statement (TSS).

The seller (vendor) and the new owner/buyer must keep a copy of the NLIS movement document.

Type of movement document	Document retention period
LPA National Vendor Declaration and Waybill, or electronic LPA National Vendor Declaration and Waybill	7 years
PigPass National Vendor Declaration	3 years
Transported Stock Statement	2 years

The required information on an NLIS movement document includes:

- the number and type of livestock
- the date the movement commenced
- the PIC of the property where the livestock left from
- the name and address of the property where movement commenced
- the PIC(s) on the NLIS identifiers of pigs, sheep and goats (for sheep and goats until 1 January 2027 if visual tags)
- the unique serial number of the movement document
- whether the livestock were bred by their current owner (vendor bred)
- the name and address of the property to which they are being moved (include destination PIC if known).

It is an offence if any of this information is false or misleading.

An LPA NVD or LPA eNVD is obtained through the [myMLA website](#), which also gives you access to the NLIS database, NVDs and other services, or are available from licensed eNVD software providers.

The [eNVD Livestock Consignments](#) application (app) allows producers to share consignment details along the supply chain with or without internet access.

The [LPA NVD and eNVD](#) provide market access and food safety information when selling and purchasing livestock.

Responsibility for recording movements of livestock on the NLIS database

Table 1 - Responsibility for recording livestock movements on the NLIS database

Type of online sale	Location of livestock at time of sale	Livestock movement	Responsibility for recording NLIS movement
Online auction e.g., Auctions Plus, Gumtree	On property/various properties	Vendor property to purchaser property (P2P)	Purchaser; P2P transfer within two days of arrival
Physical auction (auctioneer present) interfaced online e.g., Elite Livestock	On property sale	Vendor property to purchaser property	Auctioneer or agent as the saleyard operator; within two days of sale
		Vendor property to abattoir	Saleyard operator; on the day of the sale
Physical auction (auctioneer present) interfaced with online e.g., Auctions Plus	In saleyard	Vendor property to saleyard to purchaser property	Saleyard operator; close of business of the sale yard on the next working day
		Vendor property to saleyard to abattoir	Saleyard operator; on the day of the sale
Private treaty with another person e.g., on Gumtree	On single property	Vendor property to purchaser property	Purchaser; P2P transfer within two days of arrival

How do I record livestock movements in the NLIS or PigPass databases?

Cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs must have their movements recorded in the NLIS or PigPass databases by close of business the next day for livestock sold at sale yards and arriving at the new location.

Cattle identified with an approved NLIS electronic device and must be recorded individually on the NLIS database. To do this you will need to either scan the device of any livestock moving or record the individual NLIS identification code printed on the outside of the device. You will also need the delivery information recorded on the approved movement document (eg LPA NVD or eNVD).

Sheep and goats are transitioning to electronic identification devices. Sheep and goats born on or after 1 January 2025 must be identified with an NLIS electronic identification device. Sheep and goats born before 1 January 2025, may be identified with a visual NLIS device until 1 January 2027.

From 1 January 2025, sheep and goats identified with an NLIS electronic identification device will need to be recorded individually on the NLIS database, using the same process as cattle noted above.

Sheep or goats identified with visual devices are recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement. All information needed to record these movements should be provided on the

approved movement document (e.g., LPA NVD/eNVD/TSS). A mob movement can be as small as one animal eg one sheep or one goat.

Pigs need to be identified with a visual tag or a tattoo (swine brand). Pig movements between properties are recorded as mob-based movements on the PigPass database using information from the PigPass NVD. This data will be transferred immediately to the NLIS database.

Buying livestock from interstate

When purchasing livestock online consigned from an interstate location, there will be biosecurity and NLIS considerations.

To minimise the risk of introducing livestock diseases into NSW, you must consider the following biosecurity risks:

- Cattle, camelids (camels, alpacas and llamas), equines (horses, donkeys, asses, mules and zebras), deer, goats and sheep from Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia may increase the risk of importing cattle tick. To meet cattle tick requirements, refer to the [NSW DPIRD Primefact Cattle Tick – NSW entry requirements](#)
- Sheep and goats moving into NSW from all other states must be accompanied by a completed National [Animal Health Declaration](#) and be free of virulent footrot, unless they are being transported directly to an abattoir for slaughter.

When purchasing interstate livestock, you must check they have the required health declaration or carrier certificates before moving them onto your NSW property.

Livestock Welfare

When transporting livestock, you must follow the [Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(Land Transport of Livestock\) Standards 2013 No.2](#). Livestock must not be moved if they are completely blind, unable to bear weight on all four legs, in the late stage of pregnancy, are severely emaciated or dehydrated or are suffering from severe visible distress or injury (broken bones, cancers, open wounds).

Sick or diseased animals

You should not transport sick or diseased livestock unless necessary. Contact your private veterinarian or Local Lands Services (LLS) veterinarian for advice.

More information

NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development:

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/dpi/bfs/your-role-in-biosecurity/primary-producers/nlis>

Local Lands Services: 1300 795 299 or <http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/>

NLIS Database Helpdesk: 1800 683 111 or email: info@integritysystems.com.au or [How NLIS works - Integrity Systems](#)

Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) information on Integrity Systems Company [website](#), or 1800 683 111 or info@integritysystems.com.au

Farm Biosecurity website at: <http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/toolkit/declarations-and-statements/>

Pig pass helpdesk: 1800 001 456 or <https://pigpass.australianpork.com.au/faq>

Principles for all involved in livestock transport to protect the welfare of the animals in their care:

[The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(Land Transport of Livestock\) Standards 2013 No2](#)

Guide to determine - Is the animal fit to load?

2016_APL_Is_it_fit_for_the_intended_journey.pdf

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