Sheep and Goat eID
Processor Frequently Asked Questions

Why is eID being implemented?

NLIS (Sheep and Goats) as a mob-based system was fully implemented in mid-2010. The NLIS has matured, and our markets are more stringent in their traceability requirements. Hence the need to introduce a more accurate and efficient traceability system for sheep and goats.

The introduction of eID will:

- Provide more accurate and timely traceability of animals
- Reduce time delays to manage an emergency disease or residue incident
- Reduce the number of animals and producers impacted (including animals destroyed) in response to an emergency disease
- Reduce the time that Australia is restricted from export markets following an emergency disease or residue incident

What will I need to do?

At a minimum, all processing plants must be equipped to read sheep and goat eIDs and to be able to upload the eIDs to the NLIS database, by close of business the next working day after slaughter for abattoirs, or seven days after slaughter for knackeries.

Each processor should develop a site/business plan looking at what equipment and software may be required. Each processor will be unique in relation to the type and number of readers and software they may require.

Other optional equipment that can be integrated with eID readers and software include automatic drafters, scales and hook tracking.

What Government assistance will be provided to offset the costs to implement eID?

$38 million has been allocated by the NSW Government to support the sheep and goat industry transition to implement eID. This includes the $7.2 million Australian Government contribution.

Eligible saleyards, processors, primary producers and stock and station agents in NSW can apply for a rebate on the purchase and installation of eID systems and equipment.

Applications for the NSW Sheep and Goat eID Infrastructure Rebate Scheme open on

- 1 August for saleyards and processors.
- 3 October for producers and stock and station agents.

Information about the rebate, including program guidelines and FAQs are available on the RAA website: www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/eid.

What do we do if sheep or goats are not tagged with eID after the cut-off date?

In NSW, all sheep and farmed goats born from 1 January 2025 must be fitted with an eID before leaving their property of birth. All sheep and farmed goats of any age must be fitted with an eID before leaving a property from 1 January 2027. If stock arrive at a processor non-compliant with this timeline:

- If there are a small number of stock in a consignment without an eID, an emergency eID can be fitted, and the vendor charged for the cost of the eID.

- If an entire consignment of stock is not identified with eIDs:
  - the stock cannot be processed and must be returned to the vendor
  - the stock can be held until sufficient emergency tags can be obtained and attached
  - the stock may be slaughtered without tags on the direction of a NSW Compliance Officer or government veterinarian on welfare grounds and must be correctly linked to the PIC of origin as determined by the NVD.

What do I do if my equipment doesn't arrive or is not working by 30 June 2024?

For processors, if you are not set up in time to be able to scan sheep and goat eIDs by 30 June 2024, you must be able to provide proof of purchase of equipment before 30 June 2024, and consult with your providers for estimated delivery and installation times.

What do I do if I can't reach 100% eID read rate?

Potential causes of eID tags not being read successfully are the:

- eID is damaged
- reader is experiencing interference
- reader is damaged.

If the issue is with the tag, you may have to manually record the visual NLIS ID number printed on the exterior of the eID or fit an emergency eID to the animal. If the issue is with your reader or other equipment, contact your equipment manufacturer.

What do we do with goats that have leg bands?

Any goats presenting for processing with leg bands are required to have the leg bands scanned and uploaded into the NLIS database (the leg band contains a microchip). This may be completed by scanning with a handheld reader, positioning a fixed panel reader to scan the goats' back legs or reading and recording the NLIS serial number on the exterior of eID manually.

Will harvested rangeland goats have to be fitted with eIDs?

No, harvested rangeland goats will not have to be identified with an eID if they are captured from the wild and sold directly to a processor, or via one registered depot. All farmed goats and all sheep must be fitted with eIDs when they are sold directly to a processor.