



# Sheep and Goat eID Processor Frequently Asked Questions

NSW is currently transitioning to individual electronic identification (eID) for sheep and goats to strengthen Australia's livestock traceability systems.

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## Why is eID being implemented?

The NLIS (Sheep and Goats) mob-based system was fully implemented in mid-2010. The international markets we sell to now have higher traceability requirements, and the growing volume of international trade and travel has increased biosecurity risks to Australian livestock industries. Therefore, a more accurate and efficient traceability system for is required 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 processors need to do?

At a minimum, all processing plants needed to be equipped to read sheep and goat eID devices and be able to upload the individual eID devices to the NLIS database by 30 June 2024. NLIS

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## Sheep and Goat eID

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uploads must be completed by close of business the next working day after slaughter for abattoirs, or seven days after slaughter for knackerries.

Recording of eID devices can be achieved manually by using fixed or hand-held eID readers in combination with processor software that is linked to the NLIS database, or by recording the printed NLIS ID number on the exterior of the device. Each processor will be unique in relation to the type and number of eID readers and the software they may require.

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

### What do we do if sheep or goats are not tagged with eID after the required date?

In NSW, all sheep and farmed goats born from 1 January 2025 must be fitted with an eID device before leaving their property of birth. All sheep and farmed goats of any age must be fitted with an eID device before leaving any property from 1 January 2027.

If stock arrive without an eID device at a processor, and are non-compliant with this timeline, the suggested actions are:

- If there is a small number of stock in a consignment without eIDs, an emergency eID (with the processor PIC) can be fitted to each sheep or goat, 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 should be returned to the vendor under permit
  - the stock can be held until sufficient emergency eIDs can be obtained and attached
  - the stock may be slaughtered without eIDs on the direction of a NSW DPIRD Compliance Officer, or government veterinarian, on welfare grounds. Each sheep or goat must be correctly linked to the PIC of origin as determined by the NVD.

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

eID tags may not be read successfully if 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.

Please refer to the [NLIS Database user Guide for processors; stock with an electronic device.](#)

### Will harvested rangeland goats have to be fitted with eIDs?

Harvested rangeland goats (HRG) will not have to be identified with an eID device if they are captured from the wild, meet the definition of an HRG and are moved directly to a processor, or via one registered depot.

From 1 January 2025 HRGs must be transported with a HRG specific National Vendor Declaration (NVD). This is available only to accredited HRG producers. Any goats consigned without the specific HRG NVD will require an eID device to be attached and they cannot be consigned as an HRG.

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If any HRGs spend longer than 10 days at a goat depot or are moved from a goat depot to another PIC that is not a processor, an eID will need to be attached to each HRG.

All farmed goats and all sheep must be fitted with eID devices when they are sold directly to a processor.