

DPI Primefact

NLIS (Sheep and Goats): agistment requirements

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Animal Biosecurity unit, NSW DPI

This document outlines requirements for moving sheep and goats in NSW.

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)

The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) underpins access of Australian livestock products to international markets. NLIS allows for traceability of livestock through a combination of permanent identifiers, movement documents and database records.

The NLIS database holds information on sheep and goat movements from birth to slaughter, to protect and enhance Australia's reputation as a producer of animal products that are free of chemical residues and exotic diseases.

NLIS ear tags or devices printed with a Property Identification Code (PIC) are required to be attached to all livestock and all properties with livestock should have a PIC.

In NSW the NLIS is supported by the Biosecurity (NLIS) Regulation 2017.

Permanent identification of sheep and goats – NLIS ear tags

All sheep and goats must have NLIS ear tags attached before they are sent to an agistment property.

Any lambs or kids born on a property must be tagged with breeder tags printed with the agistment property's PIC.

Identifying sheep or farmed goats who aren't identified or have lost their tag, a post-breeder (pink) tag printed with the agistment property PIC must be used.

Remember: it doesn't matter who owns the stock – the tags relate to the property of birth, or to the property on which they were identified, not the owner.

Property Identification Code (PIC)

Make sure you know the:

- PIC of your property, and
- PIC of the agistment property.

NLIS movement documents

Sheep and goats must travel with one of the following correctly completed documents:

- Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) National Vendor Declaration (NVD) and Waybill,
- Electronic or eNVD (see [National Vendor Declaration | Integrity System](#), or available through licensed eNVD software providers), or
- A Transported Stock Statement (TSS) available from [Local Land Services \(LLS\)](#).

Movements of sheep and goats into NSW also require a [Sheep/Goat Health Declaration](#).

Recording the movement in the NLIS database

When you send sheep/goats on agistment the owner of the stock, or the person in charge of the stock at the agistment property, is responsible for ensuring the movement to the agistment property is recorded in the NLIS database.

The stock owner and the agistor must agree who will record the movement of the stock to the agistment property. The movement must be recorded within 2 days of the stock arriving at the agistment property.

To allow the movement to be recorded the agistment property owner or manager must provide the PIC of the property to the owner of the agisted stock.

If you are unable to record the movement on the NLIS database, you can arrange for a third party such as a stock agent or contractor to do the recording for you. However, it is still up to you, as the owner of the sheep or goats, to ensure the movement is recorded.

When the sheep/goats return from agistment to the property they came from, it is your responsibility as the stock owner to record that movement on the NLIS database.

If stock moving from agistment don't go back to their original property, the person receiving the stock, i.e., the abattoir or saleyard operator, or the new owner, is responsible for entering this movement on the database.

For further information or assistance contact the NLIS Database Helpdesk on 1800 683 111 or info@integritysystems.com.au.

Buying sheep/goats to send to an agistment property

You must provide the saleyard operator or the selling agent with the PIC of the agistment property the sheep/goats are moving to, not your own PIC.

Selling sheep/goats off an agistment property

The sheep must travel with an NVD printed with the PIC of the agistment property.

Do not use your own property's NVD and PIC.

You must record all the different PICs on the ear tags of the sheep in the mob on the NVD in the 'Brand / Ear tag / PIC' column, if it's a mixed or non-vendor bred mob. Alternatively, you can tag all the sheep/goats with the pink post-breeder tag of the agistment property.

If the sheep/goats are sold via a saleyard or go to a feedlot or abattoir, the movement will be recorded on the NLIS database for you.

If the sheep/goats are moved to another property, the new owner of the sheep/goats should record the mob's movement to the new property on the NLIS database. However, it is a good idea to check the database to see if the movement has been recorded off your property.

Remember: The information required is about where the sheep or goats have been, not about who owns them.

How long do I need to keep records of the movement?

NLIS movement documents such as an NVD must be kept for 7 years.

More information

NSW DPI website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/nlis>

NSW DPI NLIS enquiries nlis@dpi.nsw.gov.au or 1300 720 405

NLIS database helpdesk: info@integritysystems.com.au or 1800 683 111

Local Land Services: <http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/>

Livestock Production Assurance (LPA): [Livestock Production Assurance \(LPA\) | Integrity Systems](#) or 1800 683 111 or email info@integritysystems.com.au

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