DPI Primefact

Moving pigs into and within NSW

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Animal Biosecurity unit, NSW DPI

All pigs, including pet pigs must meet certain NSW movement requirements.

Introduction

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 livestock 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.

Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory

There are no restrictions on the movement of pigs into New South Wales from Queensland and from any part of Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

Moving pigs into NSW

When pigs move into NSW from any other state or territory, they must meet the state of origin's NLIS requirements before entering NSW. Once they arrive at a property in NSW and move again, they must meet NSW NLIS requirements.

Moving pigs within NSW

PigPass National Vendor Declaration

Pigs moving to a saleyard, another property or an abattoir require a PigPass National Vendor Declaration (NVD) to travel with them.

Any property in NSW where pigs are kept must have a Property Identification Code (PIC).

Local Land Services (LLS) can advise if the property already has a PIC and if not, will assign a PIC to the parcel of land where the pigs are kept. You must register with the PigPass database to obtain a PigPass NVD.

The PigPass NVD must be given to the person receiving the pigs. This may be a livestock agent, the new owner of the pigs at a property, or an abattoir operator. The sender or vendor of the pigs and the receiver or buyer of the pigs must keep a copy of the PigPass NVD for 3 years.

A permit obtained from LLS is also an approved NLIS movement document which may accompany pigs in certain circumstances; it must be kept for 3 years.

Swine brands

Pigs moving to a saleyard, another property or an abattoir must be branded with a swine brand if they weigh more than 25 kg and are changing ownership.

Brands are:
- Applied with carbon ink
- Applied to one or both shoulders
- Based on the PIC of the property the pigs were last on
- In the correct format – characters are 20mm high in 2 even rows

If your property does not have its own swine brand, contact LLS to discuss purchasing a brand for your property or the use of their LLS crown brand in certain circumstances.

NLIS ear tags

NLIS accredited ear tags for use on pigs are either yellow or orange and are printed with a property's unique PIC, the NLIS logo and 'P' inside a circle.

These ear tags are used to permanently identify pigs less than 25 kg liveweight and may be used as an option for identifying pigs greater than 25 kg if a brand is unavailable.

Breeder tags are yellow and are only to be attached to a pig where its property of birth matches the PIC printed on the ear tag. A pig may only have one breeder tag.

Post-breeder tags are orange and are used on a pig that was either born on a different property or whose property of birth is unknown. The PIC on the tag must be the same as the PIC for the property on which the pig is to be tagged.

More than one post breeder device may be attached to a pig, i.e., a new post-breeder tag is attached each time the pig moves from a different property.

PigPass database

All pig movements to or from farms, backyards, saleyards, showgrounds and abattoirs in NSW must be recorded in the PigPass database.

It is the responsibility of the person receiving the pigs at the next property to record the movement in the PigPass database within 2 days. To do this the receiver of the pigs will need to register with PigPass. Pig movement data is transferred immediately from the PigPass database into the NLIS database.

Feral Pigs

It is illegal to transport or keep live feral pigs in NSW.

Sick Pigs

You should not transport sick pigs. Contact your private veterinarian or LLS for advice.

Animal Welfare

You must follow the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Land Transport of Livestock) Standards 2013 No.2 when transporting pigs in NSW.

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 defines the minimum standard for the keeping of all animals, including pigs.

Keeping pigs in NSW

Property Identification codes (PIC)

Anyone who keeps one or more pigs must have a PIC for the land on which the pigs are kept. Contact your LLS to obtain a PIC if your property doesn't have a PIC.

What the community or neighbours think

You must talk to your council before buying a pig as they may not let you keep them on your property. Pigs cannot be kept on suburban blocks.

You should also discuss owning a pig with your neighbours before buying one.

More information

Local Lands Services: 1300 795 299, or go to https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/

PigPass database:

1800 001 458, or email helpdesk@pigpass.com.au or see https://pigpass.australianpork.com.au

NSW Department of Primary Industries:

NSW DPI website – NLIS Pigs - go to NLIS Pigs (nsw.gov.au)

Biosecurity and Food Safety branch at biosecurity@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Your Reference number: