Department of Primary Industries
Department of Regional NSW

DPI Primefact

Moving sheep into and within NSW

March 2023, Primefact, Seventh edition
Animal Biosecurity Unit, Orange

All sheep, including pets, poddy lambs, dairy, wool and meat sheep must meet certain movement requirements.

Moving sheep into NSW

From any other state

Sheep moving *into* NSW from other states must meet NSW NLIS and health requirements (see below).

Sheep moving *into* NSW must be accompanied by a completed National Sheep Health Declaration. They must be free of virulent footrot unless they are being transported directly to an abattoir for slaughter

If the sheep aren't showing signs of footrot, the National Sheep Health Declaration must be provided to the person to whom the stock are delivered and presented to the relevant Local Land Services office within two days.

National Sheep Health Declaration is available at:
http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/toolkit/declarations-and-statements/

From Queensland, the Northern Territory or Western Australia

Sheep moving from the cattle tick infested areas in Queensland, Western Australia or Northern Territory may be infected with cattle tick.

There are legal controls on the entry of secondary cattle tick carriers such as sheep to NSW.

Refer to table 1, Treatment and inspection requirements for cattle tick carriers entering NSW in the NSW DPI Primefact Cattle Tick – NSW entry requirements.

For more information contact the NSW DPI Cattle Tick Program on cattletick@dpi.nsw.gov.au or on (02) 6626 1201.

Fodder from any other state

Plant material may be restricted from entering NSW. Contact the DPI Biosecurity & Food Safety NSW unit for general information on importing fodder on quarantine@dpi.nsw.gov.au or 1800 084 881.

Moving sheep within NSW

Sheep moving *within* NSW must meet NSW NLIS and health requirements.

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 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 devices 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.

Property Identification Codes (PIC)

Every property on which sheep are kept must have a PIC. This PIC is printed on an NLIS approved ear tag.

NLIS approved ear tags

Currently all sheep being moved *into* NSW or to another property *within* NSW must be identified with an approved NLIS visual ear tag. See a list of NLIS accredited devices here.

NLIS tags must not be removed. More than one 'pink' post-breeder tag may be applied in addition to the original breeder tag.

NLIS movement documents

All sheep being moved *into* or *within* NSW must be accompanied by a movement document that is one of the following:

- 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)
- Permit issued by a Local Land Services office or a NSW DPI Biosecurity and Food Safety authorised officer

The PIC on at least one ear tag attached to each sheep must match the PIC pre-printed or written on the NVD, eNVD or TSS.

An LPA NVD or eNVD is obtained through the myMLA website which gives you access to the NLIS database, NVDs and other services.

The LPA NVD provides market access and food safety information when selling livestock.

Most stock buyers will not purchase sheep that do not have an NVD. When a fully completed NVD is used a TSS is not required.

NLIS database

All sheep movements must be recorded in the NLIS database. The persons responsible for notifying the database are:

- Saleyard operators for sheep sold through a saleyard
- Abattoir operators for sheep sent direct to an abattoir
- Owner of the sheep for all other sheep movements to and between any other properties, and within 2 days of their arrival.

Stock Permit

A stock permit is required for sheep being walked along a public road. This is in addition to identifying sheep with an NLIS tag and recording the movement in the NLIS database (unless both properties have the same PIC).

Contact your Local Land Services office for a permit.

National Sheep Health Declaration

All sheep entering NSW from interstate must have with them a completed National Sheep Health Declaration, unless they are being transported direct to slaughter at an abattoir.

The National Sheep Health Declaration includes information on the flock diseases; footrot, lice, ovine brucellosis (OB) and ovine Johne's disease (JD).

Footrot

Sheep infected with virulent footrot are not allowed to be moved *within* NSW, unless on a permit from an authorised officer.

Johne's disease

There are no movement restrictions on account of Johne's disease of sheep *into or within* NSW.

Ovine brucellosis (OB)

Ovine brucellosis infected sheep should not be moved *into or within* NSW unless going to slaughter.

Sick sheep

You should not transport sick sheep unless necessary. Contact your private veterinarian or Local Land Services for advice.

Animal Welfare

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

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

More Information

Local Land Services: 1300 795 299 or go to http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/

NSW DPI Cattle tick Program: (02) 6626 1201

General advice on livestock or fodder movements: 1800 084 881

NLIS Database Helpdesk: 1800 683 111 or info@integritysystems.com.au

Livestock Production Assurance (LPA): 1800 683 111 or email info@integritysystems.com.au

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