



# Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Frequently Asked Questions

## NSW Sheep & Goat eID Tag Discount Program

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### Key Points

- The NSW Government has committed a total of \$41 million for the implementation of the national Electronic Identification program for sheep and goats. This is the largest commitment of any state or territory.
- This funding includes available funding from the existing \$38.9 million announced in July 2023 toward the eID program and an additional \$2.1 million that has been acquired specifically to raise the support for producers purchasing tags in 2024.
- The total funding now available under the NSW Government's discount program for eID tags is approximately \$10.2 million.
- The \$10.2 million will provide a 76 cent per tag discount for lambs and goat kids born in NSW in 2025.
- The funding for this support program is based on forecasts for 2025 using MLA and ABS data regarding lamb numbers and with goat abattoirs and NLIS movement data for farmed goat kid numbers.
- Based on current information on stock numbers and the discount announced, it is expected that discount tags will be available for all lamb and kids born next year

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### What are the benefits of the eID program?

The ability to trace animals via eID allows Government to reduce disease spread and to respond and manage exotic disease incidents more quickly. This reduces the risk to producers that their animals and revenue will be negatively impacted in the case of disease spread.

The discount will assist farmers as the sheep and goat industry transitions to the use of eID tags from 1 January 2025 and support the implementation of this key industry traceability reform.

eID also provides the ability for sheep producers to obtain individual animal data for such matters as health, fertility, genetics, weight gain and wool traits. This data allows producers to make more informed management, monitoring and selection decisions thereby facilitating the ability to improve productivity and profitability.

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## What will eID tags cost?

Based on current market pricing, tags should be available to NSW sheep and goat producers from \$1, depending on the choice of manufacturer and tag type.

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## How did the NSW Government decide to offer a \$0.76 discount program?

The \$0.76c discount reflects the available funds allocated across the forecast 2025 lamb and kid drop.

The forecast number of lambs and farmed goat kids are based on MLA and ABS data for lamb numbers in 2025, and data from goat abattoirs and NLIS movements for kid numbers.

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## What will happen if manufacturers or retailers decide to price gouge or not pass on the discount to producers

NSW DPI will work with the manufacturers and retailers of eID devices to ensure that all of the benefits of this assistance are delivered to producers. This will be monitored and any manufacturers that attempt to take advantage of this support package will lose the competitive advantage that this discount provides for their products.

It is noted that in other states where similar tag discount programs have been implemented, there has not been an increase in prices, with some states anecdotally highlighting competitive downward pressure on prices.

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## How long will the discount be available for?

The Sheep and Goat eID Tag Discount Program is open from 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025.

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## Will this discount be paid direct to producers based on their tag purchase receipts or to tag manufacturers who then reduce their wholesale price and sell direct to producers?

This device discount program is structured to ensure that producers gain the maximum benefit with the least amount of administrative responsibility. The discount will be applied at the point of sale, arranged directly with device manufacturers and minimising paperwork for producers.

Sheep and farmed goat producers in NSW will need to have an active Property Identification Code (PIC) and purchase eligible devices between 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025 from participating retailers and manufacturers to receive the discount.

The discount will assist sheep and farmed goat owners transition to the use of eID from 1 January 2025, and support the implementation of this key industry reform, ultimately enhancing traceability and biosecurity across the sheep and goat industry.

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## How much money has been allocated to the 76-cent device discount?

The NSW Government has allocated \$10.2 million for the eID device discount program to support the state's sheep and farmed goat producers with a \$0.76 per tag discount for lambs and goat kids born in NSW in 2025.

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## What will be the criteria for sheep and goat producers to access the rebate?

The discount will be available to all sheep and farmed goat producers in NSW with an active Property Identification Code. They will then need to purchase eligible NLIS white tags between 1 November 2024 to 31 October 2025 from participating retailers and manufacturers to receive the discount.

There will be further criteria to ensure that producers are able to evenly access the benefits of this support program and to prevent over purchasing of discounted tags. More details will be available shortly on the DPI website at [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/eID](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/eID)

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## Will other eID devices eg. leg bands be included in the discount program or is it just tags?

NLIS accredited eID leg bands will be included in the discount program.

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