

## **NLIS**

The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) Sheep and Goats is the national system for tracing sheep, lambs and goats. NLIS enhances Australia's traceability and ability to maintain access to key export markets. The NLIS will also help to quickly contain a food safety or exotic disease incident. NLIS Sheep and Goats was introduced on 1 January 2006. It is a mob-based system that uses a Property Identification Code (PIC) which is printed on an ear tag.

**It is essential for producers to correctly complete their movement documents and vendor declaration to support the system and ensure that the traceability system is not flawed.**

The following information has been obtained from the NSW Department of Primary Industries website (<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/nlis/sheep-goats/basic>) and represents the current requirements for NLIS Sheep and Goats in NSW.

### **Overview**

Since 2006, the NSW NLIS requirements have been:

- Sheep and Goat Producers must have a PIC
- All sheep and goats born after 1 January 2006 must be tagged with an NLIS Breeder tag before they are sent to a saleyard or another property
- Producers must use an appropriate movement document (NVD, TSS, Health Statement or Post Sale Summary) when sending sheep or goats to a saleyard, abattoir or another property. Both the consignor and the purchaser/receiver of the stock must keep their copy of this document for seven years.
- Use a pink Post-breeder tag:
  - to replace missing tags on sheep and goats no longer on their property of birth
  - As an alternative to listing all PICs numbers on movement documentation.
- On the movement document, record the PIC of the property that the sheep or goats are travelling from as well as the PICs on tags in the animals' ears, if they are different.
- Producers reselling sheep and goats that they have bought have a choice:
  - they can record on their movement document all PICs printed on the NLIS tags attached to animals in the consignment or recorded on the movement document which came with them, OR
  - they can identify each animal with an NLIS pink Post-breeder tag.

### **Exemptions**

**All sheep need to be tagged from 1 January 2009.** This includes sheep and farmed goats consigned direct to slaughter.

- Feral goats do not need to be tagged under NLIS Sheep and Goats if they move direct to slaughter or via a depot. This exemption does not apply to goats sold at a saleyard.
- Dairy goats and earless goats are not required to be tagged.