

Overview

The NSW requirements from **1 January 2006** are below.

- Have a **property identification code (PIC)**. Contact your Rural Lands Protection Board if you don't have one. If you run cattle the PIC is the same.
- **Tag all sheep and goats born on or after 1 January 2006** with a **NLIS Breeder tag** for sheep and goats before they are sent to a saleyard or to another property.
- 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
 - if you opt not to record on your movement document all PICs on tags on sheep or goats being moved.

Exemptions

- Stock born before **1 January 2006** do not need to be tagged until **1 January 2009**.
- Sheep and farmed goats consigned from property of birth direct to slaughter for sale over the hooks are exempt from tagging. This includes goats consigned to slaughter for sale over the hooks via a depot. This exemption will be reviewed in 2007–08.
 - [Buyers may require any stock to be tagged as part of their commercial specifications. \(Important in light of recent AMIC announcements\)](#)

The 'year of birth' colour system for Breeder tags. (This is a voluntary system for identifying the age of stock)

Year and Colour

2005 **YELLOW**, 2006 **RED**, 2007 **SKY BLUE**, 2008 **BLACK**, 2009 **WHITE**, 2010 **ORANGE**
2011 **LIGHT GREEN**, 2012 **PURPLE**

The Association has policy from AC 06 that calls for the 'year of birth' colour tagging to remain voluntary.

New Developments

In a recent announcement Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC) stated that they will only be buying stock that has a NLIS tag in their ear. This includes all stock sold direct to slaughter or through the saleyards, regardless of the current exemptions.

All producers should be checking with their local abattoir or meat buyer to see if they will be enforcing the AMIC announcement. There is very little that the Association can do in regard to this announcement because of the provision that buyers may require any stock to be tagged as part of their commercial specifications.

**If anyone has any questions about NLIS Sheep please give me a call
(02) 8251 1803 or stallem@nswfarmers.org.au**