

Animal Biosecurity

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) for Sheep and Goats in the NT – from 1 January 2009

NLIS in the NT Fact Sheet last updated: 24/02/2014

NLIS for sheep and goats is needed to enhance Australia's ability to quickly and successfully contain a major food safety or disease incident within Australia to provide consumer confidence and to help maintain access to key export markets. All states and the NT have agreed to introduce NLIS for sheep and goats. From 1 January 2009, NLIS for sheep and goats was implemented in the NT and will follow national guidelines.

Property Identification Code (PIC)

All properties running sheep or goats are required to be registered with a PIC.

Waybills

Waybill use is mandatory for sheep and goats travelling in the NT.

Tags

- NLIS sheep and goat tags are visually readable and have the property PIC printed on the front of the tag. Unlike NLIS cattle tags sheep/goat tags are not electronic. They can be sourced from rural merchandise outlets.
- NLIS breeder tags are only to be applied on the property of birth before the sheep/goat moves to another property. NLIS Breeder tags are colour coded by the animal's year of birth and use an eight year rotation system. The use of the colour code for the year of birth will not be compulsory in the NT. This means that any tags left over from one year can be used the following year.
- NLIS post breeder tags will be applied when the sheep/goats are no longer on their property of birth or when introduced animals have lost their tag. NLIS Post breeder tags will be pink in colour for any year.
- NLIS tags must not be removed from an animal's ear.

Movement requirements Property to Property:

- The owner of the origin property sending sheep/goats must be registered with a PIC.
- The owner of the origin property must apply the NLIS tags registered to the origin property to the sheep/goats before they leave the property and complete a NT waybill for the movement. Any existing NLIS tags from previous properties must remain in the sheep/goats ear.
- If the sheep/goats were not bred on the property a pink post breeder tag must be applied to the sheep/goats before they leave the property and complete a NT waybill for the movement.
- Sheep/goats moving from a property to another property for agistment, service, or shows do not require a new NLIS tag for the return trip providing ownership of the sheep/goats does not change and they are returning to the same origin property.
- Sheep/goats being spelled overnight in NT trucking yards do not require a trucking yard NLIS tag to be attached, however a new waybill must be written which accurately describes the details of the second leg of the journey.

Live Export:

- The export depot must be registered with a PIC.
- All sheep/goats consigned to an export depot must be identified with an NLIS tag.
- The export depot should hold a number of NLIS post breeder tags in case untagged sheep / goats are detected.

- Animals leaving a registered export facility for live export (Darwin Wharf) must carry an NLIS tag and be accompanied by a completed NT waybill.
- Any animals leaving the export facility to any other destination other than the wharf will require an additional post breeder NLIS tag identifying the export depot and an NT Waybill.

Shows:

- The showgrounds must be registered with a PIC.
- Showgrounds should hold a number of NLIS post breeder tags in case untagged sheep/goats arrive at the showgrounds. A NLIS post breeder tag with the showground PIC must be attached before leaving the show grounds.
- All sheep and goats moving to the showground must apply the NLIS tags registered to the origin property before they leave the property and complete a NT waybill.
- Sheep/goats moving from a property to a show do not require a new NLIS tag for the return trip providing ownership of the sheep/goats does not change and they are returning to the same origin property.
- All movements from the show grounds must carry a completed NT waybill.

Interstate Movement

- All sheep/goat movements from the NT to interstate must comply with the identification requirements of the state/territory of destination.
- All sheep and goats entering the NT are required to have NLIS tags attached and be accompanied by a completed NT Health Certificate Waybill. If sheep/goats are rested or spelled at any place in the NT during the journey described on the Health Certificate Waybill then a new waybill must be written which accurately describes the details of the second leg of the journey.

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ORDER FORM – NLIS Tags for Sheep and Goats

Under the *Livestock Regulations* holdings on which sheep or goats are kept are registered with a Property Identification Code (PIC). A certificate of registration of the PIC is provided to the owner.

I, _____ of _____
(print name) (postal address)

am the owner / manager / authorised representative of the owner, of the Property listed below. I declare that the Property Identification Code is that contained on the Certificate of Registration of the holding.

I am aware that the NLIS tags ordered below can only be attached to animals kept or depastured on the holding described in this order.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

NAME OF PROPERTY/HOLDING: _____

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE (PIC):

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If unsure check your details in the PIC Search Database – <http://pic.primaryindustry.nt.gov.au/>

TAG TYPE:

Breeder Tag

2014.....Red

2015.....Sky Blue

Total # Tags: _____

2016.....Black

2017.....White

2018... Orange

2019... Light Green

Post Breeder Tags

Pink

Total # Tags: _____

Complete this form and present to a rural merchandise outlet to order your NLIS Tags.

For confirmation of the Property Identification Code (PIC) go to <http://pic.primaryindustry.nt.gov.au>

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