

# NLIS requirements for goats

The national perspective – 1 September 2009

## YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE

**NLIS is Australia's system for the identification and tracing of goats for biosecurity, food safety, product integrity and market access purposes.**

Throughout Australia, producers are required to know where the goats under their management have come from and where they are going.

This means:

- All managed goats must be identified with an NLIS ear tag before leaving their property – be they destined for a saleyard, abattoir, sale over-the-hooks (OTH) or another property with a different Property Identification Code (PIC).
- All transported goats, not just managed goats, must be accompanied by accurate and fully completed movement documents, generally a National Vendor Declaration (NVD).

There are some state-based exemptions or additional requirements for dairy goats, show goats and unmanaged (feral or rangeland) goats.

Contact your state department of primary industries or agriculture for specific requirements.

## KNOW YOUR OBLIGATIONS

### What are managed goats?

Managed goats include goats bred on-farm, purchased or feral (rangeland) goats harvested from the wild that are given any form of animal husbandry such as drenching, joining or feeding, or run as a mob in a fenced area.

Definitions of managed goats vary between states and you should check with your local state department of primary industries or agriculture.

## IF IN DOUBT – FIND OUT

*NLIS requirements for goats vary in different states.*

Contact your local state department of primary industries or agriculture for more information.

[www.mla.com.au/NLISforGoats](http://www.mla.com.au/NLISforGoats)

### What is an NLIS ear tag for use on goats?

NLIS tags are approved tags printed with the NLIS logo and your PIC. In Western Australia, the tag has the brand printed on it, not the PIC. There are two types of NLIS tags; NLIS breeder tags which are colour coded for year of birth and pink NLIS post-breeder tags. Both types of tags can be ordered through merchandise suppliers.

### What is a Property Identification Code (PIC)?

A PIC is a unique identifier for your property. It is issued by your state department of primary industries or agriculture.

### What if I am selling goats into a state with different requirements?

You will need to follow the requirements of the state where the goats begin their journey as well as the destination state (and any states that you pass through during the journey).

### I only have a small number of goats. Do they require NLIS ear tags?

Yes, although some state-based exemptions or alternative requirements exist for dairy and show goats. Contact your state department for details.

### Feral (rangeland) goats move onto my property from time to time. Do I have to tag these if I want to sell them?

In most states, feral or rangeland goats must be tagged if they are subjected to any form of management or animal husbandry. Contact your state department for specific requirements.

### Do I need to tag dairy goats or show goats?

Some state-based exemptions or alternative requirements exist for dairy goats and show goats. Contact your state department for details.



National Livestock  
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Australian Government  
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Fisheries and Forestry