Sheep and goat eID information for saleyards

Mandatory individual electronic identification (eID) is replacing the mob-based visual tag system for sheep and goats as part of a national traceability initiative.

Queensland will transition to eID for sheep and goats in two stages:

1. Sheep and goats **born on or after 1 January 2025** must be identified with a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)-accredited eID device before leaving their property of birth.
2. **From 1 January 2027, all other sheep and goats** leaving a property must be identified with an NLIS-accredited eID device before leaving the property.

Saleyards must have the ability to scan, record and report sheep and goat eID devices moving into and out of their facilities from 1 January 2025.

Requirements for saleyards and depots

By 1 January 2025

- Install all eID saleyard software and hardware in addition to necessary infrastructure changes.
- Complete any required staff training on how to use all new eID equipment and software.
- Conduct testing of eID scanning and recording capability before 1 January 2025 to identify and mitigate any issues.

From 1 January 2025

- Record the movement of sheep and goats to the saleyard or depot PIC from the consignment PIC, and to the destination PIC after sale, in the NLIS database.

From 1 January 2025 to 1 January 2027 there will be two types of uploads to the NLIS database:

1. Sheep and goats identified with an eID device are to be individually scanned and uploaded to the NLIS database. The printed NLIS number can be used instead of the RFID as part of the upload notification.
2. Mob-based uploads for sheep and goats with a visual tag slaughtered at the facility.

This ensures that both types of uploads are effectively managed during this period, and livestock cohorts can be traced in the event of an emergency animal disease or chemical residue incident.

From 1 January 2027

All sheep and managed goats will have all movements recorded as individual uploads to the NLIS database.

Sheep or goats with eID devices that die or are humanely euthanised at a saleyard must have their eID scanned and reported individually to the NLIS database as deceased.

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Vendor declarations

All sheep and goats moving from consignment PICs must be accompanied by the correct movement documentation.

Missing eID devices

All sheep and goats born from 1 January 2025 must be fitted with an eID device before travelling to a saleyard. From 1 January 2027, all sheep and goats must be fitted with an eID device before travelling to a saleyard.

Stock arriving at a saleyard without an eID device must be reported to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours and a saleyard post-breeder device must be fitted.

Unsuccessful read rates

Potential causes of eID tags not being read successfully are:
- damaged eID device
- reader interference
- damaged reader.

If the issue is with the eID device, you may have to manually record the visual NLIS ID number (printed on the eID).

If the issue is with your reader or other equipment, contact your equipment manufacturer.

Goats with eID leg bands

Any goats presenting at a saleyard with leg bands are required to have the leg bands scanned and uploaded into the NLIS database (the leg-band contains a microchip).

This may be completed by scanning with a handheld reader, positioning a fixed panel reader to scan the goats' back legs, or recording the NLIS serial number manually.

NLIS database uploads

The NLIS database is the critical tracing tool which will be used to rapidly trace sheep and goats in any emergency animal disease or chemical residue incident.

Between 1 January 2025 and 1 January 2027, livestock agents may be required to use two methods for reporting to the NLIS database. Any animal that presents with an eID device during this time must be scanned and uploaded to the NLIS database.

More information

- [NLIS Database User Guide for Processors, Livestock with electronic devices](#)

- [NLIS Database – Tech Tip – Sheep and Goats Mob-based kill upload](#)

- [NLIS database Tech Tip PIC and device status codes](#)

- Integrity Systems phone 1800 683 111, email: support@integritysystems.com.au

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