

Tasmanian Standards for the

IDENTIFICATION OF GOATS

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Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to specify requirements for the correct identification of goats under part 15(a) of the *Biosecurity (Livestock Traceability) Regulations 2024* (the Regulations).

By conforming with these Standards, industry participants will be compliant with Tasmanian legislation relating to the identification of livestock. These Standards also need to be read in conjunction with the *Biosecurity (Livestock Traceability) Regulations 2024*, to ensure compliance with broader traceability obligations including the requirement for property identification codes and the reporting of livestock movements.

The expected outcome associated with the application of these Standards is that goats within Tasmania will be traceable in line with Australia's National Livestock Traceability Performance Standards.

Scope

These Standards apply to:

1. All goats, including the intact carcasses of dead goats.
2. All persons responsible for the management and husbandry of goats and/or their dispatch to, receipt at, or transportation from premises including farms, residential properties, saleyards, transit depots, livestock processors, and agricultural show venues.

Importance of livestock identification

Livestock identification is important for several reasons, including verification of ownership and biosecurity management.

Correct identification of animals enables livestock movements to be traced and is a cornerstone of the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS). A robust traceability system is important not only for biosecurity and product integrity but to maintain market advantages and consumer confidence.

Definitions

1. In these Standards –

Act means the *Biosecurity Act 2019*.

Approved NLIS device means a permanent identifier (breeder or post-breeder visual or eID tag) that has been acquired from an approved PID supplier and is fully or conditionally accredited by the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS).

Approved PID supplier means the Secretary, an Authorised Officer, or any other person, or class of persons, approved to supply permanent identifiers under regulation 19.

Electronic identification device (eID) means a device containing a radio frequency identifier microchip that can be read by a handheld scanning wand or panel reader.

Emergency means an emergency that poses an imminent danger to livestock but does not include an outbreak of disease.

NLIS Breeder device means an approved NLIS device containing the property identification code of the premises on which the identifiable livestock that is to carry that identifier was born.

NLIS Post-breeder device means an approved NLIS device containing the property identification code of the premises on which identifiable livestock that is to carry the identifier are being farmed or kept but were not born.

Regulations means the *Biosecurity (Livestock Traceability) Regulations 2024*.

2. All other terms that are defined in the Act or the regulations have the same meaning as the Act and regulations.

Part 1: Permanent identification devices

S1.1 Approved NLIS devices

S1.1.1

All goats must be identified with an approved NLIS device supplied by an approved PID supplier before the goats are moved from a premises.

S1.1.2

From 1 January 2025, the approved NLIS device must be an electronic identification device (eID) for goats born on or after this date.

S1.1.3

From 1 January 2027, the approved NLIS device must be an eID (regardless of when the goats were born).

S1.1.4

Goats born on a property must be tagged with an approved NLIS breeder device assigned for use on that property.

S1.1.5

Introduced goats and those of unknown or uncertain origin without an existing NLIS device, including those that have lost their original NLIS device, must be tagged with an approved NLIS post-breeder device.

S1.1.6

Goats must be identified with only one visual approved NLIS breeder device at any one point in time.

S1.1.7

More than one visual approved NLIS post-breeder device may be attached to goats at any one point in time.

S1.1.8

Goats must be identified with only one approved NLIS eID at any one point in time.

S1.1.9

Goats must only be identified with approved NLIS devices accredited for use on goats.

S1.1.10

An approved NLIS device must be attached to a goats –

- a) on the premises to which the property identification code (PIC) on the approved NLIS device relates; and
- b) by or under the direction of –
 - (i) the person who acquired the approved NLIS device from an approved PID supplier;
 - or

(ii) an authorised officer.

S1.1.11

Only an authorised person, or a person acting under the direction of an authorised person, may attach a NLIS device.

S1.1.12

Approved NLIS devices must not be removed from goats unless –

- a) The goats have been slaughtered at an abattoir or knackery, or
- b) The goats have died or been slaughtered on a farming premises, or
- c) The device has ceased to function, or
- d) The person responsible for the goats has approval from the Secretary to remove the device, and
- e) The person removing the device is an approved person.

S1.1.13

If a goat loses an approved NLIS device or the device ceases to function, it must be replaced and the NLIS database updated to record the change.

S1.2 Movement of unidentified goats

S1.2.1

If an emergency (such as flood or bushfire) is threatening the property where goats are kept, goats may be moved without being correctly identified in the following circumstances:

- a) Unidentified goats moved during an emergency must be properly identified as soon as is practicable after they arrive at the property of refuge, unless they are returned directly to the original property from which they were moved within a timeframe approved by the Secretary.
- b) The person responsible for the goats must make a record of the emergency movement using an approved movement document and keep a copy of the movement document for 2 years.
- c) The person responsible for the goats must notify the Secretary of the emergency movement within 7 days.

S1.2.2

If unidentified goats die, or are slaughtered on a farming premises, the carcass does not require an approved NLIS device to be applied before moving off property if the carcass is moved directly to a waste management facility.

S1.2.3

If a goat is unable to be identified with an approved NLIS leg band due to an animal welfare or sizing issue, the person responsible for the goat may apply to the Secretary for a permit to move the goat without an approved NLIS device being attached to the goat.



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