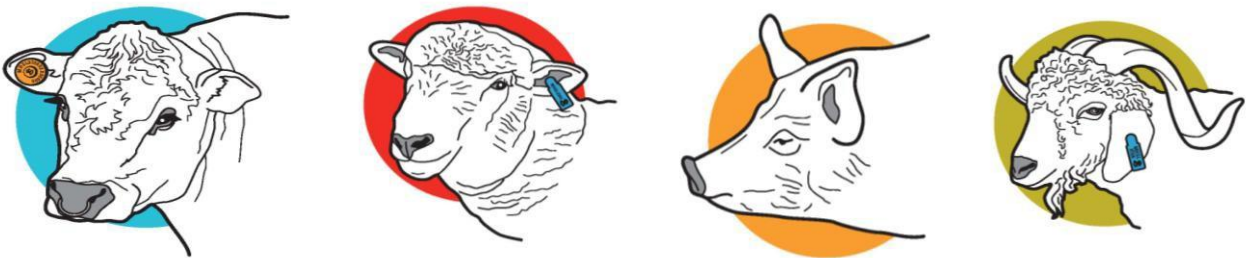


# GENERAL BIOSECURITY DIRECTION (LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY)

## Information for livestock owners

If you buy, sell, agist, loan or borrow any livestock (even a single animal) you **MUST COMPLY** with this general biosecurity direction for livestock traceability.



And you **MUST** comply with the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS).

Here's what you need to know.

## About the Biosecurity Act

The **Biosecurity Act 2019** also known as “the Act” provides a legal framework for the protection and enhancement of Tasmania's biosecurity status for the benefit of Tasmania's industries, environment, and public wellbeing by providing for the prevention, detection and control of animal and plant disease, pests, and other biosecurity matter. The Act introduces a new legal obligation known as the **General Biosecurity Duty – or GBD** for all persons (which includes all levels of Government, individuals, and private corporate entities) to take reasonable and practical measures to prevent, eliminate, or minimise biosecurity risks.

## About the General Biosecurity Direction (Livestock Traceability)

Foot-and-mouth-disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease has been detected in a range of locations throughout the world, however most recently, these animal diseases have been identified as being present in Indonesia and Bali as well. To address the threat imposed by these diseases, Tasmania's Chief Veterinary Officer has issued General Biosecurity Direction 03/22 (Livestock Traceability) under the Biosecurity Act 2019 to all persons dealing with livestock (including hobby farmers) to take reasonable and practical measures to prevent, eliminate, minimise, control, or manage biosecurity risks posed by these diseases. GBD 03/22 for Livestock Traceability applies to anyone in control of cattle, sheep, pigs, or goats.

**Even if you are a hobby farmer, you MUST comply.**

This general biosecurity direction **takes effect at 12.00 AM, on 25/10/2022**, and remains in force for a period of 5 years unless sooner revoked.

### A. Cattle

#### 1. If you already have a cow on your property:

- You must have a Property Identification Code (PIC).
- The cow must have an NLIS tag before moving off property
  - i. If born on the property – a white breeder tag
  - ii. If residing on a property other than property of birth – an orange post-breeder tag.

#### 2. If you sell a cow:

- You must have a Property Identification Code (PIC).
- The cow must have an NLIS tag before moving off property
  - i. If born on the property – a white breeder tag
  - ii. If residing on a property other than property of birth – an orange post-breeder tag.
- You must supply a vendor declaration form to the buyer or carrier within 7 days of the cattle movement and **retain a copy for 2 years.**
- You should supply an animal health statement. There are different animal health statement forms for beef and dairy cattle. Completion of a current National Vendor declaration will fulfil this requirement.

#### 3. If you buy a cow:

- You must have a PIC.
- The cow must have an NLIS tag before moving off property
- You should receive a vendor declaration for your records.
- **You must notify the NLIS database within 2 days of the livestock movement.** If you buy through an agent, your agent may do this on your behalf however you must ensure the NLIS is notified.
  - i. You should insist on the vendor providing you with an animal health statement. There are different animal health statements for beef and dairy cattle.

**Contact:**  
**Biosecurity Tasmania**  
**Primary Produce Traceability**  
Product Integrity Branch  
Ph 1300 368 550



Biosecurity Tasmania  
Facebook Page



NRE Tas Livestock  
Identification Information

**4. If you borrow, loan, agist, or have a cow (even a single one) on your property:**

- You must have a PIC.
- Cattle must be tagged on property and if you move the cow off your property for any reason (including to agistment or loaning a bull to a friend), it must have an NLIS ear tag.
  - i. If born on the property – a white breeder tag
  - ii. If residing on a property other than property of birth – an orange post-breeder tag.
- You must record details of the movement on the NLIS database within 2 days of the livestock movement.
- You should insist on the vendor providing you with an animal health statement. There are different animal health statements for beef and dairy cattle. Supply of a current National Vendor Declaration will fulfil this requirement.

**Both the seller and the buyer of cattle must keep a copy of the vendor declaration for at least TWO years.**

**B. Sheep****1. If you already have a sheep on your property:**

- You must have a PIC
- The sheep must have an NLIS ear tag before moving off property.
  - i. NLIS Sheep ear tags must be attached to the **right ear of male sheep** and the **left ear of female sheep**, this being the opposite ear to the registered ear mark.

**2. If you sell a sheep:**

- You must have a PIC
- The sheep must have an NLIS ear tag.
  - i. If born on the property – a breeder tag \* (color-coded to match industry's 'year of birth' tag color system
  - ii. If residing on a property other than property of birth – a pink post-breeder tag.
- You must supply a vendor declaration form to the buyer or carrier within 7 days of the livestock movement.
- You should supply a sheep health statement.

**3. If you buy a sheep:**

- You must have a PIC.
- The sheep must have an NLIS ear tag before moving off property.
- You should receive a vendor declaration for your records.
- **You must record details of the movement on the NLIS database within 2 days of the animal movement.**
- You should insist on the vendor providing you with an animal health statement.

**5. If you borrow, loan, agist, or have a sheep (even a single one) on your property:**

- You must have a PIC.
- The sheep must have an NLIS ear tag before moving off property
- If you move the sheep off your property for any reason (including to agistment or loaning a ram to a friend), it must have an NLIS ear tag.
- You should receive a vendor declaration for your records.

**Contact:**

**Biosecurity Tasmania**  
Primary Produce Traceability  
Product Integrity Branch  
Ph 1300 368 550



Biosecurity Tasmania  
Facebook Page



NRE Tas Livestock  
Identification Information

**Both the seller and the buyer must keep a copy of the vendor declaration for at least SEVEN years.**

## C. Goats

The NLIS requirements for goats are the same as those above for sheep (except that, for the time being, NLIS requirements do not apply to a dairy goat unless it is going to a saleyard or directly to an abattoir).

## D. Pigs

### 1. If you already have a Pig on your property:

- You must have a PIC.
- You must have a registered tattoo and any pig over 10 weeks old must have that tattoo before leaving the property.

### 2. If you sell a pig:

- You must have a PIC.
- You must have a registered tattoo and any pig over 10 weeks old must have that tattoo before leaving the property.
- You must supply a vendor declaration form to the buyer or carrier. You can purchase a vendor declaration available through Pig Pass. If you are just selling a few pigs occasionally within Tasmania, you can use a standard vendor declaration provided by NRE Tas.

### 3. If you buy a pig:

- You must have a PIC.
- The pig must be tattooed (for any pig older than 10 weeks) before moving off borrower/agistee property.
- You must provide the vendor (or agent or saleyard) with your PIC.
- You should receive a vendor declaration for your records.
- You must record details of the movement on the **PigPass database** within **2 days**.

### 4. If you borrow, loan, agist, or have a pig (even a single one) on your property:

- You must have a PIC.
- The pig must be tattooed (for any pig older than 10 weeks) before moving off the property
- You must provide the vendor with your PIC.
- You should receive a vendor declaration for your records.
- You must record details of the movement on the **PigPass database** within **2 days**.

**Both seller and buyer must keep a copy of the vendor declaration for at least TWO years.**

## Further Information

Further information about your NLIS obligations is available online at: [www.nre.tas.gov.au/livestockid](http://www.nre.tas.gov.au/livestockid)

If you require further assistance, please contact the NRE Tas on **1300 368 550**.

**Disclaimer:** While all care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this fact sheet is true and correct at the time of publication, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania gives no warranty or assurance and makes no representation as to the accuracy of any information or advice contained in this publication, or that it is suitable for your intended use. No business or investment decisions should be made in reliance on this information without obtaining independent/or professional advice in relation to your particular situation.

**Contact:**  
Biosecurity Tasmania  
Primary Produce Traceability  
Product Integrity Branch  
Ph 1300 368 550



Biosecurity Tasmania  
Facebook Page



NRE Tas Livestock  
Identification Information