



## Information for Queensland sheep and goat producers

Individual electronic identification (eID) devices are replacing the mob-based visual tag system for the identification and traceability of sheep and managed goats in Queensland.

Queensland will transition to mandatory individual eID in two stages:

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

### Requirements for producers

For many producers, the only change will be switching from visual tags to eID devices.

Things to remember:

- You must have an up-to-date property identification number (PIC) and ensure your registered biosecurity entity (RBE) is current.
- eID devices must be NLIS-accredited. For more information go to [Animal Identification | Integrity Systems](#).
- Sheep and managed goats should only be identified with one eID device.
- The correct device must be used
  - Sheep tags for sheep, goat tags for goats
  - Breeder devices are only to be used in sheep and goats born on your property
  - Post-breeder devices are only to be used for sheep and goat not born on your property, or of unknown origin
- Once applied, the device must remain with the animal for life.
- Many eID devices can be applied with the same applicator used for visual tags
- eID devices cannot be reused.
- eID devices range in price, depending on the type and manufacturer.
- The year of birth colour system is used by most producers for management purposes and remains voluntary in Queensland. However, some markets may require year of birth colour, or to be bearing a tag, prior to Queensland's eID implementation timeline.
- It is the receiver's responsibility to scan eID devices.
- If you move animals directly to feedlots, saleyards or abattoirs, you DO NOT have to scan.
- You MUST scan individual eID devices if you:
  - Have multiple property identification codes (PICs) and move stock between them.
  - Buy stock privately (with or without an agent).
  - Agist stock on your property.
- If transferring animals to another PIC, it is the receiver's responsibility to scan. Visit [how to transfer sheep and goats with eID tags \(PDF, 356KB\)](#)
- RFID and NLIS numbers are linked together on the NLIS database. Either number can be used to record a movement.

# Sheep and goat eID



## What support is available?

The Queensland Government will provide funding to support sheep and goat producers, saleyards, processors and livestock agents, for costs associated with the implementation of eID.

The Queensland Sheep and Goat eID Assistance Package Scheme (the Scheme), will provide a 50% rebate up to \$1600 (per PIC based in Queensland) to producers for eID readers and eID devices.

Applications for rebates of eligible eID devices and readers purchased in 2023 will be open from March 2024 and administered through QRIDA.

For more information, visit the [mandatory sheep and goat individual electronic identification webpage](https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/animal/nlis/sheep-goat-identification) (<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/animal/nlis/sheep-goat-identification>)

## What is eID?

eID technology has been used successfully for cattle in Australia since 2005 and sheep and goats in Victoria since 2017.

eID devices use a radio frequency identifier (RFID) microchip to store a unique serial number. This unique number can be used in management software, spreadsheets, or databases to record production data for each animal.

The device does not store any information and needs to be read by a handheld wand or panel reader.

## NLIS devices

NLIS-accredited eID devices are registered to the NLIS database and linked to your PIC at the time of purchase.

### NLIS-accredited eID devices have two unique numbers

1. Radio frequency identification (RFID) number – a non-visible 16-digit electronic microchip number that can be scanned with a handheld wand or panel reader.
2. NLIS number – a visual number printed on the outside of the device representing the property identification code (PIC) of the property it was issued to, a reference to the tag manufacturer, the device type (breeder or post breeder) and species, the year of manufacture, and a device serial number.

### There are two types of eID devices

1. Breeder eID devices are used to identify animals born on your property. They are used to permanently identify animals before they leave their property of birth.
2. Post-breeder eID devices are used to identify animals missing a tag and no longer on their property of birth.

Animals should only be tagged with one eID device. Once an animal has been tagged, it must remain with the animal for life.

# Sheep and goat eID



## NLIS-accredited devices for use in Queensland

Allflex Lightweight	
Allflex Rapid	
Leader Leadertronic	
Leader Multitronic	
Shearwell ASET	
Zee Devices Datamars Goat legban**d	
Zee Tags Tagfaster RFID and Visual	
Zee Tags FET RFID and Visual	
Leader Multipin (Red Cap)	
Enduro Devices Combo 2	
Datamars TagFaster (with TI transponder)	

\*\*Zee Devices Datamars Goat legban have been trialled on Saanen and Anglo-Nubian dairy goats only. No information is available regarding the suitability of this device for use on kids and small goat breeds, so user discretion is advised.

# Sheep and goat eID



## Harvested rangeland goats

Queensland will adopt the national system which will allow harvested rangeland goats to move under a 'device movement' directly to slaughter or via one registered goat depot.

A harvested rangeland goat is one that has:

- been captured from a wild state
- not been born as a result of a managed breeding program
- not been subjected to any animal husbandry procedure or treatment.

You must:

- Be connected to the PIC of consignment via a registered biosecurity entity (RBE) registration.
- Make application and hold a Biosecurity Queensland inspectors' approval for a 'device-free movement' of a harvested rangeland goat which will be recorded against the PIC.
- Hold accreditation with Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) for harvested rangeland goats.