



National Livestock
Identification System



NLIS (Cattle) Traceability Standards

December 2016



National Livestock Identification System

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Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to specify minimum standards that, if adhered to, will ensure the traceability of cattle for disease control and food safety purposes. These rules have been developed collaboratively between industry and government and form the basis for the introduction of harmonised legislation in each jurisdiction to support and achieve consistent identification and traceability outcomes and the adoption of codes of best practice by industry.

The standards represent minimum mandatory requirements needed to ensure compliance with the National Livestock Traceability Performance Standards and the Primary Production and Processing Standard for Meat and Meat Products.

These minimum standards support the harmonisation in legislation across jurisdictions. It is recognised that State/Territory legislation may impose more demanding requirements. Industry participants need to comply with relevant legislation in the jurisdiction in which they operate.

It is expected that these minimum standards will be progressively adopted by industry production assurance programs, and that program participants will be subject to periodic audits in relation to their compliance with these standards.

Scope

These standards apply to:

- 1) All cattle belonging to the genus 'Bos', including buffalo (farmed and wild), Bali cattle (Bintang) and bison and their movements in Australia. These species are referred to as cattle throughout this document.
- 2) Those personnel responsible for the care and management of the movements of cattle from or to farms, feedlots, saleyards, transit centres, artificial breeding centres, veterinarians, export depots, Agents' PICs, transport vehicles, travelling stock routes, knackeries and processing establishments, agricultural show societies and campdraft events or any other movement between locations with a different PIC.

Interpretation

Each numbered section or part of the document covers a particular responsible person and contains the following information:

- Scope – who the section or part applies to
- Objective — the intended outcome(s) for each section of the standards
- Standards — the minimum cattle identification and traceability requirements designated in this document which are the minimum requirements that must be met under state and territory law for cattle identification and traceability.

The standards are intended to be clear, essential and verifiable statements. Standards use the word 'must'.

They are numbered with the prefix 'S'.

- Notes – explanations of the context of the standards.
- Definitions – are described in the glossary.
- Further detail on cattle identification and traceability standards can be found in other industry and state and territory government publications.

Introduction

Some standards describe the required identification and traceability outcome without prescribing the exact actions that must be done.

Note the use of 'a person' or 'a person in charge' in the standards. 'A person' means more than one person (plural) and not just a specific person. Use of 'a person in charge' is appropriate where responsibility is shared and may extend along a hierarchy of management.

Principles of Cattle Identification and Traceability

The traceability of cattle is critical for a number of reasons:

- **Facilitating swift responses by industry and authorities in the event of emergency animal disease outbreaks** – the spread of infectious animal disease is primarily by the movement of infected cattle and often disease is first detected at a distance from where the cattle were infected; delays in determining the identification and origins of cattle, their cohorts and at-risk contacts threatens to delay an emergency disease response, with potentially devastating impacts particularly for highly infectious disease like Foot and mouth disease.
- **Maintaining national and international market access** – minimum livestock identification and traceability standards are set for global trade by the World Organisation for Animal Health (the OIE), and it is these that must be met as a minimum to ensure that Australian cattle and cattle products can continue to be traded internationally.
- **Underpinning food security, safety and public health** – cattle may be contaminated with residues or infectious agents that pose a risk to other animals and humans; to protect these it is critical to be able to identify individual cattle and their origins.

This ability to determine where an animal has been from the point of enquiry back to the property of birth is termed 'lifetime traceability'.

Property Identification and Registration

Individual properties and enterprises are identified by unique Property Identification Codes (PICs) which are linked to the contact details of the owners and managers of the land/cattle.



Introduction

Permanent Individual Cattle Identification

Electronic identification (EID) utilising Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) ear tags and rumen boluses, as defined by the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS (Cattle)), provides a world-leading technology and ability to electronically interrogate individual cattle on properties and, crucially for traceability, movements on and off properties.

Details of the NLIS can be found at: www.mla.com.au/Meat-safety-and-traceability/National-Livestock-Identification-System/NLIS-cattle

Movement Information

There are critical details that need to be recorded when cattle are moved, including the PIC from which the cattle were dispatched, the date of dispatch, the numbers and description of cattle being dispatched, the serial number of the movement document that accompanies the cattle, the name and signature of the person making the declaration and date it was made, and the intended destination of the cattle.

Central Database

A central database (i.e. the NLIS database) is required to record the movement of cattle and to link the individual cattle involved in the movement between properties with the accompanying movement information. It is through interrogation of this database that individual cattle movements throughout their lives can be quickly and reliably traced.



Part 1: Producers

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons owning and/or managing a property upon which cattle are bred, agisted, reared or kept;
- persons owning and/or managing cattle moving off or onto a property at any point of the animals' life for any reason.

Note the above includes: feedlots, artificial breeding centres, export depots, the premises of veterinary practitioners, farms, and travelling stock routes. It also includes cattle kept as pets by lifestyle farmers irrespective of whether the owner or manager has an ABN or is registered as a 'primary producer' with the Australian Taxation Office.

Objective

To ensure that cattle are permanently identified with an accredited device and that their movement between properties can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

S1.1

Property Identification

S1.1.1

All persons owning or managing a property upon which cattle are or will be held must obtain and hold a valid PIC registered for that property from their state or territory authority.

S1.1.2

Changes to the following details relating to a PIC must be notified to the relevant state or territory animal health authority within 14 days:

- a) Owner contact details including name, address and contact phone number; or
- b) Manager contact details including name, address and contact phone number; or
- c) Changes to property boundaries involving their expansion through acquisition or agreement to graze cattle, or their reduction through sale or the relinquishing of a lease or agistment rights.

S1.1.3

In some jurisdictions, parcels of land do not have to be adjacent to utilise the same PIC, however each parcel of land on which cattle reside or are held must be covered by a PIC assigned by the relevant state or territory authority.



Part 1: Producers

S1.2

Cattle Identification Devices

The only method of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard are National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) accredited tags/devices.

S1.2.1

Accredited NLIS devices must only be placed in the cattle's right ear or in the rumen (if a bolus).

S1.2.2

By no later than the time of their departure –

- a) All cattle born on a property must be tagged with a white 'breeder' NLIS device assigned for use on that property before the animal is dispatched from the property of birth; and
- b) All introduced cattle 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 orange 'post-breeder' NLIS device assigned for use on that property before being dispatched from that property.

S1.2.3

NLIS devices must not be removed (unless tested and found to be not functioning as per S1.3.3) or re-used unless under a permit issued by the state or territory authority, or under the direction of one of its officers.

S1.2.4

Cattle must be identified with only one NLIS device at any one point in time.

S1.2.5

NLIS devices are issued for use on individual properties (PICs) and must not be applied to cattle on properties with a different PIC unless approved in writing to do so by the relevant state or territory authority.

S1.2.6

Where cattle cannot be safely tagged on a property prior to dispatch, or emergency tags cannot be obtained within the required timeframe, the person in charge can make application for permission (Permit) from the relevant state or territory authority to dispatch them, and must comply with all terms and conditions of the permit.

Part 1: Producers

S1.3

Cattle Identification

Cattle on the property

S1.3.1

If an animal loses its NLIS device whilst on the property it must be replaced according to S1.2.2.

Cattle moving off the property

S1.3.2

All cattle leaving the property (PIC) must be individually identified with an NLIS accredited device before moving off the property unless a permit is obtained from the state or territory authority.

S1.3.3

Where an NLIS device is found to be non-functioning –

- a) that NLIS device must be removed and replaced in line with S1.2.2 before the animal is dispatched from the property; and
- b) the non-functioning NLIS device number must be aligned/linked with the new NLIS device on the NLIS database.

S1.3.4

In instances of extreme emergency, such as imminent threat from bushfire or floods, cattle may be moved without being tagged but this must be recorded in an auditable paper trail of records, which must as a minimum record the details set out in S1.4.1, and the state animal health authority notified and provided with that information within seven days.

S1.3.5

All NLIS identified cattle must be registered on the NLIS database to the PIC of the property of dispatch before dispatch occurs.

Note that –

- a) Permits may be issued by the state or territory authority to move untagged cattle where required;
- b) Uploading of property to property movement information to the NLIS database is the responsibility of the owner/receiver of the cattle at the destination. The owner/receiver of the cattle at destination must communicate with the authority on the continued management of lawfully untagged (permit issued) cattle for NLIS requirements;
- c) All owners and managers of cattle should ensure that safe livestock handling facilities are available to enable cattle to be tagged with minimal risk of injury to the operator and the animal.

Part 1: Producers

S1.3

Cattle Identification

Cattle moving onto the property

S1.3.6

After arrival on a property (from a different PIC), where the cattle have arrived directly from another PIC (other than a saleyard), the receiver must transfer each head of cattle on the NLIS database onto the receiving property PIC within two days, including providing any of the relevant movement information as described in S1.4.1, or take active steps to ensure or confirm that it has been done, for example by an agent or third party if such parties have agreed to undertake on the owner's behalf.

S1.4

Movement Information and Documentation

S1.4.1

The minimum movement information (the 'movement information') that must be recorded on the movement document for all cattle movements is –

- a) The PIC that identifies the property from which the cattle were dispatched; and
- b) The date of dispatch of the cattle; and
- c) The number and description of cattle dispatched; and
- d) The serial number on the vendor declaration form accompanying the cattle; and
- e) The name and signature of the person making the declaration; and
- f) The date the declaration is made; and
- g) The intended destination PIC of the cattle (if a PIC is not available then include the consignees' name and location address).

Part 1: Producers

S1.4

Movement Information and Documentation

Cattle moving off the property

S1.4.2

The documentation ('movement documents') that must accompany the movement of cattle off a property and be provided to the receiver of the cattle at the time or before their arrival is a –

- a) National Vendor Declaration with the elements in S1.4.1 legible and fully and accurately completed; or
 - b) alternative document approved by the jurisdiction, which may also be a permit to move untagged cattle, containing the required movement information; and
 - c) the animal health authority permit when the cattle are not identified with an NLIS device; and
 - d) any state specific approved documentation
- unless –
- e) cattle are being moved in accordance with S1.3.4 and the elements in S1.3.5.

Note that –

- In the case of cattle leaving a saleyard, movement documents may accompany the cattle in transport or be sent electronically prior to arrival at the destination property/abattoir in the case of slaughter cattle, or forwarded to the destination property within seven days in the case of store cattle.

Cattle moving onto the property

S1.4.3

The buyer of cattle, at the time of purchase or before the end of the day of sale, must provide the seller or selling agent in the case of saleyard purchases with the destination PIC.

Records

S1.4.4

Copies of movement documents must be kept for seven years.

S1.4.5

The owner/manager of the PIC must, within a reasonable timeframe, be able to reconcile the number of devices (in live animals and being stored) attributed to the PIC on the NLIS database to the actual numbers residing on the PIC when requested by an auditor or government inspector.

Part 1: Producers

S1.5

Managing Supply Chain Risks

S1.5.1

It is the responsibility of the owner or person responsible for the husbandry of the cattle, when dispatching cattle from their PIC, to accurately complete the accompanying National Vendor Declaration form, including Question 5.

S1.5.2

It is the responsibility of the owner or person responsible for the husbandry of cattle to ensure that cattle being dispatched are 'fit for purpose' and are not subject to food safety, biosecurity or product integrity regulatory restrictions.



Part 2: Transporters

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- Persons or businesses transporting cattle between properties, saleyards, calf scales, feedlots and processing establishments and knackeries, transit centres, export depots, veterinary and artificial breeding centres and agricultural shows and campdrafting events for any reason or purpose.

Objective

To ensure that cattle are permanently identified and that their movement between properties can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

S2.1

Transported Cattle Identification

The only method of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard are National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) accredited tags/devices.

S2.1.1

A person must only transport cattle that are identified individually with an NLIS device, unless the movement is –

- a) in accordance with the conditions of a permit granted by the relevant state or territory animal health authorities and the transporter has a valid copy of said permit; or
- b) in the cases of extreme emergencies, such as the imminent threat of bushfire or flood.

S2.2

Movement Documentation

S2.2.1

Where provided, the person transporting cattle must deliver to the person receiving the cattle any accompanying movement related documentation, for example vendor declarations or state animal health authority permits, at the time the cattle arrive at the next point in the supply chain.



Part 3: Livestock Agents

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons working as livestock agents involved in the auction sale of cattle at saleyard and calf scale establishments.

Objective

To ensure that cattle are permanently identified and that their movement between saleyards and properties, including feedlots and processing establishments and knackeries can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

S3.1

Cattle Identification Devices

The only method of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard are National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) accredited tags/devices.

S3.1.1

NLIS ear tags must only be placed in the cattle's right ear.

S3.1.2

Where an NLIS device is found to be non-functioning –

- a) that NLIS device must be removed and replaced in line with S1.2.2 before the animal is dispatched from the property; or attach other state approved special identifiers (e.g. blue tail tag) and
- b) the non-functioning NLIS device number must be aligned/linked with the new NLIS device on the NLIS database.

S3.1.3

Cattle must be identified by only one NLIS device at any one point in time.

S3.1.4

NLIS devices are issued to individual properties (PICs) and must not be applied to cattle on properties with different PICs.

S3.2

Identification of Cattle Presented for Sale at a Public Auction Sale

S3.2.1

A person must only present for auction sale cattle that are correctly identified with an NLIS accredited tag/device.

Part 3: Livestock Agents

S3.2.2

Cattle with non-functioning or missing NLIS devices identified before or during scanning, or cattle moved without an NLIS device under permit of the state or territory authority to a saleyard, must, prior to leaving the saleyard have either –

- those tags replaced by the selling agent or their representative with, orange ‘post-breeder’ NLIS devices registered to the PIC of the saleyard as authorised by a state or territory authority (‘saleyard post-breeder tags’); or
- if the nature of the animal or facilities make this dangerous, other state approved special identifiers (e.g. blue tail tag) must be applied.

Note that –

- state or territory authorities may issue permits for non-NLIS identified cattle to move off the property, for example where inadequate facilities exist to safely tag an animal, to a saleyard other than auction sale day where suitable facilities exist.
- Cattle that are considered dangerous or too large to tag should be transported under permit directly to a knackery or abattoir and not via the saleyards.

S3.2.3

The selling agent must record the following details about the sale of each animal in each lot of cattle under their care in a saleyard and provide the information to the saleyard operator to enable the cattle movements to be registered on the NLIS database –

- Date
- Vendor PIC
- Buyer PIC
- NVD serial number

Note that –

- the buyer is required by S1.4.3 to provide the selling agent with their PIC at the time of purchase.
- where the buyer is a livestock agent and is uncertain of the destination PIC, the agent may provide their Agents’ PIC to the saleyard if they have one, but then are required to transfer the cattle, to the correct destination PIC, on the NLIS database within seven days, as per S1.3.5.

S3.2.4

A person must only dispatch an animal from a saleyard or scale that is identified with an accredited NLIS device, except where alternative identification has been applied as per S3.2.2.

S3.2.5

Where a public auction sale occurs involving a selling agent as the ‘saleyard’ operator (e.g. on-farm auction, agent owned saleyard, showground, etc), the responsibility to upload the movement information to the NLIS database lies with the selling agent, and must be completed within two days of the sale. This could be an on farm sale or interfaced with electronic sales methods (e.g. Auctions Plus) it is the responsibility of the buyer of the cattle to transfer the cattle to the new PIC.

Part 3: Livestock Agents

S3.3

Post Sale Documentation

S3.3.1

A summary (see S1.4.1 and S4.5.1 for details) must be provided to the purchaser by the selling agent in a public auction within seven days of the sale.

S3.3.2

Copies of movement documents must be kept by selling agents for two years.

S3.4

Records

S3.4.1

The agent must reconcile the numbers of living head linked to its Agent's PIC on the NLIS database and move them off that Agent PIC to the actual destination PIC weekly.

S3.5

Managing Supply Chain Risks

S3.5.1

Where cattle have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status derived from the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) and/or the NLIS/ERP database, the agent will inform the buyers by presale catalogue and/or announce the status prior to the offering of those lots.



Part 4: Saleyards

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons owning, operating, or employed in cattle saleyards, scales (mobile or fixed) and any other location where cattle are offered for public sale or auction (including on-farm) and mobile calf scales but excluding on-line sales.

Objective

To ensure that all cattle are correctly identified and buyers are provided with pre and post-sale information that enables the movement of cattle into and out of saleyards to be traced quickly and efficiently.

Standards

S4.1

Property Identification

S4.1.1

All persons owning or operating a cattle saleyard, scale or bobby calf truck must obtain and hold a current PIC relating to that business from their state or territory authority.

S4.2

Cattle Identification Devices

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) accredited electronic ear tags or rumen boluses ('NLIS device') are the only method of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard.

S4.2.1

NLIS ear tags must only be placed in the cattle's right ear.

S4.2.2

NLIS devices must not be re-used, or removed (unless tested and found to be not functioning), unless under a permit issued by the state or territory authority, or under the direction of one of its officers.

S4.2.3

Cattle must be identified by only one NLIS device at any one point in time.

S4.2.4

NLIS devices are issued to individual properties (PICs) and must not be applied to cattle on properties with different PICs (including saleyards) unless approved in writing to do so by the relevant state animal health authority.

Part 4: Saleyards

S4.3

Cattle Sales

S4.3.1

A person must only present for auction sale or sell cattle that are correctly identified with an NLIS accredited device, in accordance with these standards.

S4.3.2

All cattle must have their NLIS device scanned and recorded by the saleyard operator or their representative (e.g. selling agent) before leaving the farm if it is an on farm auction sale or saleyard.

S4.3.3

A person must only dispatch cattle from a saleyard or scale that is identified with an NLIS device, except where an identifier has been applied as per S3.3.3.

S4.3.4

The saleyard operator or their representative (e.g. selling agent) must keep auditable records of the use of saleyard post-breeder tags for at least two years, ensuring that the relationship between the identifier, the PIC of origin and movement permit is maintained, and including as a minimum the tag number, date applied, the saleyard PIC, destination PIC, and the name and address of person consigning the cattle.

Note that –

- In some saleyards pre-sale scanning may be undertaken. This may provide a mechanism to:
 - ensure only correctly identified cattle are sold
 - identify individual cattle that have an ERP status
 - collect the information required for the saleyard to complete its obligations with respect to uploading information to the NLIS database

S4.4

Movement Information

S4.4.1

The saleyard must upload to the NLIS database, within the required timeframes the following movement information:

- a) the PIC that identifies the property from which the cattle were dispatched; and
- b) the date of sale; and
- c) the NLIS animal ID; and
- d) the serial number on the vendor declaration form accompanying the cattle; and
- e) the intended destination PIC of the cattle

Part 4: Saleyards

S4.4

Movement Information

Note the following time frames:

- a) In the case of store cattle sales where cattle are not sold/purchased for direct slaughter, the information must be uploaded by the saleyard operator by the close of business of the next working day.
- b) In sales where cattle are purchased for slaughter, the incoming movement information must be completed and uploaded by the end of the sale day, and the outgoing movement information uploaded by the close of business of the sale day.
- c) N.B.: More stringent, individual arrangements with processors may be determined on a case by case basis if the information is required sooner.
- d) In the case of mobile scale operators, bobby calves purchased for slaughter must be scanned off the property of dispatch and the date of scanning recorded. They must be allocated against the PIC of the property of collection, and the required movement information recorded on the NLIS database before the end of the day of arrival at the abattoir or before the calves are slaughtered (whichever occurs first).
- e) For non-slaughter calves, the movement information must be recorded by close of business the next working day.

S4.5

Provision of Documentation to Buyers.

The saleyard must provide all buyers with information about the origin of purchased cattle to enable them to meet their regulatory requirements in relation to traceability and food safety.

S4.5.1

Post sale documentation for slaughter cattle must be provided by midnight on the day of sale or before the cattle are slaughtered – whichever occurs first. For all other cattle, the documentation must be provided within seven days of sale.

S4.5.2

Post-sale documentation need not accompany the stock during delivery. The information can otherwise be forwarded to the buyer separately via fax, email or post.

S4.5.3

Accepted formats for post-sale documentation include:

- a) Buyer Reconciliation Report or Post-Sale Summary. Such documents contain all of the critical information required (by processing establishments in particular) provided the original NVDs are accessible if required.
- b) Copies of individual vendor NVDs.
- c) Scanned image of original NVD uploaded to the NLIS database.

Part 4: Saleyards

S4.6

Records

S4.6.1

The saleyard must reconcile the numbers of devices linked to its PIC on the NLIS database with the number remaining on the premises weekly.

S4.7

Managing Supply Chain Risks

S4.7.1

Where cattle have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status derived from the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) and/or the NLIS/ERP database, the saleyard will inform the buyers prior to the cattle leaving the saleyard via the post-sale summary.



Part 5: Transit Centres

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons owning, operating, or employed in cattle transit centres, or any other location where cattle are rested, fed or watered whilst being transported.

Objective

To ensure that cattle are permanently identified and that their movement into and out of transit centres can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

S5.1

Property Identification

S5.1.1

All persons owning or operating a transit centre must ensure that the property or location where the transit centre is located has a current PIC relating to that business from their state or territory authority.

S5.2

Cattle Identification

S5.2.1

Cattle attending transit centres must be identified correctly with NLIS devices, which is the responsibility of the cattle owner or manager as per Part 1 of these standards.

S5.2.2

A person operating a transit centre must ensure that all cattle –

- a) attending have their NLIS device numbers read and recorded against the transit centre PIC (“sighted movement”) for periods of three days or less. More than three days requires full transfer on and off the transit centre PIC as per 5.3.1; or
- b) moving onto the transit centre are read and transferred both onto and off the PIC of the transit centre as per 5.3.2.

S5.2.3

Records made under S5.2.2 must be retained for two years.

Part 5: Transit Centres

S5.3

Database Upload Information

S5.3.1

The person owning or operating a transit centre must upload the following information relating to each animal to the NLIS database within two working days of the time of entering the transit centre:

Requirements for cattle that stay less than three days (sighted cattle):

- a) Record the RFID or NLIS number of each cattle's RFID device
- b) Record the PIC of the transit centre
- c) Record the date of movement into the transit centre PIC

S5.3.2

Requirements for cattle that stay three days or longer.

Movement onto transit centre:

- a) Record the RFID or NLIS number of each cattle's NLIS device
- b) Record the PIC of consignment (the PIC the cattle have travelled from).
- c) Record the destination PIC, being the PIC of the transit centre
- d) Record the movement document serial number
- e) Record the date of movement into the transit centre
- f) Record the date of movement out of the transit centre

Movement off transit centre:

- a) Record the date of movement off transit centre
- b) Record the destination PIC
- c) Record the PIC of consignment (being the PIC of the transit centre)
- d) Record the RFID or NLIS number of each animal's NLIS device
- e) Record the movement document serial number.

S5.4

Records

S5.4.1

The transit centre must reconcile the numbers of devices linked to its PIC on the NLIS database with the number remaining on the premises weekly.

Part 6: Processors

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons owning, operating, or employed in processing of cattle and their carcasses, including processing establishments and knackereries.

Objective

To ensure that cattle are permanently identified and that their movement to a processing facility can be traced effectively and rapidly, and that all cattle processed are recorded as deceased on the NLIS database.

Standards

S6.1

Property Identification

S6.1.1

All persons owning or operating a cattle processing business that processes cattle and their carcasses must obtain and hold a current PIC relating to that business from their state or territory authority.

S6.2

Cattle Identification Devices

The only method of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard are National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) accredited tags/devices.

S6.2.1

NLIS ear tags must only be placed in an animal's right ear.

S6.2.2

Functional NLIS devices must not be removed or re-used. In unusual circumstances functional devices may be removed under a permit issued by the state or territory authority, or under the direction of one of its officers

except –

once the animal has been slaughtered at an abattoir or processing plant, provided that the cattle carcass correlation identification requirements of S6.3.2 are met.

Part 6: Processors

S6.3

Cattle Identification

S6.3.1

Cattle must not be slaughtered or processed unless they are identified by an NLIS device, except –

- a) where cattle, are moved under a state or territory authority permit, that have been deemed to be dangerous or unsafe to tag, providing the conditions of that permit are being met and the animal is being slaughtered at an abattoir or knackery; or
- b) under the direction of the state or territory authority, or one of its officers; or
- c) due to an animal welfare emergency situation;
- d) where permitted under an Approved Program describing the processor's system for managing untagged cattle.

Where cattle arrive without an NLIS accredited device the establishment must report the arrival of cattle to the state jurisdiction within 24 hours.

S6.3.2

Once slaughtered, a cattle carcass must be identified in a manner that correlates with the NLIS device number of that animal until the point at which –

- a) it has passed meat inspection and/or any residue testing if destined for the human food chain; or
- b) it has been inspected, and tested if appropriate, and found suitable for feeding to pets as required by the *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production of Pet Meat*, if destined for the pet food chain; or
- c) it has been inspected and found to be fit for purpose and free from obvious notifiable diseases if processed for other purposes.

Note that –

- if moved or slaughtered under permit or direction of the state or territory authority and the animal does not have an NLIS device, the NLIS device number required above may be replaced by a permit or other reference number provided by that authority.

Part 6: Processors

S6.3

Cattle Identification

S6.3.3

The abattoir, knackery or other processor operator must upload the following information (the 'kill file') relating to each carcase to the NLIS database within two working days of the time of killing or processing (knackeries):

In the case of processing establishments, the -

- a) body number;
- b) PIC of consignment
- c) processing establishment number or PIC
- d) date of kill
- e) NLIS device number or RFID (not necessary where the animal was slaughtered without an NLIS device)

Note – the operator number and NVD serial number may be required in some jurisdictions.

S6.3.4

The operators of processing establishments and knackeries must reconcile the number of head killed with the numbers and details of devices uploaded to the NLIS database within two working days of the time of killing or processing (knackeries).

S6.3.5

The abattoir, knackery or other processing plant operator must monitor the numbers of live cattle linked to its PIC on the NLIS database compared with the number of live cattle remaining on the premises at the end of each kill week with the view of managing the account numbers.

S6.3.6

If inconsistencies are noticed in S6.3.4 or S6.3.5 the operator of the knackery or processing establishment must resolve it on the NLIS database by close of the next business day.

S6.3.7

The abattoir, knackery or other processing plant operator must take steps to confirm that the uploaded information has been received by the NLIS database and undertake corrective action for all error messages received from the NLIS database.

S6.3.8

The abattoir, knackery or other processing plant operator must dispose of NLIS devices in a manner that prevents unauthorised recovery and re-use.

Part 6: Processors

S6.4

Movement documentation

S6.4.1

A person must not slaughter or process an animal unless it is accompanied by completed movement documentation which records the property of last residence. This movement documentation may be:-

- a) a Livestock Production Assurance National Vendor Declaration
- b) an alternative document approved in the jurisdiction containing the required movement information
- c) the animal health authority permit when the cattle are not identified with a NLIS device;
- d) any state or territory specific approved documentation;

except –

- e) where an animal resident on a property dies and is collected for processing by a knackery.

Note that –

- Movement documents may be provided to the receiver of the cattle by physically accompanying the transported cattle or being electronically transmitted prior to arrival of the cattle at the abattoir.
- The animal health authority permit when the cattle are not identified with a NLIS device does not replace the need for a completed movement document for cattle slaughtered at processors. Permits must be accompanied by the appropriate movement documentation.

S6.4.2

Copies (i.e. physical/electronic) of movement documents must be kept by processors for two years.

S6.5

Managing Supply Chain Risks

S6.5.1

It is the responsibility of the abattoir or other processing plant operator to establish if they have purchased cattle with a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility device-based or PIC-based status as recorded on the NLIS/ERP database.

S6.5.2

It is the responsibility of the abattoir or other processing plant operator to ensure the food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility NLIS/ERP message (where required/relevant) has been followed.

Part 7: Agricultural shows, campdrafts, sporting and other events

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons organising, operating or employed in agricultural shows and campdrafting or other such events at which cattle are present.

Objective

To ensure that cattle are permanently identified and that their movement to and from agricultural shows and campdrafting events can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

S7.1

Property Identification

S7.1.1

A person operating or organising an agricultural show or campdrafting or other such event must ensure that the property or location where the event is to be held has a current PIC issued from their state or territory authority.

S7.2

Cattle Identification

S7.2.1

Cattle attending agricultural shows or campdrafts or other such event must be identified correctly with an NLIS devices, which is the responsibility of the cattle owner or manager as per Part 1 of these standards.

S7.2.2

A person operating an agricultural show or campdraft or other such event must ensure-

- a) that all cattle attending have their NLIS device numbers read and recorded against the showground/event PIC ("sighted movement") if present for events of less than three days. If cattle are present for three days or more, a full transfer on and off the event PIC is required as per S7.3.1; or
- b) that all cattle moving onto the showground are read and transferred both onto and off the PIC of the showground as per S7.3.1

Part 7: Agricultural shows, campdrafts, sporting and other events

S7.2

Cattle Identification

S7.2.3

Records made under S7.2.2 must be retained for two years.

S7.3

Database Upload Information

S7.3.1

The person operating or organising an agricultural show, campdrafting event or other such event must upload the following information relating to each animal to the NLIS database within two working days of the time of entering the show:

Requirements for cattle that stay less than three days (using the sighted function):

- a) date of movement or start of show date
- b) showground/event PIC
- c) the RFID or NLIS number of each animal's NLIS device
- d) the movement document serial number.

S7.3.2

Requirements for cattle that stay longer than three days:

Movement onto showground/event venue:

- a) the RFID or NLIS number of each animal's NLIS device
- b) the PIC of consignment. (This may be the PIC of a previous showground if the stock are moving directly from one show to another)
- c) the showground/event PIC
- d) the movement document serial number
- e) the date of movement or start of show/event date.

Part 7: Agricultural shows, campdrafts, sporting and other events

S7.3

Database Upload Information

Movement off the showground/event venue:

- the RFID or NLIS number of each animal's NLIS device
- the PIC of consignment (showground/event PIC)
- the destination PIC
- the movement document serial number
- the date of movement off venue.

Note –

- All cattle must be transferred back to their PIC if they return there after the show as per S1.3.6.

S7.4

Records

S7.4.1

The showground/event must reconcile the numbers of living head linked to its PIC on the NLIS database with the number of live head remaining on the premises within seven days of the end of each show/event.



Part 8: Export Depot Operators

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- persons operating export registered premises or depots or employed by live cattle export businesses ('the exporter').

Objective

To ensure that all cattle are permanently identified and that their movement from their registered premises onto aggregation properties and ports or export depots then off to port of export and 8Es (default live export PIC) are correctly recorded so that they can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

These standards are in addition to the requirements placed on producers by Part 1 of these standards and are to be read in conjunction with those.

S8.1

Property Identification

S8.1.1

The exporter must ensure that all properties upon which the cattle are to be held during the export preparation period, including pre-export quarantine and export feedlot properties, have a current PIC from their state or territory authority.

S8.2

Cattle Identification

S8.2.1

The exporter must take steps to ensure that all cattle being prepared for export, during all stages including pre-export quarantine and in export feedlot properties, are correctly identified with NLIS devices as per Part 1 of these standards, unless, specific approval for other arrangements is in place with the relevant state or territory animal health authorities.

S8.2.2

The exporter must ensure that all cattle being sourced for export are accompanied by an NVD or equivalent movement document, and that an NVD or equivalent is completed for all subsequent movements between export-related properties; except the final movement from export depot to port where separate export certification/documentation is required.

S8.3

Movement Information

S8.3.1

The export depot operator must correctly read and notify the NLIS database of all cattle moving between export related properties within two days of the movement or before the next movement, whichever is sooner. This includes culls and individual cattle otherwise removed (e.g. placed back into the domestic supply chain) at any point along the export supply chain.

Part 8: Export Depot Operators

S8.3.2

Where cattle are moved to the final export destination (i.e. the port of departure where they are loaded onto the export vessel or aircraft), the exporter must ensure that the cattle are transferred on the NLIS database to the port PIC then to the default export PIC, 'EEEEEEEE' (also known as the '8Es'), within two days of that movement.

S8.3.3

The exporter must reconcile the number of head exported with the numbers and details of devices uploaded to the NLIS database within 48 hours of the time of export.

S8.3.4

The exporter must reconcile the numbers of living head linked to its PIC on the NLIS database with the number of live head remaining on the premises at the end of each shipment.

S8.3.5

If inconsistencies are noticed in S8.3.3 or S8.3.4, the exporter must resolve it with the NLIS database within two working days.

S8.3.6

The exporter must take steps to confirm that the correct uploaded information has been received by the NLIS database and all warning and error messages received from the NLIS database are noted and acted on in seven working days.

S8.4

Managing Supply Chain Risks

S8.4.1

It is the responsibility of the exporter to establish if they have purchased cattle with a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility device-based or PIC-based status as recorded on the NLIS/ERP database.

S8.4.2

It is the responsibility of the exporter to ensure the food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility NLIS/ERP message (where required/relevant) has been followed.

S8.4.3

Where cattle have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status derived from the NLIS/ERP database, the exporter will inform the buyers by the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) or announce the status prior to the sale of those cattle.





**National Livestock
Identification System**

NLIS Database Helpdesk

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