



Your strong and independent
voice for livestock producers

LIVESTOCK SA...

Unit 5, 780 South Road, Glandore SA 5037

P 08 8297 2299 **F** 08 8293 8886

E admin@livestocksa.org.au

livestocksa.org.au

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1 November 2019

Property Identification Code Working Group
c/- Department of Agriculture
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601
(Email: nbc.traceability@agriculture.gov.au)

Dear Working Group Chair,

Property ID reforms

Livestock SA was formed in 2013 to represent the interests of beef cattle, sheep and goat producers across South Australia. Currently Livestock SA has in excess of 3,500 members from across the State.

Livestock SA welcomes the expansion of the use of property identifiers to include crops as well as livestock. This will assist in enhancing Australia's traceability arrangements across all sectors of agriculture, and help with managing pest and disease outbreaks, emergencies (such as bushfires and floods), food safety, trade and market access requirements. These reforms will also allow industry to address increasing consumer interest in product sustainability, ethics and providence.

In South Australia, the current system is working well. Property registration is mandatory under the South Australian *Livestock Act 1997*. The property identification code (PIC) records data about property owners, property information, species of animals on a property as well as the number of animals on a property. The PIC is used in cases of disease outbreaks, bushfires and animal emergencies.

Only one PIC is required per property. Properties that have multiple blocks of land within 100 km only need one PIC. Where there are multiple blocks more than 100 km apart, each property must be registered under a different PICs.

All South Australian properties must have a PIC if they have one or more cows, sheep or goats, as well as a range of other animals that can be farmed.

South Australia is divided into PIC zones, with the first two numbers of a PIC representing the PIC zone the property is in.

PICs are currently updated every two years. There is a fee of \$90 per PIC for this renewal. Failing to register a property on which livestock are held for a PIC may result in the owner receiving a fine.

In expanding the use of PICs to also cover crops, the aim should be to use the same PIC or PICs. One of the few complaints that Livestock SA receives from its members is the cost of renewing, particularly as this can now be done online. If farmers are required to have additional PICs to cover cropping enterprises, this would add additional administration and costs to their businesses.

Livestock SA recommends that there should only be one PIC per property regardless of enterprises on the property.

While realising the need to harmonise property identification arrangements across Australia, Livestock SA would be disappointed if we had to move too far from the current system in place for livestock in South Australia.

Livestock SA is a member of both the Cattle Council of Australia and WoolProducers Australia, and in general terms we support their submissions on the proposed ID reforms.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Keynes', written in a cursive style.

Joe Keynes
PRESIDENT