



CATTLE



PROCESS OF BUYING AND SELLING LIVESTOCK

Steps to take when purchasing, selling or moving cattle

Responsible livestock ownership, regardless of the number of livestock, requires the following steps be undertaken to meet state and national regulation and legislation.

These steps are critical to ensure quick and accurate animal identification and traceability, and to ultimately maintain and protect the country's disease-free status which underpins the South Australian livestock industry's reputation.

STEP 1 – OBTAIN PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE (PIC)

All properties that have livestock including cattle must have a Property Identification Code (PIC).

You can register your PIC with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development on the PIRSA website.

STEP 2 – GET ACCREDITED WITH LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION ASSURANCE PROGRAM

The Livestock Production Assurance Program (LPA) is the on-farm assurance program that underpins market access for Australian red meat.

You need to be accredited with LPA to access your National Vendor Declaration (NVD) which is necessary when moving

livestock off your property. LPA and NVDs provide evidence of your livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the value chain.

There are seven requirements of the LPA program. They are:

1. Property risk assessment
2. Safe and responsible animal treatments
3. Stock foods, fodder, crops, grain and pasture treatments
4. Preparation for dispatch of livestock
5. Livestock transactions and movements
6. Biosecurity
7. Animal welfare.

Producers who participate should be committed to carrying out on-farm practices to support the integrity system.

Register and learn more on the ISC website.

STEP 3 – NATIONAL LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM DEVICES AND TAGS

Before selling any cattle, each animal must have a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) tag. NLIS ear tags are electronic tags that identify and trace an animal's movements throughout its lifetime. The NLIS tag will be linked to your PIC on the database, which will be transferred when an animal is on your property see step 5.

Breeder tags are white and are to be used for home bred cattle, and orange post breeder tags for cattle no longer on their property of birth, or to introduced animals, or those that have lost their original tag.

Tags must be in the correct position, in the right (offside) ear. All cattle must only have one NLIS tag.

It is illegal to remove an NLIS tag.

STEP 4 – COMPLETE NVD

The National Vendor Declaration (NVD) must be completed compliantly prior to movement of stock.

To complete a NVD compliantly:

- The NVD is a legal document and must be completed and signed
- All questions on the document must be answered to meet compliance
- NVDs need to be used for the agistment property if you are moving or selling cattle from agistment.
- It is illegal to make alterations to the pre-printed PIC in the NVD
- You must keep a copy of your completed NVD for 7 years. This data is stored automatically when using the eNVD through the Integrity Systems Company.

STEP 5 – COMPLETE ANIMAL HEALTH DECLARATION

While it is not mandatory in SA, cattle producers are encouraged to use an Animal Health Declaration when selling livestock, and it is recommended that you request one when purchasing livestock.

The declaration requires cattle producers to declare health information about the animals you are purchasing, which can help a producer to make decisions for when these animal arrive on farm to manage their health risks.

Download Animal Health Declarations from the Farm Biosecurity website.

STEP 6 – NATIONAL LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM DATABASE AND TRANSFER

All cattle movements must be recorded on the NLIS database.

You will need to register for an NLIS account and retain the log in details to revisit the account.

Movements of cattle to and from saleyards, abattoirs or shows are done by saleyard and abattoir operators or show organisers.

It is a legal requirement that all other cattle movements between PICs are recorded in the NLIS database by the **receiver** of the cattle, such as when buying cattle in a private sale or through an online auction.

Discuss with your livestock agent to find out if they can assist you to scan and record cattle movements.

Create an account on the NLIS website.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Finding a livestock agent

A livestock agent's role is to buy and sell livestock on behalf of their clients and support some of the steps above.

There are local livestock agents in most regions of South Australia. To find one, you can ask your local rural reseller who is in the area or undertake a quick internet search to find a local agency.

These agents can support you through the buying and selling process.

PIRSA Animal Health support

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) has staff that are dedicated to supporting producers through the process of buying and selling compliantly.

They also offer biosecurity planning through their One Biosecurity online tool. This is PIRSA's state-wide approach to managing, protecting, and promoting South Australia's strong biosecurity regime across its livestock industry.

Find out about One Biosecurity online.

Find contact details for PIRSA Animal Health staff on the PIRSA website.

