How to Order NLIS Sheep and Goat Tags

To obtain NLIS Sheep and Goat Tags contact your preferred tag supplier or rural merchandise outlet. Only only NLIS tags are permitted. Producers must show evidence of their PIC number, ie show your PIC card or your PIC registration certificate, when you order NLIS Sheep tags.

Tags must be printed with the PIC of the property on which they are used. You can put other information on the other side of NLIS tags. From 1 January 2009 all sheep and goat tags must meet national NLIS standards.

If you wish you can use electronic tags for NLIS Sheep & Goats: they must have your PIC printed on them; they must **not** be NLIS Cattle tags.

Types of electronic (Sheep) tags available

There are two types of electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags endorsed for the permanent identification of sheep.

- Electronic NLIS (Sheep) Breeder tags – these are YELLOW and are used by the breeder to permanently identify sheep before they leave their property of birth.
- Electronic NLIS (Sheep) Post-breeder tags – are PINK and can be used to permanently identify introduced sheep that are not already identified with an electronic NLIS (Sheep) Breeder or Post-breeder tag.

Electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags are stamped with the NLIS logo and the words 'Do not remove'. If the sheep you buy are already identified with an electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag. **Do not attach a second device.**

These electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags supplied by DPI can be used instead of the visual plastic NLIS (Sheep) tags.

The external or NLIS (Sheep) number

The NLIS number is printed externally on the NLIS (Sheep) tag. This number can be read visually.

(3ABCD123) (XS) (D) (00034)

Key:
Property Identification Code
Manufacturer & Device type
Year of supply
Serial number

Producers, when ordering tags will be able to nominate the starting serial number (the 5 characters of the NLIS ID) for the sequence of tags that they require. The first character of the serial number can be an alpha or numeric character. The remaining four characters are always numeric characters. This enables producers to maintain to use a numbering system for flock identification.

These last 5 characters of the NLIS number will also be printed on the tag pin. This will assist when the serial numbers are being visually read by producers for flock management purposes.

The tags will be supplied in trays with the electronic component and corresponding matching pin in pairs. It is important that producers use the correct pin when tagging sheep with electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags.

The NLIS (Sheep) microchip number

Electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags supplied by DPI contain a half duplex microchip which is encoded with a unique, unalterable individual number. This number can be read with a suitable reader. The following is an example of a microchip number that might be encoded on the microchip embedded in an electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag

982 000001234567

The tag supplier establishes a link between the NLIS printed number and the number encoded in the microchip. Either numbers can be used to identify an animal.

Printing property name or stud name on the electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag

When ordering electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags, sheep producers can request that their enterprise, property or stud name be printed on the pin. This however is optional.

OJD vaccinated and 'terminal' sheep

When ordering electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags, producers can request that be printed on the pin for tags that are to be used to identify sheep vaccinated against ovine Johne's disease (OJD).

Producers can also request that be printed on the pin if tags are to be used to identify terminal (crossbred) lambs from OJD affected flocks.

Purchasing NLIS (Sheep) tags from the DPI for Victorian Producers.

To purchase electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags, visit DPI's web site at www.dpi.vic.gov.au/nlis and follow the prompts to Livestock Tags On-Line.

The Electronic (Sheep) tags will cost $1.35 plus a $10 per order fee. The tags are 'one use only' and cannot be recycled.

 ## Producers in other States refer to the Dorper Note G 4...Accredited NLIS Sheep and Goat Tags