



LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION ASSURANCE GUIDEBOOK

February 2021

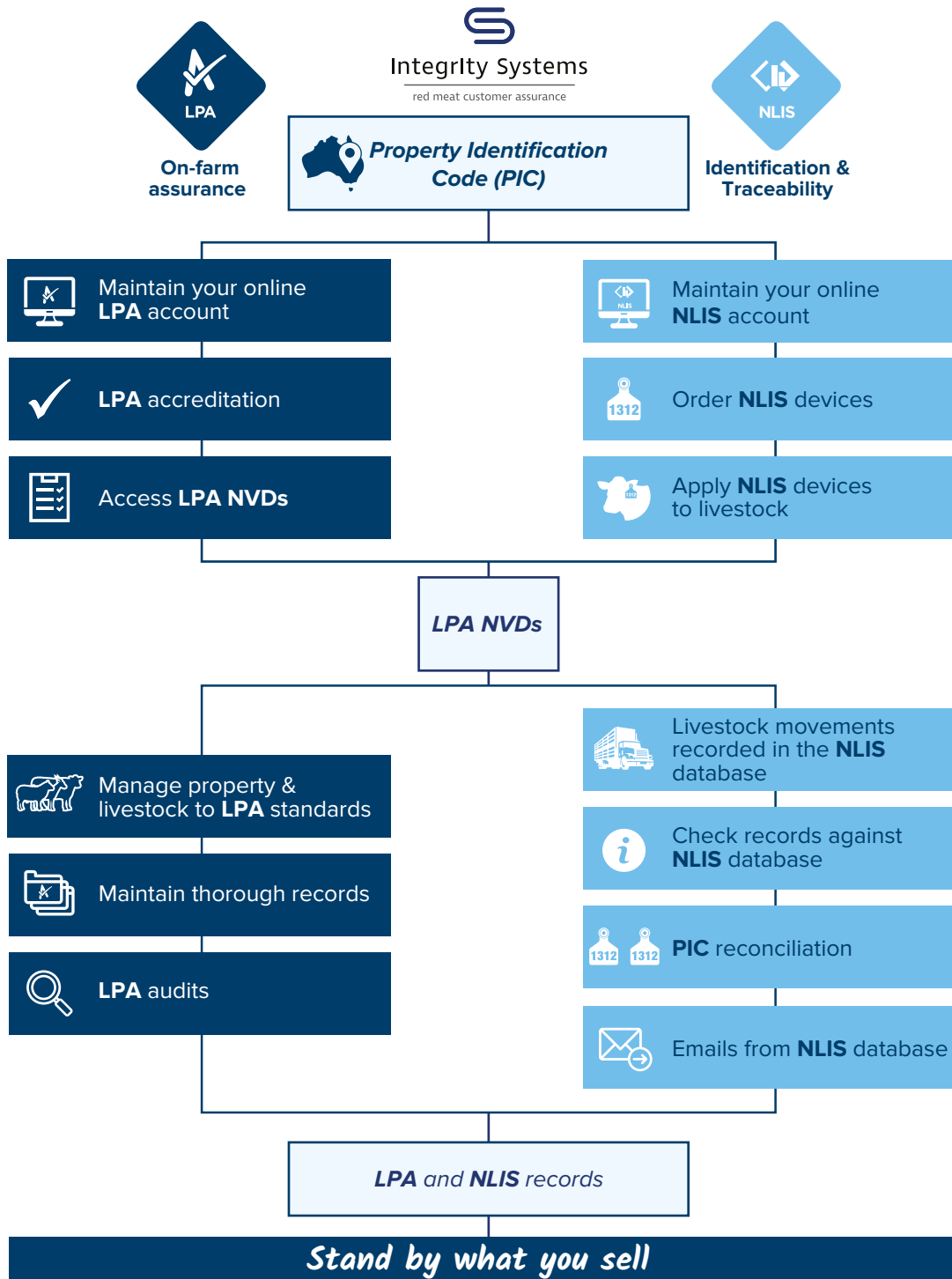


Figure 1. Australia's red meat integrity system



FOREWORD

People who enjoy Australian red meat trust that it's safe to eat, ethically produced and high quality. The integrity system that underpins this trust supports the premium prices and positive international reputation of our red meat.

The national Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is an independently audited, quality assurance program that is a foundational component of the Australian red meat integrity system.

Working in conjunction with the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS), LPA provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices along the value chain.

Accredited LPA producers choose to make a personal commitment to adhere to specific on-farm management practices that are set out in the LPA rules and standards. Being LPA-accredited provides producers with an official stamp of quality for their red meat products.

Seven elements make up LPA:

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.

LPA accreditation gives access to LPA National Vendor Declarations (NVDs), which are required for any movement of stock to processors, saleyards or between properties if they have different property identification codes (PICs).

Recent upgrades to the LPA program mean producers can now store all records necessary for LPA accreditation electronically within their LPA accounts, where templates for essential LPA records can also be accessed. Property risk assessments and biosecurity plans can now be fully completed and saved online in a digital format.

Further program updates have enabled random LPA audits to be conducted remotely when required. Utilising the new electronic document storage, producers can provide all requested documentation to the auditor to complete the audit remotely.

I encourage producers to read through this guidebook. It provides key information and practical advice on how to demonstrate compliance with the LPA rules and standards. The guidebook complements the training available at LPA Learning, as well as the information available on the ISC website. The ISC Helpdesk is available on **1800 683 111** for further assistance.

LPA-accredited producers implement best practice for the safe and ethical production of red meat and can provide the evidence to demonstrate this. LPA is the quality assurance tick producers need to stand by what they sell.

Dr Jane Weatherley
CEO, Integrity Systems Company
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1. ABOUT LPA

1.1 WHAT IS LPA?

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm assurance program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the value chain.

Seven separate but complementary elements make up the LPA program. Participation in the program is voluntary. Producers who choose to become LPA-accredited commit to carrying out on-farm practices to support the integrity of Australian red meat.

As part of the LPA program, an LPA National Vendor Declaration (NVD) is required for all livestock movements, including property to property, through saleyards, direct to processors and to feedlots, and to the live export trade. It is the main document behind Australia's reputation as a reliable supplier of safe and ethically produced red meat to domestic and international markets.

LPA is administered on behalf of industry by the Integrity Systems Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA). AUS-MEAT Ltd carries out independent audits of LPA-accredited producers.

WHAT DOES LPA MEAN FOR THE LIVESTOCK PRODUCER?

LPA is a voluntary industry program, however the majority of meat processors require livestock to be sourced from LPA-accredited properties. Producers who become LPA-accredited commit to carrying out specific on-farm practices in order to fulfil their responsibility to produce red meat that is safe, ethically produced and with due consideration for biosecurity. When livestock are transferred from a property, LPA-accredited producers or those responsible for the management of the livestock declare on the LPA NVD (or eNVD) to say they have met the requirements of the LPA program.

It is also a requirement that LPA producers source livestock from other LPA-accredited producers.

All LPA-accredited producers may be audited.

1.2 THE SEVEN ELEMENTS OF LPA

LPA-accredited producers must meet specific requirements for each of the seven elements of LPA. These elements are:

1. Property risk assessments

Producer responsibility: to minimise the risk of livestock being exposed to sites that are unacceptably contaminated with persistent chemicals or physical contaminants.

2. Safe and responsible animal treatments

Producer responsibility: to ensure animal treatments are administered in a safe and responsible manner that minimises the risk of chemical residues and physical hazards.

3. Stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments

Producer responsibility: to minimise exposure of livestock to foods containing unacceptable chemical contamination and guarantee livestock are not fed animal products.

4. Preparation for dispatch of livestock

Producer responsibility: to ensure livestock are fit for transport, and minimise the risk of stress and contamination of livestock during assembly and transport.

5. Livestock transactions and movements

Producer responsibility: to ensure traceability requirements, with respect to treatments or exposure to food safety hazards, have been fulfilled for all livestock movements — between farms and feedlots, and including to slaughter and live export.

6. Biosecurity

Producer responsibility: to develop and maintain a documented farm biosecurity plan and to implement effective biosecurity practices in their on-farm management.

7. Animal welfare

Producer responsibility: to ensure handling of livestock is consistent with the requirements of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep or goats (as applicable).



1.3 RECORD KEEPING

When you tick the box on your LPA NVD, you are guaranteeing your on-farm practices meet LPA requirements, and your declaration must be backed by accurate farm records.

Accredited producers must ensure that LPA NVDs and other records are retained for a minimum of three years, or in accordance with state legislation, or for the time of the livestock on a specific property, whichever is longer.

Producers are required to keep good records to demonstrate compliance with all the LPA requirements. The records substantiate all claims made on the LPA NVD.

Producers need to keep records on chemical usage, fodder feeding, stock movement and treatment, disease and management activities, and property risk assessment. They also need a farm biosecurity plan and records of any animal welfare training undertaken.

Record keeping must be detailed, accurate, legible and accessible. Producers should be able to easily check key food safety details, such as when livestock were most recently treated, whether they are outside export slaughter intervals and withholding periods, and if they can be sent to market for human consumption.

HOW SHOULD RECORDS BE KEPT?

There is no perfect formula for record keeping. Some producers find that keeping clear notes in a diary works well for them, others use electronic spreadsheets. All records can now also be stored in the 'Record Keeping' section of producers' LPA accounts for ease of access. Regardless of the method, it is important that all relevant management activities are accurately and clearly recorded.

Key aspects of management that should be recorded include:

- **Property risk assessment** — record any possible contaminated sites, the risk identified, results received (if soil samples were conducted) and a description of how the site is managed to eliminate the risk of livestock contamination.
- **Livestock treatments** — including date, identification of mob, number of stock, product, batch number, expiry date, withholding period (WHP)/export slaughter interval (ESI) and date safe for slaughter.
- **Grain and fodder treatment record** — including date, silo/storage identification, amount, product, batch number, expiry date, WHP/ESI and date safe for use.
- **Crop, pasture and paddock treatment record** — including date, paddock identification, area, product, batch number, application rate and method, expiry date/date of manufacture, WHP/ESI, and the date paddocks are safe to graze.
- **Livestock feeding record** — including date, commodity vendor declaration (CVD) number, origin of feedstuff, description of feedstuff, amount, storage location, identification of livestock fed and time of feeding (start and finish dates).
- **Record of purchased or introduced livestock** — keeping copies of the LPA NVD from livestock you receive records the date, LPA NVD number, number of stock, identification, breed, sex, age, agent/sale, vendor (name and address) and property identification code (PIC).
- **Records of livestock sold** — keeping a copy of the LPA NVD records the date, LPA NVD number, number of stock, identification, breed, sex, age, purchaser/agent/sale, date and time of yarding, transport company and vehicle registration number.
- **Farm biosecurity plan** — each LPA-accredited property is required to have a farm biosecurity plan.
- **Records of visitors to your property (where possible)** — including name, date, location visited and contact (if any) with livestock.

Recent updates to the LPA program mean that property risk assessments and farm biosecurity plans can now be completed entirely online and stored within a producer's account, along with uploaded copies of any other required records.

Templates of each record required by LPA to assist in keeping records and maintaining the LPA program standards are available on the ISC website or from within LPA accounts.

Alternately, a hard-copy record keeping book can be ordered through the LPA Service Centre or by calling the ISC Helpdesk on **1800 683 111**.



1.4 AUDITING LPA

LPA audits are conducted each year to ensure the management systems introduced by livestock producers comply with LPA Rules and Standards. The LPA Rules and Standards are available on the ISC website.

All LPA-accredited producers, irrespective of the number of livestock on the PIC, may be audited. Subjects for audit are selected at random from the database of all LPA-accredited producers, including producers with just a few livestock. Approximately 3000 audits are conducted each year.

It is a condition of accreditation that LPA producers agree to participate in the audit process. Refusal to participate may result in LPA accreditation being withdrawn.

Qualified auditors from AUS-MEAT conduct the LPA on-farm audits.

WHAT IS THE AUDIT PROCESS?

Audits can now be conducted remotely or on-farm.

If selected for an audit, a producer receives notification, including information to help them prepare for the process. This includes an audit checklist. Reviewing on-farm practices against the checklist will identify any areas that may need attention before the audit to ensure it progresses smoothly.

If the producer is selected for an on-farm audit, they will be contacted by an auditor to organise a mutually convenient time for the auditor to visit the farm and conduct the audit.

On the day of the audit, the auditor will check how records are maintained and how the management of food safety, biosecurity and animal welfare is being carried out. The auditor may accompany the producer on an inspection of property facilities relating to these areas and the LPA Rules and Standards. Parts of the farm that have been identified as contaminated with persistent chemicals — risk sites — may also be visited to review the management systems implemented at these locations.

Alternately, if selected to complete an audit remotely, the producer must upload the required documents to the 'Audit records' page of the nominated LPA account two days before the scheduled date of audit, before notifying the auditor of the submission via phone or email to complete the process.

The cost of the initial audit is covered by the LPA accreditation fee and so comes at no additional charge to the producer. However, any subsequent audits necessary following the first audit to ensure LPA requirements are being met may incur a fee that is billed to the producer.

WHAT IF ISSUES ARE IDENTIFIED?

A complete description of the LPA non-conformances is set out in the LPA Rules. These non-conformances describe the process by which the Integrity Systems Company will deal with instances where a producer is found to be in breach of their obligations under the LPA Rules and Standards.

A non-conformance with the rules or standards may be categorised as minor, major or critical, depending on the nature of the non-conformance and the potential impact it may have on food safety, biosecurity and animal welfare, or the integrity of the LPA program or the Australian red meat industry. A producer may be required to participate in additional audits to ensure that a non-conformance has been addressed. If additional audits are required, a producer may be required to pay the cost of each audit. All corrective action requests (CARs) can be viewed in a producer's LPA account for review and action following the post audit.

MINOR NON-CONFORMANCE

Minor non-conformance will be recorded as an observation. This means an area for which there has been or could be a variance from the LPA Rules and Standards but where it is unlikely to directly affect food safety, biosecurity or animal welfare. Observations represent opportunities for improvement in the overall management system.

MAJOR NON-CONFORMANCE

Major non-conformance will be recorded on a corrective action request (CAR). A CAR may be issued if, among other things, a non-conformance has the potential to compromise food safety, biosecurity or animal welfare or affect the integrity of the Australian meat and livestock industry, or the LPA program. When a CAR has been issued following an LPA audit, producers are notified by the auditor and an alert is placed on their LPA account home page. The producer will then be required to take action to correct the non-conformance within a specified period of time, as instructed by the auditor.

Upon correcting the non-conformance, producers can now upload documentation directly to their LPA account to demonstrate sufficient action has been taken to fulfil the CAR. They can also now view all previous history of audits conducted and CARs raised for each PIC since the inception of the program.



CRITICAL NON-CONFORMANCE

Critical non-conformance will be recorded on a critical incident report (CIR). A CIR may be issued if, among other things, a non-conformance affects the integrity of the Australian red meat industry or the LPA program, compromises the Rules or Standards or jeopardises food safety, biosecurity or animal welfare.

For example, this could include but is not limited to, the feeding of restricted animal material to livestock, a residue detection above maximum residue limits or stock found chewing/licking an old battery.

If a CIR is issued, a producer's accreditation may be suspended until the producer is able to demonstrate that the non-conformance has been addressed. If the issue has not been satisfactorily addressed, a producer may be issued with a show cause notice and asked to give reasons as to why the LPA accreditation should not be withdrawn.

WHAT HAPPENS IF LPA ACCREDITATION IS SUSPENDED?

In the event that a producer is suspended or has their accreditation withdrawn, they must immediately cease using the LPA trade mark, including any LPA NVDs.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A PRODUCER DISAGREES WITH A NON-CONFORMANCE?

If a producer does not agree with a non-conformance which is imposed, they may lodge an appeal in accordance with the LPA Rules and Standards.

Full details of the non-conformance process, including the appeals process, are set out in the LPA Rules and Standards which are available on the ISC website (see LPA Rules and Standards) or by phoning **1800 683 111**.

MORE INFORMATION ON AUDITS

Producers can now view all previous history of audits conducted and CARs raised for each PIC since the inception of the program, within their online LPA account. This information is accessed via the 'account' tab menu.



2.1 PROPERTY RISK ASSESSMENT

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to minimise the risk of livestock being exposed to sites that are unacceptably contaminated with persistent chemicals or physical contaminants.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee the animals you sell do not have unacceptable residues of these chemicals.

You must ensure stock do not have access to sources of contamination, as well as ensuring that livestock have not been exposed to contaminants through injury, such as broken needles, wire or drilling equipment.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP:

- Complete a risk assessment and map and update it when any changes to the enterprise's activities occur.
- Document and file this risk assessment and map.

QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER:

As part of the risk assessment every producer should consider any issue that may impact the risk status of stock. Answers to the following questions will form the basis of a property risk assessment and help producers prepare a property map and management plan for risk areas.

The checklist questions are:

1. Have organochlorine (OC) residues ever been found in stock from this property or in soil or other material samples from the property?
2. Do livestock have access to areas where bananas, cotton, corn, potatoes, lucerne, orchard crops, sugar cane, tobacco, vegetables or other potentially OC-treated crops were grown prior to 1998?
3. Do livestock have access to any timber buildings, sheds, yards, power poles, stockyards or other structures, which may have been treated against termites before July 1995?
4. Is there a dip or spray race (working or not) or a dip/spray race site on the property that was built or operated before 1990?
5. Do livestock have access to a rubbish dump, farm machinery, sheds, painted feed bins, or any painted surface?

6. Do livestock have access to current or former chemical storage, mixing or washdown areas or fertiliser storage or loading areas?
7. Do livestock have access to leaking electrical transformers, capacitors, hydraulic equipment or coal mine wastes?
8. Is feed stored in silos, hay sheds or other areas that may have been treated with OCs?
9. Have sources of potentially injurious physical contaminants been identified?

A risk assessment must be carried out when any changes to the enterprise's current activities occur, such as a change in land use on the property. It will be examined in detail should your property be subjected to a random audit.

You can now complete a property risk assessment entirely online on your LPA account. Alternatively, templates are available to download from the ISC website (see Tools and Resources) to assist you with creating a risk assessment for your property if you prefer to keep hard copy records instead.

PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

- Mark on a property map suspect areas such as:
 - old yards and dip sites
 - treated yards
 - old rubbish dump sites
 - treated power poles.
- Conduct soil tests for any sites of concern.
- Conduct animal fat tests for suspect sites where animals are fed intensively, such as feedlots or weaning yards.
- Using the test results determine whether livestock can be allowed access to various parts of your property.
- Complete the property risk assessment provided by LPA and file for future reference/audit.
- Isolate contaminated sites to deny stock access. Erect 'restricted access' signs if people could inadvertently let stock in.
- Store persistent chemicals in a place where livestock cannot gain access.
- Clearly identify livestock that may have gained access to restricted areas. Keep records on these animals to make sure they cannot be accidentally sent for slaughter until it is safe.



Your State Department of Primary Industries or Local Land Services can assist with testing of livestock for residues of persistent chemicals and provide advice on when livestock that have accessed contaminated sites can be sold.

2.2 SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL TREATMENTS

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that animal treatments are administered in a safe and responsible manner to minimise the risk of chemical residues and physical hazards.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that you use veterinary drugs only when necessary, and that animals that are treated get an effective course of treatment. You must also ensure there is minimal risk of adverse side effects, including carcass residue or physical contaminants.

It is essential that all animal treatments are stored and used appropriately and that animals are not slaughtered while they may still have unacceptably high chemical residues or physical contaminants. This can be achieved by carefully following label instructions (particularly regarding dose), withholding period (WHP) and export slaughter interval (ESI).

Producers using hormone growth and promotants (HGP) in livestock must ensure the application of HGPs is in accordance with statutory requirements. This includes permanent identification of treated livestock by a triangular ear punch and upkeep of records on the use of HGPs.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP

- Document and file all animal treatment details. Records should include:
 - treatment date
 - animal/mob identification
 - chemical/drug used, including batch number and expiry date
 - dose rate
 - relevant WHP and/or ESI (and date of expiry) or date animal is first eligible for sale
 - adverse reactions (if applicable)
 - broken needle still in animal (if applicable)
- Note in a diary when equipment utilised for livestock treatment is cleaned.

- Ensure you have written authorisation and directions from a veterinarian for any off-label use of animal treatments.
- Note animals that may have been exposed to physical contaminants such as broken needles, buckshot, etc.

QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER

It is recommended producers document and file responses to the safe and responsible animal treatments checklist, and make them available should the property be subject to an LPA audit. Questions asked by the auditor may not be limited to these.

The checklist questions are:

1. Do you only allow people who are trained and/or competent to administer animal treatments?
2. When treating animals, do you abide by the legal directions (e.g. as written on the label) or written directions from the vet and only use approved veterinary chemicals?
3. Are veterinary chemicals stored according to instructions on the label and kept in a place safe from animals?
4. Do you ensure that any equipment used to administer or measure animal treatments is working correctly before use and clean it before and after you use it?
5. Are management systems in place to prevent cross-contamination between treated and non-treated animals?
6. Do you administer veterinary chemical injections in the neck (unless site specific) and minimise damage to the site?
7. Do you record livestock treatments, including adverse reactions, and pass this on when selling stock? Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website (see Tools and Resources).

PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

- Any person on your property handling veterinary chemicals must be competent in administering veterinary chemicals to livestock.
- Ways to show competence include:
 - for those using chemicals, evidence of completion of a recognised chemical user's course (if applicable)
 - being supervised by someone holding a current chemical user's certificate
 - or being able to show competency to an auditor.
- Read all labels and apply the animal treatment using those directions or written veterinarian directions.

- Ensure that any equipment used to administer or measure chemicals delivers the correct dose. Check the equipment works correctly and is clean before using it.
- Thoroughly clean all equipment used to administer animal treatments after each use (e.g. application equipment, buckets, utensils etc) and prior to reuse.
- Prevent cross contamination between treated and non-treated animals (e.g. through urine or milk).
- Administer veterinary chemical injections in the neck (unless site specific).
- Record if livestock have an adverse reaction to a treatment. If the reaction is severe, contact your local veterinarian for assistance.
- Ensure animals treated with HGPs have the correct triangular earmark in accordance with state regulatory requirements.
- Store chemicals in a secure area so there is no risk of livestock contact.
- Store treatments as indicated on the label and dispose of chemicals with an expired use-by date as recommended on the label.
- Dispose of chemical containers and equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.
- Keep and use a copy of the latest WHP/ESI listing available from www.apvma.gov.au/node/1086. Where a WHP or ESI is not available make additional enquiries with the chemical company and note the recommendation.
- Keep records of livestock treated with veterinary chemicals and HGPs.
- Permanently identify any livestock that have broken needles.
- If selling livestock, advise the buyer of treatment details of livestock (including if cattle require tick treatment during transport). This information can be completed on the LPA NVD.
- Ensure records are retained for a minimum of three years, or in accordance with state legislation, or for the duration of the livestock on a PIC, whichever is the longer period.

2.3 FODDER CROP, GRAIN AND PASTURE TREATMENTS AND STOCK FOODS

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to minimise exposure of livestock to foods containing unacceptable chemical contamination and guarantee livestock are not fed animal products.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that animals are not exposed to foods containing chemical contamination or fed animal products.

Exposure to contaminated food or animal product may result in unacceptably high chemical residues in the animal at the time of slaughter, posing a risk to human health, trade and industry reputation.

Producers must, therefore, do all they can to ensure agricultural chemicals are applied and stored correctly and that animals are not exposed to chemical residues. Records must be kept to enable the traceability of stock feeds provided to animals, including details on WHP, ESI, export grazing interval (EGI) or export feeding interval (EFI) as applicable.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP

- Keep records of your agricultural chemical treatments. Records should include:
 - treatment date
 - location/area/quantity of treatment
 - chemical used, including batch number and expiry date
 - application rate and method
 - relevant WHP
 - relevant withholding from grazing period
 - wind direction and speed.
- Introduce management systems to identify livestock that may have become contaminated and to map or list treated or contaminated areas.
- Keep records of commodity vendor declarations (CVDs) that accompany all introduced stock feeds — origin of purchased feedstuff (e.g. invoice).



QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ANSWER

It is recommended producers document and file answers to the checklist questions and make them available when the property is subject to an LPA audit.

The fodder crop, grain and pasture treatments and stock foods checklist includes nine questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to minimise exposure of livestock to foods containing chemicals or animal products.

The checklist questions are:

1. Do you only allow people who are trained and/or competent to use chemicals?
2. When applying chemicals, do you abide by the legal directions (e.g. as written on the label) and only use approved agricultural chemicals?
3. Do you ensure that any equipment used to apply or measure chemicals is working correctly before use and clean it before and after you use it?
4. Are agricultural chemicals stored according to instructions on the label and kept in a place safe from animals?
5. Are management systems in place to identify livestock that may have accessed treated paddocks or contaminated feed?
6. Do you record agricultural treatments, including spray drift and introduced stock feed, and pass this on when selling stock?
7. Do you record introduced stock feeds and ensure these come with a CVD that shows there is a minimal risk of contamination?
8. Do you meet the ruminant feed ban legislation of the state in which you raise stock?
9. Is there a management system in place to map or list treated and contaminated areas and signpost them on-farm?

Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website (see Tools and Resources).

PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

- Ensure those using chemicals can demonstrate evidence of completion of a recognised chemical user's course (if applicable).
- Ensure that any equipment used to apply or measure chemicals delivers the correct amount of chemicals. Use an accurate measuring device and do not estimate quantities. Check that the application equipment works correctly and is clean before using it.
- Only use legally approved chemicals and use them in accordance with label directions.
- Store chemicals in a secure area so there is no risk of livestock contact.
- Store treatments as indicated on the label and dispose of chemicals with an expired use-by date as recommended on the label.
- Dispose of chemical containers and equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.
- Keep a farm map or list of treated paddock areas and any contaminated sites/facilities and ensure livestock do not have access if there is a risk of contamination.
- Treated paddocks may be identified with signs.
- Where a WHP is not available make additional enquiries with the chemical company and note the recommendation and or review relevant information on the APVMA web site (portal.apvma.gov.au/pubcris).
- When receiving introduced stockfeed, ensure it comes with a CVD, which indicates there is minimal risk of contamination. If you do not receive a CVD with your stockfeed, ask for one. The CVD template can be downloaded from the ISC website (see Tools and Resources).
- If you're not sure of the chemical residue status of stockfeed, do not provide it to livestock until you can prove it is clear (e.g. get the feed tested).
- Identify treated feed storage facilities or treated feed product by signage.
- Keep records on agricultural treatments, including spray drift events as well as introduced stockfeed.
- Identify livestock that may have accessed treated paddocks or contaminated feed. This can be by any method that works for you (e.g. a unique coloured ear tag, or by segregating from other non-contaminated livestock).
- Do not purchase and use feed that contains any form of animal products (unless you have an approved exemption). For a list of banned animal products in feed, contact your local state department of agriculture.
- Ensure records are retained for a minimum of three years, or in accordance with state legislation, or for the duration of the livestock on a PIC, whichever is the longer period.



2.4 PREPARATION FOR DISPATCH OF LIVESTOCK

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that livestock are fit for transport and minimise the risk of stress and contamination of livestock during assembly and transport.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that livestock are fit to transport and that they experience a minimum of stress and contamination during assembly and transport.

They must also meet the specific requirements relating to the transportation for sale or slaughter of bobby calves.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP

- Document and file LPA NVDs completed for each PIC.
- Document and file transport records.
- Records of animals that may have been exposed to physical contaminants such as broken needles, buckshot or wire.

QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ANSWER

It is recommended producers document and file answers to the checklist questions and make them available when the property is subject to an LPA audit.

The preparation for dispatch of livestock checklist includes six questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to minimise livestock stress and contamination during assembly and transport.

The checklist questions are:

1. Do you record transport details, including vehicle registration and key times?
2. Do you only select animals for transport that are fit for travel?
3. Do you inspect vehicles prior to livestock transportation?
4. Are pre-consignment curfews enforced for livestock destined for slaughter?
5. Do you choose transport operators that operate in accordance with a recognised quality assurance program?
6. Do you prepare bobby calves for transport in accordance with the requirements prescribed in the bobby calf LPA NVD?

Records must be updated every time livestock are transported. Templates to assist you with record keeping are available on the ISC website (see Tools and Resources). All records can now be stored in the 'Record Keeping' section of your LPA account.

PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

- Muster, assemble and transport livestock so that there is minimal contamination and stress on the animal.
- Only select animals that are in a condition fit for travel. No sick or injured animals should be consigned.
- When transporting stock, inspect the vehicle for cleanliness and ensure the construction of multi-level trucks minimises soiling of livestock on the lower deck.
- Meet curfew requirements, unless a customer specifies otherwise:
 - cattle destined for slaughter should have at least six hours curfew before departure
 - sheep/goats destined for slaughter should have at least 12 hours dry curfew.
- Where possible use a quality assured transporter (e.g. completed the animal welfare module within the TruckSafe accreditation system).
- If you have received complaints from processors or purchasers regarding excessive soiling of livestock, plan and implement processes to ensure it does not happen again.
- Ensure that all calves described on bobby calf LPA NVDs have been prepared for transport in accordance with the following provisions at all times: Calves are between the age of five and 30 days old and must be: protected from cold and heat, in good health, able to rise up, fed milk or replacers on the farm within six hours of transport, delivered and fed within 18 hours of last feed, and transported for less than 12 hours. Note: The above requirements are as stated on the BC0720 version of the bobby calf NVD.
- Keep evidence of your management, for example:
 - copies of the LPA NVD and transport records
 - name of transport operator and the vehicle registration number
 - date and time of yarding and truck departure
 - records of feedback/complaints from processors or purchasers and any actions taken.



- For bobby calves, records need to be maintained to demonstrate that compliance to the fitness for transport provisions including, for example, that bobby calves are in their fifth day or older, and that calves have been fed within six hours of transport.
- Ensure records are retained for a minimum of three years or in accordance with state legislation, or for the duration of the livestock on a PIC, whichever is the longer period.

2.5 LIVESTOCK TRANSACTIONS AND MOVEMENTS

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure traceability requirements, with respect to treatments or exposure to food safety hazards, have been fulfilled for all livestock movements — between farms and feedlots, and to slaughter and live exports.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that the animals you sell are not exposed to food safety hazards and that you meet all traceability requirements, should a food safety issue occur. This involves careful attention to the accuracy and completion of LPA NVDs (including eNVDs) and effective filing of records for all livestock that are introduced and leave your property.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP

- Record all purchases and sales of livestock.
- Keep copies of all LPA NVDs for introduced and dispatched livestock.
- Record vendor's name and address, and PIC.
- Record livestock details/description.
- Keep records of animals purchased while within a WHP/ ESI period.
- Records of HGP application.
- Keep records of animals that may have been exposed to physical contaminants such as broken needles, buckshot or wire.
- Record updates to the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database.
- Record the identification of livestock in accordance with NLIS requirements.

QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ANSWER

It is recommended producers document and file answers to the checklist questions and make them available when the property is subject to an LPA audit.

The livestock transactions and movements checklist includes eight questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to ensure traceability requirements for their livestock are fulfilled.

The checklist questions are:

1. Do you use LPA NVDs for every livestock movement from your property?
2. Do you complete LPA NVDs accurately and keep a copy on file?
3. Do you have management systems in place for identifying individual livestock and mobs?
4. Do you keep records of livestock you introduce to your property?
5. Do you keep records of livestock that leave your property?
6. Do you review the chemical residue status of all animals before dispatch?
7. Do you update the NLIS database for all movements onto your PIC?
8. Do you ensure livestock are identified in accordance with NLIS requirements?

PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

LPA NVDs are to be used for every livestock movement from one PIC to another PIC or destination. This includes all sales and purchases as well as movements from your property (whether it be to slaughter, another property, for agistment, saleyard or other movement).

- LPA NVDs must be accurately completed and retained on file.
- Identify livestock using individual or mob identification in accordance with NLIS requirements.
- Keep records of purchased/introduced and dispatched livestock.
- Review the chemical residue status of all animals before dispatch.
- Ensure livestock treated with HGPs are identified in accordance with regulatory requirements.
- Ensure that all introduced livestock have been updated to the NLIS database.

- Ensure records are retained for a minimum of three years, or in accordance with state legislation, or for the duration of the livestock on a PIC, whichever is the longer period.

2.6 BIOSECURITY

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to minimise both the risk of infectious diseases being introduced to your livestock production property and the subsequent spread of any such disease.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

You are required to develop a farm biosecurity plan and to keep records of livestock, vehicle and visitor movements onto and around your property.

As a minimum, each property identification code (PIC) must have a formal, documented farm biosecurity plan that addresses each of the following points:

- a. Manage and record the introduction and movement of livestock in a way that minimises the risk of introducing and/or spreading infectious diseases
- b. Where reasonable and practicable, control people, equipment and vehicles entering the property, thus minimizing the potential for property contamination and, if possible, keep a record of such movements
- c. Prevent and control animal diseases on-farm by regularly monitoring and managing livestock.

Cattle producers who have developed a farm biosecurity plan as part of their approach to JD management will not need to complete another to meet LPA requirements. Farm biosecurity plans can now be created and filed online on your LPA account.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP

Document and file (as far as is practicable) details of all visitors entering your property. Records should include:

- visit date
- visitor's name
- area/s visited
- any livestock with which they have contact (if applicable).

Document and file details of equipment, machinery or vehicles arriving onto your property. Records should include:

- arrival date
- item's name
- origin
- whether cleaned/disinfected before or on arrival.

Note down when livestock inspections are carried out and when boundary fences/gates are checked to ensure livestock are not able to stray from or onto your property.

QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ANSWER

It is recommended producers document and file answers to the checklist questions and make them available when the property is subject to an LPA audit.

The biosecurity checklist includes eight questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to maintain the biosecurity integrity of livestock on their property.

The checklist questions are:

1. Does your PIC have a documented farm biosecurity plan?
2. Do all livestock movements onto the PIC have a known health status — that is, are livestock coming onto your property accompanied by a livestock health statement/declaration or equivalent?
3. Are all introduced livestock inspected for signs of ill health or disease on arrival at the property and kept in isolation for a minimum period of time?
4. Are livestock inspected regularly for ill health and/or disease, and is appropriate action undertaken in response where necessary?
5. Is the risk of livestock straying onto or away from the property minimised?
6. Are systems in place to ensure a veterinary practitioner or animal health officer is notified if an unusual disease, illness or mortality is observed?
7. Where reasonable and practical, are the movements of people, vehicles and equipment entering your property controlled and, where possible, recorded?
8. Do you maintain any other procedures or practices that contribute to minimising the risk and/or spread of disease?

Farm biosecurity plans can now be created and filed online in your LPA account. If required, templates can also be downloaded from the ISC website (see Tools and Resources).



PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

- Develop and maintain a farm biosecurity plan in accordance with LPA's guidelines. Cattle producers who have developed a farm biosecurity plan as part of their approach to JD management will not need to complete another to meet LPA requirements.
- Allow animals onto your property only if their full health history is known and can be provided as a formal document.
- Screen livestock entering your property to ensure they are in good health before they are allowed into contact with existing animals. Quarantine any that show symptoms of illness or disease until they no longer pose a threat of infection to the rest of your herd or flock.
- Inspect livestock regularly. Isolate any animal displaying signs of ill health or disease and treat it with the relevant veterinary medicine or procedure.
- Maintain your boundary fences in good condition. Keep external gates closed to ensure livestock from neighbouring properties cannot enter your property and that your own livestock are kept securely contained.
- If you observe any signs of disease, illness or mortality that are unusual on your property, notify your local veterinarian or animal health officer immediately.
- Make sure you stay up to date with animal health warnings and bulletins issued by your state or territory department of agriculture/primary industries and other relevant organisations and authorities.
- Consider displaying biosecurity advisory signs on your boundary fences and/or on your front gate asking visitors to seek authorisation and exercise care when entering your property.
- Where possible, ensure people visiting your PIC have not been in recent contact with potentially infectious animals (either within Australia or overseas) before arriving.
- Keep vehicles and equipment clean and free of animal fluids which may carry disease. Ensure treatment devices such as syringes and drench guns are disinfected thoroughly after use and are not shared with neighbours.
- Where reasonable and practical, keep written, dated records detailing all people, vehicles and equipment entering your property so that in the event of a biosecurity incident all movements can be easily traced.
- You may choose to take additional steps to help reduce the risk of disease entering and/or spreading around or from your property. Document these as part of your overall farm biosecurity plan.

2.7 ANIMAL WELFARE

OUTCOME: On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure the management of livestock is consistent with the requirements of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines*.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

As an LPA-accredited producer you must make sure that a current copy of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep and/or goats (as applicable) is kept accessible as a reference and that all people participating in livestock husbandry on your property understand its content. The Standards and Guidelines can be downloaded from the ISC website (see Tools and Resources).

People responsible for the management of livestock on your property must have been trained in these *Standards and Guidelines* through the LPA Learning tool or an equivalent training program.

Livestock managers must in turn train their staff (where relevant) in a way that is consistent with the *Standards and Guidelines*.

EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO KEEP

Keep a current copy of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* with your other farm reference material.

Keep records of training completed by yourself and your livestock husbandry team members.

QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ANSWER

Producers should document and file answers to the checklist questions and make them available when the property is subject to an LPA audit.

The animal welfare checklist comprises four questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to safeguard the welfare of livestock on their property.

The checklist questions are:

1. Do you have a copy of the current version of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep or goats (as applicable to your property) accessible as a reference?
2. Has the PIC representative or person responsible for the management of livestock successfully completed training in relation to the *Standards and Guidelines* through the LPA Learning tool or an equivalent?
3. Are staff involved in animal husbandry familiar with the content of the current version of the *Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep and/or goats (as applicable)?
4. Do you maintain any other procedures or practices that contribute to improved animal welfare outcomes in your operation?

PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT ON-FARM

- Download a current copy of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep and/or goats from the ISC website (see Tools and Resources) and keep it available as a ready reference where you and your livestock handlers can access it easily.
- Animal welfare is one of the seven modules contained within LPA Learning — an online education tool for producers. As part of your LPA accreditation, undertake training in animal welfare through LPA Learning or an equivalent training program.
- It is important that your version of the *Standards and Guidelines* is accessible on-farm and is kept up to date. Whenever a new edition of the document is released, download a fresh copy and ensure it is read by the people responsible for livestock management on your property, before storing it where it can be accessed again from time to time as needed.
- If you have any other procedures or practices in place on your property above and beyond those required by the *Standards and Guidelines*, record those and add them as a supplement to your copy of the official document.



3. LPA ACCREDITATION

Being accredited with LPA means that livestock producers agree to abide by the LPA Rules and Standards, including the seven elements of LPA. It is a formal commitment to undertake specific on-farm practices that mean Australian red meat is safely and ethically produced. It is a guarantee that producers stand by what they sell.

HOW DO PRODUCERS CHECK IF THEIR PROPERTY IS LPA ACCREDITED?

Use the accreditation search tool to check your LPA accreditation using your property identification number (PIC).

HOW DO PRODUCERS BECOME ACCREDITED WITH LPA?

To become LPA-accredited, producers must first register their PIC by visiting the LPA website.

Producers seeking LPA accreditation for the first time are required to work through a set of online learning modules, known as LPA Learning. The full course takes about one hour to complete.

Once the course is complete, they need to do an online assessment to check their knowledge. Producers need to answer all questions correctly and agree to abide by the LPA requirements in order to achieve LPA accreditation. Producers need to pay the accreditation fee as a part of this process.

DOES LPA ACCREDITATION NEED TO BE RENEWED?

Producers are required to keep their LPA accreditation current. This ensures their knowledge of program requirements is always up to date. Accreditation must be renewed once every three years.

HOW DO PRODUCERS RENEW THEIR LPA ACCREDITATION?

Producers can log in to the LPA Service Centre and complete a short assessment. Producers need to answer all questions correctly to have their LPA accreditation renewed. They will also have to agree to abide by the LPA program requirements and pay the accreditation fee.

HOW WILL PRODUCERS KNOW WHEN IT IS TIME TO RENEW THEIR ACCREDITATION?

Producers will be notified by email or post two months before their accreditation due date.

HOW CAN PRODUCERS PREPARE FOR THE ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT?

Producers should work through LPA Learning in preparation to ensure they understand all requirements of the program.

WHAT IS LPA LEARNING?

To ensure producers know their food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity responsibilities, the Integrity Systems Company has produced LPA Learning, an online course developed to assist livestock owners to better understand all practices required under LPA. The online course takes around 60 minutes to complete. For a preview of the course, a short introductory video titled 'LPA Learning: producing safe red meat' is available on the LPA Learning webpage on the ISC website.

LPA Learning covers all seven elements of the LPA program. Essential information available on the LPA Learning webpage on each LPA element is provided in an easy-to-follow format which includes questions to test each producer's knowledge and reinforce learning along the way.

Producers can access LPA Learning at any time through the ISC website as a practice prior to seeking or renewing accreditation, or to test their own knowledge. Completing LPA Learning will give producers added confidence to stand by what they sell.



WHAT DOES COMMITTING TO LPA INVOLVE?

As part of the accreditation process, in addition to completing the assessment, producers commit to abide by the Rules and Standards of LPA. They must agree to each of the following statements:

1. I understand that eligibility to use the LPA National Vendor Declarations (LPA NVDs) is restricted to PICs that are accredited under the LPA program.
2. I have read and understood the requirements of the LPA program as described in the LPA Rules and Standards (as amended from time to time).
3. I will seek to ensure all persons with access to LPA NVDs for this PIC will comply with the requirements of the LPA Rules and Standards at all times.
4. I will ensure that all records required by LPA administration and the LPA Rules and Standards are maintained, including auditable evidence to demonstrate compliance with the seven elements of the LPA Standards — property risk assessment, animal treatment records, agricultural chemical usage and stockfeeds, preparation of livestock, livestock movements and transactions, biosecurity, and animal welfare.
5. I will provide access to LPA administration to conduct random audits as required under the LPA program (irrespective of whether the business is a hobby farm, a small or large operation, or is currently destocked).
6. I will take any corrective action and preventative action as required under the LPA Rules and Standards.
7. I will cease using NVDs displaying the LPA logo if accreditation is withdrawn.
8. All information provided to LPA applicable to this PIC is correct to the best of my knowledge.
9. I will inform LPA administration of all changes applicable to the LPA Accreditation of (PIC number).

CAN LPA ACCREDITATION BE TAKEN AWAY?

Yes. Producers whose on-farm practices do not meet LPA requirements risk having their accreditation suspended or withdrawn until they can demonstrate compliance in accordance with the LPA Rules and Standards. Where accreditation is suspended (or withdrawn) producers are no longer entitled to use LPA NVDs.

WHAT IS THE RISK IF ACCREDITED PRODUCERS DO NOT COMPLY WITH LPA REGULATIONS?

The requirements of LPA guarantee the safe and ethical production of red meat on Australian farms, with consideration of biosecurity. As an industry, failure to meet these requirements may threaten our industry's international reputation and consumers' trust in our product. The non-compliance of a single farmer poses a potential risk to this guarantee. LPA-accredited producers are subject to random audits. Should the audit highlight a failure to comply with the LPA regulations the producer may have their LPA accreditation revoked or suspended pending resolution of the identified issue/s.

WHAT IS THE LPA SERVICE CENTRE?

The LPA Service Centre (<https://lpa.nlis.com.au>) allows accredited producers to manage their LPA account entirely online, providing:

- Access to the eNVD platform and hard copy NVD ordering.
- Access to LPA Learning and LPA accreditation.
- Links to record keeping information and templates.
- The new program alert system, which informs producers if actions are required on LPA accounts (red and amber alerts) and provides useful informational updates (green alerts).
- A full communications history which records all interactions between producers and LPA.
- Detailed account information.
- An option to withdraw from LPA if accreditation is no longer required.
- Access to third party authorisation forms. These forms are required when LPA-accredited PIC owners wish to provide access to third parties such as agistees to obtain and manage an LPA accreditation and purchase their own NVDs.



4. LPA NATIONAL VENDOR DECLARATION (NVD)

Each time livestock are bought, sold or moved off a property, the livestock consignment must be accompanied by a form of movement documentation. Usually this is an LPA National Vendor Declaration (LPA NVD), but other forms of movement documentation (such as state/territory-based waybills or travelling stock statements) may also be used.

The LPA NVD is the main document behind Australia's reputation as a reliable supplier of safe red meat to domestic and international markets.

When an LPA NVD is signed, the producer is sharing information on livestock history and declaring compliance with all LPA requirements. It enables important information regarding livestock history to be transferred through the value chain. Only LPA-accredited producers have access to LPA NVDs.

There is currently a suite of five LPA NVDs for cattle, EU cattle, sheep and lambs, goats and bobby calves. LPA NVDs are available in hard copy and electronic format through eNVD.

Current LPA NVDs and eNVDs are available within producer's LPA accounts accessed via the LPA Service Centre.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LPA NVD?

The LPA NVD has two purposes:

1. In completing and signing the LPA NVD, the seller provides the buyer with a guarantee relating to the food safety status of the animals they are purchasing, and ensures animal welfare and biosecurity requirements have been met.
2. The LPA NVD enables livestock movements to be traced if necessary.

WHEN ARE LPA NVDs REQUIRED?

LPA NVDs are required for any movement of stock — to processors, feedlots, saleyards or between properties (irrespective of ownership) if they have different PICs.

WHAT INFORMATION IS INCLUDED ON AN LPA NVD?

The LPA NVD asks the livestock owner a series of questions about the livestock's history. It also contains a declaration from the livestock owner that all information provided on the LPA NVD is true and correct. There are also sections to be filled out by the person responsible for the livestock while they are being moved. Details on how to fill out an LPA NVD and explanatory notes can be found in the LPA NVD booklets, within the eNVD system and on the ISC website.

WHAT IS THE ENVD SYSTEM?

The eNVD system is an electronic platform that offers LPA-accredited producers access to the following declarations:

- LPA NVD (cattle, bobby calf, sheep and lambs, and goat)
- LPA Cattle European Union Vendor Declaration (EUVD)
- Meat Standards Australia (MSA) Declaration
- National Health Declarations (cattle, sheep and goat)
- National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme delivery documentation

The completed eNVD records are stored centrally on the NLIS database, and retrievable by senders and receivers, through their software or via the LPA or NLIS databases, without the need for paper copies to be printed.

The eNVD system will ensure producers are providing information that meets the latest market requirements. Adopting the eNVD will be simpler, quicker and more accurate for the whole value chain.

HOW CAN PRODUCERS ACCESS THE ENVD SYSTEM?

There are two ways for LPA-accredited producers to access the eNVD system:

1. LPA Service Centre website

Producers can complete all available declarations at no cost from within their LPA account.

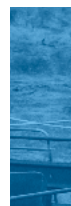
2. Licensed software products

Producers may use licensed software to complete their declarations. Licensed software products typically offer other value-added features that meet specific needs of businesses.

WHY SHOULD PRODUCERS USE ENVDs INSTEAD OF THE PAPER VERSION?

eNVDs provide access to the latest versions of the vendor declarations, and reduce the time taken to complete consignment forms, allowing multiple forms to be completed using the same information. The ability to create templates for regular consignments is another time-saving feature of eNVDs. In time, use of eNVDs will also remove the logistical issue of storing and retrieving old paper LPA NVDs.

Producers and feedlots can access eNVDs at no cost through the LPA Service Centre whereas paper NVDs carry a charge per book.



HOW DO PRODUCERS OBTAIN LPA NVDS?

eNVD — Producers can access free eNVDs by logging onto the LPA Service Centre.

Hard copy — LPA NVD booklets contain 10 or 20 forms (in triplicate). Hard copy NVDs can be ordered online via the LPA Service Centre or via the ISC Helpdesk (1800 683111).

Note: Access to EU NVDs is restricted to producers who are accredited in the European Union Cattle Accreditation Scheme (EUCAS). Access to NFAS delivery documentation is restricted to feedlots which are accredited in the National Feedlots Accreditation Scheme (NFAS).

WHAT HAPPENS IF A PRODUCER RUNS OUT OF LPA NVD FORMS?

Producers can access free eNVDs immediately via their account within the LPA Service Centre or with assistance from the ISC Helpdesk. If the producer wants to keep using NVD forms, these can be ordered via the LPA Service Centre or by calling the ISC Helpdesk.

HOW DO PRODUCERS PAY FOR NVDS?

Hard copy LPA NVDs can be paid for by credit card or manual payment options including cheque or money order. Free eNVDs are also available through the LPA Service Centre.



5. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Accreditation

The official recognition given to producers who have confirmed that their on-farm systems meet the requirements of the LPA Rules and Standards.

Animal fat test

A test undertaken to determine if any chemical residues are stored in the fat deposits of a carcass.

Animal welfare

The state of an animal and how well it is coping with the conditions in which it lives.

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)

The APVMA is an Australian government statutory authority established in 1993 to centralise the registration of all agricultural and veterinary chemical products into the Australian marketplace. Previously each state and territory government had its own system of registration.

Audit

A review process where records and procedures are checked to ensure that necessary requirements are being met.

Assurance

To provide some guarantee.

Biosecurity

The preventive measures designed to reduce the risk of transmission of infectious diseases, invasive pests or weeds.

Bobby calves

Calves that are between 5 and 30 days of age and are not accompanied by their mothers.

Chemical user's certification

The accreditation given to a person deemed competent in administering veterinary and/or using agricultural chemicals.

Commodity Vendor Declaration (CVD)

A declaration of the residue status of stockfeed (including by-product feeds) and details of any chemical treatments that have been applied to the feed.

Corrective Action Request (CAR)

A producer may be issued with a Corrective Action Request (CAR) following identification of non-conformance through the audit process. The CAR will request the non-conformance be corrected within a specified time period.

Critical non-conformance

An audit term which indicates the auditor has identified a variance that may cause loss of integrity of the Australian meat and livestock industry or the LPA or jeopardise food safety, or a reoccurring major non-conformance which has not been addressed by corrective action.

Curfew

A specified period of time without feed or water before travel.

eNVD

An electronic NVD that can be used, free of charge, in place of a hard copy LPA NVD to record livestock movements.

Export slaughter interval (ESI)

The period of time that must elapse between treatment of an animal with a veterinary drug or other chemical and sending the animal to slaughter for export.

Export grazing interval (EGI)

Is the minimum time interval between application of a chemical to a crop or pasture and grazing by animals destined for slaughter for export purposes.

Export feeding interval (EAFI)

Is the minimum interval between the application of a chemical to a crop or pasture and its harvest or being cut for stock feed.

Integrity Systems Company

A wholly owned subsidiary of Meat & Livestock Australia established to manage Australia's red meat integrity system on behalf of industry.

LPA National Vendor Declaration (LPA NVD)

The food safety, biosecurity and animal welfare declaration that accompanies cattle, sheep and lambs, goats and bobby calves for sale and or slaughter from LPA-accredited properties. It displays the LPA logo and can be either hard copy or electronic (eNVD).

Livestock movements

The transfer of livestock from one place to another, not necessarily involving a sale or purchase (i.e. livestock transaction).

Livestock transactions

The sale or transfer of livestock ownership.

Major non-conformance

An audit term which indicates the auditor has identified an issue on-farm that has the potential to compromise the integrity of red meat produced on-farm or impinge on the integrity of the Australian meat and livestock industry or the LPA.

Minor non-conformance

An audit term which indicates the auditor has identified a variance from the Rules and Standards that is not likely to directly impinge on food safety or the integrity of the Australian meat and livestock industry or the LPA.

Non-conformance

Where the requirements of the LPA Rules and Standards are not met.

Organochlorine chemicals (OCs)

Organic chemical compounds containing chlorine that have an insecticidal activity. While their use is now banned, their persistence in soil continues to pose a risk of residues in meat.

Persistent chemicals

Chemicals that remain in the environment, posing a potential residue risk to grazing cattle in both meat and milk products. A full list of persistent chemicals of concern can be obtained from the LPA Administration.

Physical hazards

Foreign material that can end up in food, such as metal fragments, lead shot, broken needles, wire, glass etc.

Property identification code (PIC)

A number issued to a property, which allows animal disease and other notifiable problems to be traced back to the property of origin of stock. The PIC is a unique identifier for land used for keeping livestock. PICs are assigned to individual properties. State/territory NLIS authorities are responsible for issuing a PIC. One owner may have several PICs for their operation.

Property residue status

The category a property is allocated to in accordance with the presence of organochlorine (OC) residues on the property — this is used to minimise the risk of cattle with OC residues above the maximum level being slaughtered for human consumption.

Quality assurance (QA)

A program that is intended, by its actions, to maintain a standard level of quality.

Risk assessment

The process of identifying and reviewing controls for threats that could cause food safety, animal welfare or biosecurity issues.

Traceability

The ability to trace the history, application or location of an item or activity by means of recorded identification. It is a key requirement of the LPA program.

TruckSafe's Animal Welfare

A quality assurance program for livestock transporters, formally known as TruckCare.

Waybill

State-specific stock movement document.

Withholding period (WHP)

The minimum period that must elapse between treatment with a certain chemical and the treated animal's slaughter for human consumption in Australia.



6. TOOLS AND RESOURCES

A range of tools and resources are available on the ISC website www.integritysystems.com.au to assist producers to meet the requirements of the LPA program, including:

- Farm record templates
- LPA NVD explanatory notes and 'how to' video
- NLIS resources
- eNVD 'how to' video
- Sample LPA NVDs
- Fact sheets on LPA on-farm practices
- Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines
- LPA explanatory videos
- LPA rules and standards
- LPA Learning
- National cattle, sheep and goat declarations
- Links to the NLIS website and the LPA Service Centre

CONTACT DETAILS

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