



Lodging your Annual Land and Stock Return

Why it's important to lodge

Your property information helps build a statewide biosecurity picture about agricultural use and livestock numbers.

Along with the stock identification and traceability systems we manage, the information on your Annual Return of Land and Stock (Annual Land and Stock Return) is invaluable in the event of an emergency or disease outbreak.

Effective animal biosecurity and welfare can be seen as insurance to maintain market access for livestock producers, now and in the future.

Our produce is free of many of the pests and diseases found in other parts of the world.

That's why Local Land Services works with you to monitor herds and flocks and share up-to-date advice and information to increase productivity.

If you don't lodge a return

The due date for lodging your Annual Land and Stock Return is **31 August 2017**. It is a legal requirement under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* that landholders lodge an Annual Land and Stock Return.

It is important that you complete an Annual Land and Stock Return, even if you do not have stock.

If you don't lodge an Annual Land and Stock Return by the due date, an animal health rate and meat industry levy will be automatically applied to your 2018 rates notice.

Lodge your return online

The easiest way to lodge your return is online by visiting www.lls.nsw.gov.au/alsr.



The online form asks the same questions as the paper-based form and takes only a few minutes to complete.

There are three simple steps:

- 1 Look up your holding reference number and unique online password from the top right hand corner of the enclosed Annual Land and Stock Return.
- 2 Log in to www.lls.nsw.gov.au/alsr.
- 3 Fill in your land and stock details.

Mail

You can post your completed return to:

Local Land Services
Locked Bag 6013
Orange NSW 2800



Changes to Biosecurity Act from 1 July 2017

On **1 July 2017** the new *Biosecurity Act 2015* will commence. The Biosecurity Regulations 2017 will also be in place to support biosecurity in NSW. Make sure you're prepared for the changes by signing up for the latest news at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/biosecurity-legislation or email biosecuritylegislation@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

BIOSECURITY ACT 2015



Frequently asked questions

What should I do if the information in Section A of the Return is incorrect?

If any of the information in Section A is incorrect, please contact your nearest Local Land Services office or download the Change of Details form from our website and return it to your local office.

Do not mark changes on your Annual Land and Stock Return form as they are scanned electronically and any changes marked on the form will not be updated.

Which stock should I count?

All stock over six months old on the holding listed as at 30 June should be included, regardless of whether it is yours, agisted or other. Pigs of any age should be counted, as well as flocks of 100 or more poultry.

What if I am leasing the property?

As you have received this paperwork, our records show you as the legal occupier so you must lodge a return.

What if I am not the occupier?

If you were not the occupier of all or part of the holding on 30 June 2017, contact your nearest Local Land Services office or download the Change of Details form on our website.

Your local office can confirm if you need to lodge a return.

What if the property is changing hands?

If you are in the process of selling or leasing your land (including exchanging contracts) you are still the legal occupier at 30 June and responsible for the Annual Land and Stock Return.

Do I complete a separate form for each holding?

A separate Annual Land and Stock Return form must be completed for each holding, including primary and secondary holdings.

You should receive a separate Annual Land and Stock Return form in the mail for each of these.

How will my information be used?

This information provides us with contact details in the event of an emergency or disease outbreak in your area. For example, it helps us go directly to the people whose land or stock may be affected in an emergency.

If you do not lodge your return, we may not know that you need to be informed about animal and plant health issues.



Are these numbers used in calculating my rates?

Rates charges are primarily based on your land's notional carrying capacity and size.

Stock numbers provided on your completed Annual Land and Stock Return are used to support our work in responding to emergencies, and in determining the animal health rate and meat industry levy components of your rates notice.

What else do I need to do if I own livestock?

If you are registering livestock on this return, you should also have a Property Identification Code (PIC).

We assign a unique eight-digit PIC to properties with livestock to help us trace stock in the event of disease or chemical residue management issues.

Talk to the staff at your nearest Local Land Services office about whether you need a PIC.

All the information you need to lodge your return or change your address is on our website www.lls.nsw.gov.au/alsr.

Helpful definitions

Occupier

The occupier is the person(s) entitled to immediate possession and use of the property. The occupier is not necessarily the owner.

Intensive livestock

Intensive livestock production means the keeping or nurturing of stock for commercial purposes, wholly or substantially, by routinely feeding them prepared or manufactured feed (except temporary feeding during, and as a result of, drought, fire, flood or similar).

Examples of intensive livestock production include registered feedlots and piggeries.

Area used for intensive livestock

The area used for intensive livestock is the area in hectares that is used specifically for intensive livestock production on the holding.

Capacity of intensive area

Capacity of intensive area is the maximum number of livestock that can be maintained, for example the maximum capacity of the feedlot or piggery.

This is not necessarily the figure declared as at 30 June, which is the actual stock at that time.

Pregnancy toxemia and milk fever

District Veterinarians Tim Biffin and Emily Stearman

Pregnancy toxemia

Pregnancy toxemia is a metabolic disease of sheep in late gestation and early lactation caused when the metabolic energy requirement is not met.

It is typically seen in twin-bearing ewes but can affect any pregnant ewe subjected to under-nutrition or stress from yarding or held off feed, particularly older ewes.

Classic signs of “preg tox” include:

- dullness
- anorexia
- nervous signs
- recumbency
- coma
- death.

Initially signs may be a single ewe isolating itself from a mob, but once the disease appears, a number of ewes may be affected each day with rapid progression.

Conditions that may cause preg tox include:

- overcrowding causing feed restriction
- cold, windy or wet weather – restricting feed availability or feed intake but increasing energy requirement
- falling plane of nutrition in last two months of pregnancy
- sudden feed restriction – yarding for shearing or crutching in late gestation
- general diseases restricting feed intake – footrot, foot abscess, internal parasitism, pink eye, hypocalcaemia and dental abnormality.

Prevention and planning

Providing adequate nutrition at crucial times is vital:

- develop feeding programs with a gradual increase in energy intake – supporting fetal development without reducing body reserves
- scan for twins and separate to monitor and maximise feed utilisation for the twin bearers
- early disposal of dry ewes
- maximise grass availability – consider fertilizer regimes
- increase rotation time to maintain feed availability and manage lighter ewes separately
- avoid mustering and holding off feed for prolonged periods especially pre-lambing crutching or shearing
- weigh ewes pre-joining and mid-pregnancy; during pregnancy a ewe on average will increase bodyweight by 4 kg for a single fetus and 7.5 kg for twins.

Prevention is better than the cure particularly with this disease. Once ewes are affected, supportive treatment is advised but often ineffective.



The classic hypocalcaemic ewe having given birth one week ago: lying down, bright and alert but unable to rise.

Milk fever

Watch out also for milk fever (hypocalcaemia) cases in pregnant and lambing ewes. It is often fatal and is caused when the ewe has low blood calcium levels and is not able to meet the calcium requirements associated with rearing young.

Symptoms of milk fever typically is a ewe around lambing time found bright and alert lying down either on their side or sternum. Feeding a sufficient calcium supplement pre- and post-lambing to meet the needs of the entire mob is important.

Affected ewes should be treated individually including:

- shed or hospital paddock care
- treatment with 75-100 ml “VET-CAL 4 in 1” under the skin three times a day
- sling lifted at least four times a day for at least 30 minutes
- weaning and poddy raising the lambs immediately.

Actions to reduce the incidence of milk fever include:

- Adequate nutrition pre-lambing especially for twin-bearers.
- Mineral supplements four weeks prior to lambing, throughout lambing, and four weeks post lambing with about 33 per cent each of salt (NaCl), limestone (CaCO₃) and Causmag (Magnesium oxide).
- Cereals and cereal crops (esp. wheat), grass pasture and legume pastures have poor Ca:P ratios, emphasising the need for calcium supplements.
- In cold wet and windy weather, provide hay as an energy source. It will help them to keep warm.
- If the mob is off shears, shed them for a day or two, until the weather dries up (while providing hay).
- Large paddock rocks, trees, long grasses, rolling hills may all be useful so long as the pasture feed is appropriate and you can monitor them.

Contact us

Wagga

P. 6923 6300
Building 24
Darnell Smith Drive
Charles Sturt University

Cootamundra

P. 6940 2944
87 Cooper Street

Griffith

Farm 217, Murray Road
P. 6960 1300

Gundagai

P. 6940 6900
87 Sheridan Street

Hay

P. 6990 1300
56 Lachlan Street

Narrandera

P. 6958 1800
8 Bolton Street

Temora

P. 6977 3333
159 Hoskins Street

Tumut

P. 6941 1400
64 Fitzroy Street

Yanco

P. 6951 2611
Yanco Agricultural Institute

Young

P. 6381 4700
93-93a Main Street

Email

admin.riverina@lls.nsw.gov.au

Social media



@riverinalls



@llsriverina

Prioritising emergency support

Local Land Services, alongside the NSW Department of Primary Industries and other agencies, provides a vital support service in emergencies where agriculture and animals are impacted.

We provide support in a wide range of emergencies, including natural disasters such as flood, storms and bushfire, and biosecurity events involving plants and animals.

Your Annual Land and Stock Return (ALSR) is an important support tool in managing biosecurity threats and emergency response. Information that you provide in your Return enables traceability of animal health issues and/ or disease outbreaks.

It also enables our staff to effectively support rural communities during emergencies such as bushfires, floods and severe storms.

Recent flood and bushfire events across the state have highlighted the value of submitting your ALSR, regardless of whether you have stock or not.

In emergencies such as these, we support the coordination of assistance to all animals affected in an emergency, including livestock, companion animals and wildlife.

The use of ALSR data helps identify animals at risk and, if required, where possible we will ensure their welfare needs are met.

We participate in the supply and distribution of emergency fodder and water and humane disposal of stock affected by disease or natural disaster.

The ALSR data collected by Local Land Services is vitally important in providing emergency response. It helps us go directly to the people who may be affected and provide timely support. Please help us help you by lodging your Return.

What's the fuss about NLIS?

The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database is an international market requirement to maintain Australia's current animal exports.

Its purpose is to prove that we can reliably trace our livestock and livestock products from paddock to plate.

It has huge economic benefits to producers, with at least 60 per cent of our agricultural products being exported and significantly increases domestic market value.

Our compliance performance is scrutinised in trade negotiations at the international level. So it is important that users comply with the procedures in place.

If you are unsure about how to comply, such as dangerous cattle without tags, contact your nearest Local Land Services biosecurity officer or district veterinarian.

To keep the current sheep NLIS system, NSW producers need to ensure that all animals have tags, accurately complete the national vendor declaration (NVD), record all other NLIS PIC tags on the NVD, or implant pink "post breeder" NLIS tags and document this on the NVD.



For more information about Local Land Services:

Visit: www.lls.nsw.gov.au

Call: 1300 795 299

Email: admin.riverina@lls.nsw.gov.au