

NLIS Trials Information Pack for Producers

Livestock identification for use under the NLIS is of critical importance. To become approved, a three-year field trial is required to assess devices for suitability in relation to retention, readability (visual and electronically) and welfare.

NLIS identification must be able to remain with an animal for its lifetime to ensure lifetime traceability which underpins biosecurity, food safety and access for Australian red meat. Three-year field trials are a very important step in determining if a device can be used under NLIS.

This document provides information to assist producers who have agreed to participate in NLIS trials to assess these devices.

GETTING STARTED

ISC Contact

- At any time, producers can contact ISC for advice, information or to report anything about the trial, animals, devices, applicator, Supervisor and Device Supplier.
Email: operations@integritysystems.com.au
Phone: 07 3620 5229

Before starting a trial

- A Device Supplier may approach you to participate in a trial.
- They will supply the identification devices and are encouraged to also provide you with a reader.
- Trials run for three years (36 months) and require as many animals to remain on the property for the trial as possible.
- Young female breeding animals that you will retain for the trial duration are the ideal trial animals.
- Ideally, animals should have devices applied at marking.
- Animals that already have an NLIS device installed cannot be included in a trial.
- Only one electronic NLIS device can be applied per animal.
- You must be willing and able to muster and present the trial animals for device application and then subsequent assessments at 6, 12, 24 and 36 month intervals.
- You should carefully consider if participating in a trial is right for you.
- If your circumstances change and you have to sell due to weather or conditions or experience large losses then it is possible to terminate participation in the trial.

STARTING A NEW TRIAL

Applying devices to livestock

- To start the trial, you will need to muster/pen/yard trial animals so that the devices can be applied to your animals.
- These devices serve as their official NLIS identification and will be issued to your PIC in the NLIS Database.
- Device Supplier personnel and a Field Trial Supervisor will be in attendance, you are welcome to assist with applying the devices to the animals.
- The Field Trial Supervisor is independent and is there to observe how easy the application process is and account/scan the devices.

Readers	• During the trial a panel reader needs to be used during at least one assessment. • The Device Supplier should supply this equipment if you do not have a panel reader.
Assessing the applicator	Your opinion matters. If you apply trial devices, please provide any feedback to the Field Trial Supervisor.
Reference ID	• The animals will be fitted with a trial device and a reference tag in the other ear to track any trial devices that might fail.

ONGOING TRIAL REQUIREMENTS

6, 12, 24 and 36 month assessments

- At the different intervals, you will need to muster ALL trial livestock for assessment and scanning. This is critical for the trial conduct.
- If you are unable to present ALL trial animals, then please provide as much information to the Independent Supervisor as possible as to why they have not been. This can include:
 - Issues with mustering.
 - Number of sales/deaths/lost animals.
 - Any other issues or reasons.
- Where possible, please make records of the device numbers of any trial animals that you sell, become deceased on property or if you notice any damaged or lost devices in-between trials. You can record any deaths or lost animals in the NLIS Database [using this how to guide](#).
- You will need to work with the Device Supplier to arrange these assessments.
- These assessments are critical to determine readability and retention of the device on trial.
- Please inform the Field Trial Supervisor of:
 - Any trial animals that you have sold or moved to different a property.
 - Any deceased trial animals.
 - Reasons why any trial animals have not been presented for assessment.
- Hopefully, the Device Supplier has provided you with a reader to use. If they have, we encourage you to use this to scan any trial animals that leave or are deceased to help account for trial animals.
- Animals will need to be penned and run through a race for the assessment.
- If you have any feedback about devices' performance while on your property between assessments, please provide this to the Field Trial Supervisor.

END OF TRIAL

- At the conclusion of the trial, there is no need to remove the trial devices, they can remain with the animals for their lifetime.
- ISC encourages you to continue monitoring device performance after the 36-month trial concludes and to provide feedback to us if you notice any issues.

CONTACT DETAILS

- During the trial if you require assistance and or need to report an incident, please contact ISC on the details below.

Integrity Systems

Phone: 07 3620 5229

operations@integritysystems.com.au