Integrity Systems

red meat customer assurance

INTEGRITY MATTERS: INFORMATION BULLETIN

NLIS Early Warning status: what you need to know

Early Warning (EW) is a status within the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database that is automatically assigned to a **property** carrying a high-risk animal or animals.

Key actions

Vendors

» Disclose any risk associated with animals for sale in a particular consignment

Buyers

» Check the status of the PIC/s on the NLIS database

» Ask the vendor or agent selling the stock to confirm that a consignment does not include any high risk animals

» Assess any risks associated with the purchase of livestock

» Determine whether or not they will accept those risks

It is one of several statuses that can be assigned to a Property Identification Code (PIC) within the database.

The EW status does not identify what the status is for, or which specific animals are high-risk.

What is the Early Warning status for?

The EW status helps monitor and manage food safety and biosecurity risk along the entire supply chain. It gives livestock buyers and agents a heads up around potential risk by flagging that the PIC may have high risk animals associated with it. The buyer or agent is then able to contact the vendor and seek more information about whether a high-risk animal is in a consignment.

What determines the EW status?

An individual animal is given a 'device-based status' on the NLIS database against its NLIS tag or bolus when it has a known disease or residue issue that presents a food safety or biosecurity risk and requires specific management, at feedlots, saleyards or processors.

The status is assigned by the Commonwealth or State Department, a vet or the Integrity Systems Company via the NLIS — depending on the type of status — who then informs the producer.

These device-based statuses automatically trigger an EW status on the PIC where the animal resides in the NLIS database. The device-based statuses that trigger the EW status are:

- AV (AV1) – Assigned to cattle that have been vaccinated against anthrax

- DOI (DN2) — Assigned to devices of interest to the States and Territories
- IMPO (IM1) — Assigned to cattle imported from country where BSE has been diagnosed
- JD (JD2) — Assigned to cattle determined by a State or Territory authority to be a Johne's disease clinical case
- LEAD (PB1,PB2) — Assigned to cattle placed under movement restrictions due to lead residues (PB1)
- LPA (NL2) — Assigned to cattle that have moved to an LPA Accredited PIC from a non-LPA accredited PIC with an organochlorine status and have resided on the PIC for less than 6 months
- NARM (K1F,K1V, K3) — Assigned to cattle where antimicrobial residue testing is required
- NORM (N1F, N1V, N2F, N2V) — Assigned to cattle where organochlorine residue testing is required
- RAM (F1, F2,F3) — Assigned to cattle exposed to restricted animal material (RAM)

What is a PIC status?

A PIC status is assigned to a property for residue testing, disease, and/or food safety purposes.

What is a device-based status?

A device-based status is assigned to the NLIS tag or bolus of an individual animal that presents a disease, food safety or biosecurity risk. This status remains active on the NLIS database until the animal is slaughtered or until the status duration expires or is removed.

Who is responsible for what?

It is the vendor's responsibility to disclose any risk associated with animals for sale in a particular consignment.

It is the buyer's responsibility to assess any risks associated with the purchase of livestock and to determine whether or not they will accept those risks. Ask the vendor or agent selling the stock to confirm that a consignment does not include any high risk animals.

What system supports Early Warning?

The integrity system — and the requirements it places on livestock producers — underpins Australia's red meat access to more than 100 markets globally, ensuring we can verify the quality of the product.

A single failure to meet requirements (e.g. chemical residue, disease) can put livestock producers' livelihoods, rural and regional communities, and the economy at risk.

The NLIS identifies and traces livestock from on-farm production to retail supply through:

- visual or electronic ear tags and boluses
- Property Identification Codes (PIC)
- an online database

More information

Visit www.integritysystems.com.au, call 1800 683 111 or email us at info@integritysystems.com.au.

Resources

» Early Warning Status — Questions and Answers

» How to use the Early Warning status: A step by step guide

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National Livestock Identification System

Integrity Systems red meat customer assurance

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