Tech Tips

NLIS Database

National Livestock Identification System

November 2024

See the *PIC and device status codes* tech tip for a full list of statuses.

Assign device status

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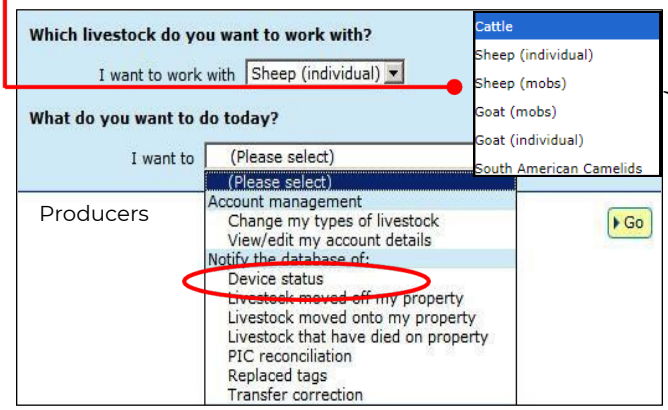
The main role of the database is to enable livestock movements to be recorded but 'statuses' can also be assigned to the electronic RFID devices (tags) used to identify livestock, to indicate the market eligibility or health of individual animals. When devices with certain statuses are transferred, the database notifies appropriate people automatically to alert them to take action, or for information only.

You can only assign device 'statuses' that are appropriate for your account type, for example:

B	Producers, feedlots or AQIS can assign this status to breeding cattle ineligible for the EU market
D1	Producers, feedlots or saleyards can assign this status to record a damaged, non-reading device
IA	Producers or feedlots might assign the 'Inactive' status when they don't know whether a tag was lost or damaged, or whether an animal died or was sold. Abattoirs might assign IA to animals moved to the Abattoir PIC by mistake. Inactive devices aren't shown on current holdings reports.
IM2	Federal authorities assign this to cattle imported from a country without mad cow disease
L1	State authorities assign this to unused devices reported by tag manufacturers as lost or stolen
L2	Abattoirs, exporters, feedlots, producers or saleyards assign this status to tags lost after application
N1V	Federal or State authorities assign this to livestock that grazed on 'high-risk' properties
S	State authorities can apply this status when livestock are reported to police as stolen
S1	State authorities or police can apply this status when livestock are suspected of being stolen

Login to the database at www.nlis.mla.com.au

1. Enter your NLIS **user ID** and **password** and click
2. Select the livestock type you want to work with
3. Select **Device status** from the home page and click ▸Go



If you can't see the livestock type you want to work with, under 'Account management' select 'Change my types of livestock and tick the desired livestock types.

4. Choose a **method** (the third method is only available to 'PIC-based' accounts):

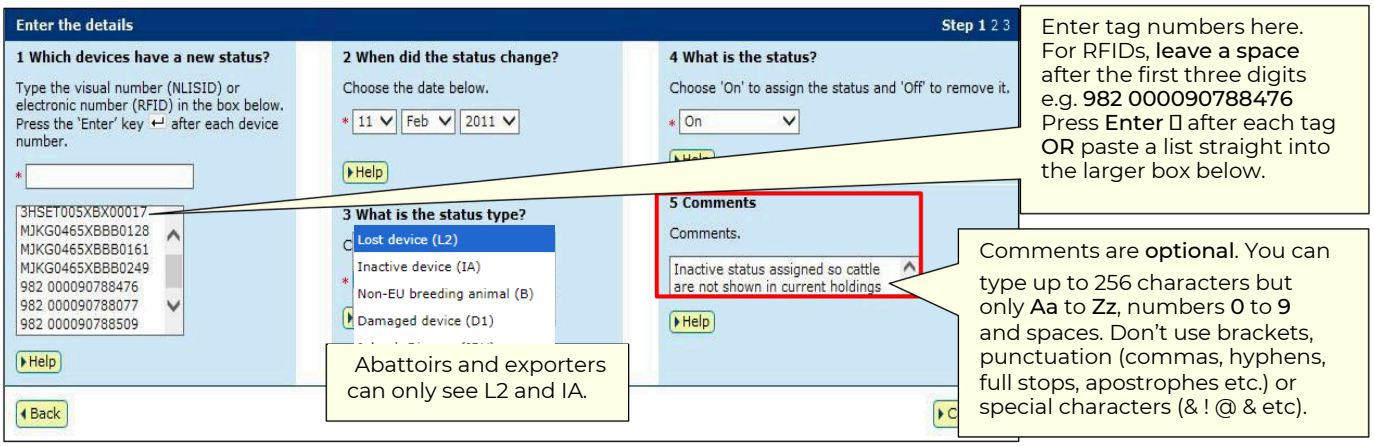
- Click ▸type in the details to enter details on the screen See page 2
- Click ▸upload a file to upload a file from your computer See page 3.
- Click ▸choose from the list to choose from a list of devices for a property See page 4.

This method allows you to assign the **same status** to one or many animals or devices.
The **screen** name could be Device status, Device status – Cattle or Device status – Sheep (individual).

Abattoir – Feedlot – Live exporter – Producer – Third party - Saleyard

These account types can only set device statuses for the **NLS program code**.

1 Enter details in the compulsory fields*



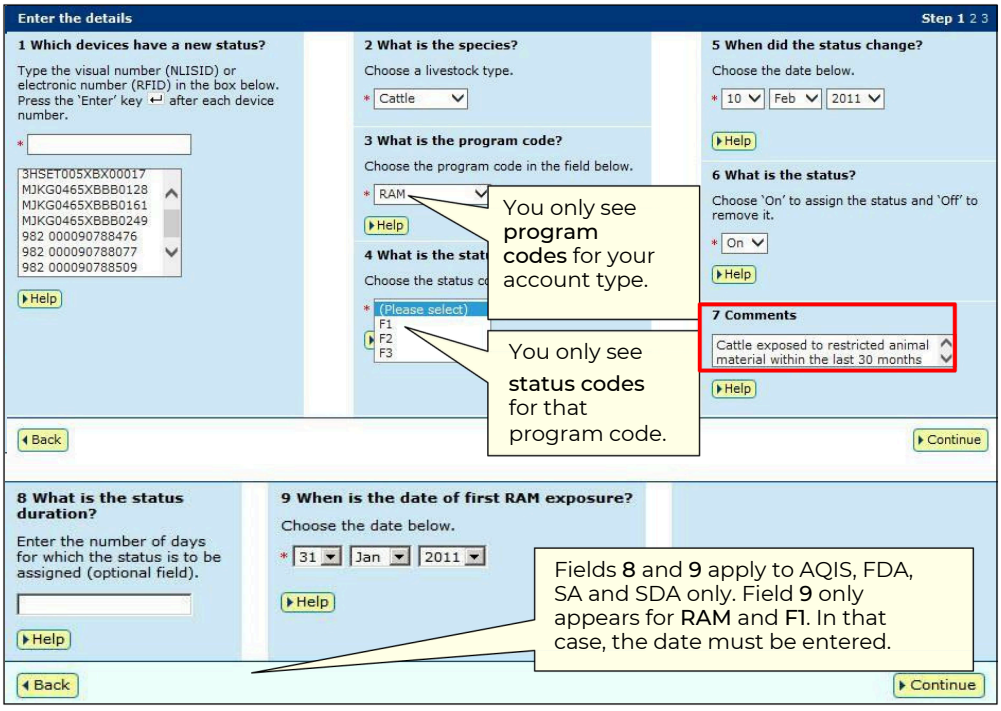
2 Click Continue to proceed or click Back to change the details.

3 Follow the prompts to **confirm the details** and Send the information to the database.

AQIS – FDA – FTP – NRS - Police – SA – Saleyard – SDA – Tag manufacturer – Veterinarian

These account types can select a **species** and appropriate **program codes**. NRS, SDA Medium and SDA Light users only see the Device status transaction if it is assigned to their account.

1 Enter details in the compulsory fields*



For saleyards only

Damaged tags

Any devices with a **D1** (damaged) status will not appear in the saleyard's current holdings (regardless of whether the status was applied before or after the movement into the saleyard).

Emergency tags

If livestock arrive without tags, or the tag is damaged and cannot be read, the saleyard must apply an 'emergency' tag issued to the saleyard PIC.

If the saleyard PIC is not linked to your saleyard account, email the NLIS Database Helpdesk and request that the PIC be linked.

2 Click Continue to proceed or click Back to change the details.

3 Follow the prompts to **confirm the details** and Send the information to the database.

Device status – upload a file method

November 2024

This method allows you to assign **different statuses** to **many** animals or devices, or assign more than one status to the same tag in the same file. The **screen name** could be Device status, Device status – Cattle or Device status – Sheep (individual).

Abattoir – Feedlot – Live exporter – Producer – Third party

These account types can only set device statuses for the **NLS program code**.

Create a file and save it on your computer

Before you login, use Microsoft Excel or Notepad to create a file on your computer to upload to NLIS later.

1. In Excel, use columns **A-E** (or A-F if you want to add comments to explain why you set the status).
2. Enter details for each tag in a separate row.
3. Save the file in **CSV** (comma delimited) format on your computer.

Notes: In this **Excel** example, compulsory cells are shaded black. You don't need to shade cells.
In column **A**, enter the visual **NLISID** number printed on the tag, or the electronic **RFID** inside the tag.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	3HSET005XBC00060	18/08/2024	NLIS	S	ON	Animal reported as stolen		
2	3HSET005XBC00068	16/08/2024	RAM	F1	ON		30/06/2024	
3	982 0000967 3494	19/08/2024	NARM	K1F	ON			90
4	982 00009 747	20/08/2024	NLIS	L1	OFF	Lost device found and replaced		

NLISID or RFID | Status date | Program code | Status code | Status setting | Comments | RAM F1 date | Status duration

The database derives **device type** from the 10th NLISID character, e.g. 3HSET005X**B**C00060 (cattle breeder) 3CPWG015X**S**G12345 (sheep breeder). The NLISID and RFID are linked, so if you enter RFIDs, the device type can still be derived.

Comments are **optional**. You can type up to 256 characters but only letters **Aa** to **Zz**, numbers **0** to **9** and spaces. Don't use brackets, punctuation (commas, hyphens, full stops, apostrophes etc.) or special characters (& ! @ & etc).

Column G is only used for program **RAM** and status **F1**. You must enter the **date** of first exposure to restricted animal material.

Column H is only used by authorities to enter a status duration (optional).

Device status SDA 220811 - Notepad

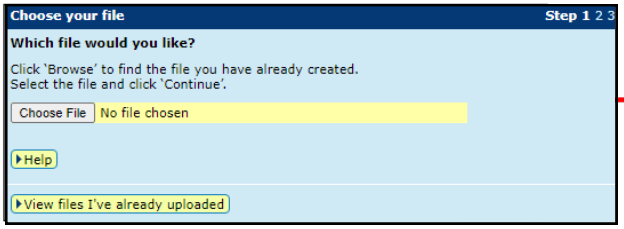
File Edit Format View Help

```
3HSET005XBC00060,18/08/2011,NLS,S,ON,Animal reported as stolen,,
3HSET005XBC00068,16/08/2011,RAM,F1,ON,,31/06/2011,,
982 000090788494,19/08/2011,NARM,K1F,ON,,,90
982 000090788747,18/08/2011,NLS,L1,OFF,Lost device found and replaced,,
```

Use commas to separate fields in a Notepad file. If there is no NVD, leave that field empty.
Press **Enter** to start a new row for the next animal.
When you finish, save the file in **TXT** (text) format.

Send the file to the database

4. Select **Device status** from the home page [Go]
5. Click [upload a file] then click [Choose File] to find and Open the file saved on your computer.
6. Click [Continue] to proceed, or click [Choose File] again to choose a different file.
7. Follow the prompts to **confirm the details**.
8. Click [Send] to submit the information.



This method is only available to the account types shown in the red bar below.

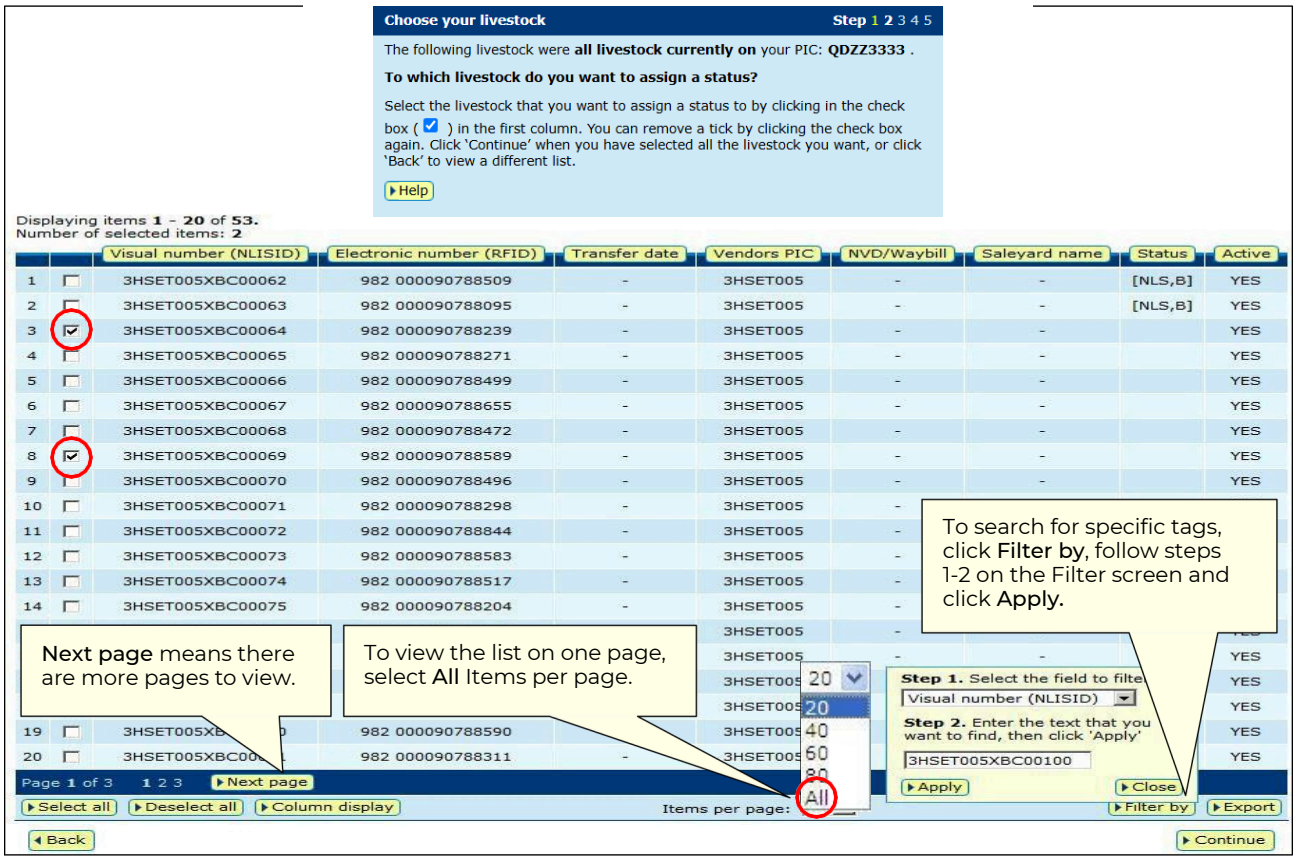
Abattoir – Feedlot – Live exporter – Producer – Third party

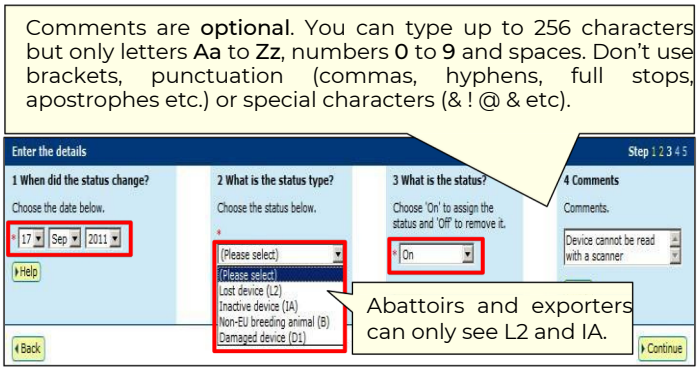
These account types can only set device statuses for the **NLS program code**.

Choose a list to view

1. Choose **one** of three lists to view. Note: If you choose **livestock moved onto** or **livestock bred on**, also choose a date range. If you only want **active** devices, tick this box.
2. Select the **PIC** and Continue to the next screen.

3. Tick all the tags to be assigned the same **status**.
4. Click Continue to proceed to the next screen.



Enter the status details

5. Choose the **date** to assign the status.
6. Select the **status type**.
7. Choose **On** to set a status (or Off to remove).
8. Enter comments (optional).
9. Click Continue to proceed to the next step.
10. Follow the prompts to **confirm the details**.
11. Click Send to submit the information.