EXPORT ADVISORY NOTICE – 2008-02			29 February 2008	
Title:	Australian Standard for the Export of Livestock – Identification of animals to property of source			
Species:	Livestock			
Country:	All	File No.	2008/01295	
Relevant to:	Livestock Exporters			
	Livecorp			
	AQIS accredited veterinarians			
	AQIS Regional Managers			
	AQIS Live Animal Exports Officers			

Purpose

To remind exporters of the requirements to meet Standard 6.2 (a) of the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL).

Background

The following reporting requirement is included in the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock:

ASEL S6.2	Livestock sourced for export must be:	
	(a) identified to the property of source	

This standard was developed to ensure exported animals are able to be traced back to their property of origin. This ensures that if a problem occurs in post arrival quarantine in the form of a disease outbreak, or contamination with drug/chemical residue is detected, the animal/s can be traced back to their property of source.

The identification allows the relevant Australian authorities to conduct investigations to determine the cause of problems and to put measures in place to prevent a recurrence. This is an essential part of maintaining the integrity of all Australian export markets.

The property of source is not necessarily the registered or approved premise. The property of source is defined as the property for which the exporter obtains NVDs. The animal identification method must link the animal to the NVD.

Responsibilities

Licensed Exporters

1. The exporter has a responsibility to ensure that livestock are sourced in accordance with the ASEL.

Registered and Approved Premises Operators

 The registered or approved premises operator is responsible for ensuring that only those livestock which meet the ASEL are accepted at the registered/approved premises.

AQIS Accredited Veterinarians (AAVs)

 The AAV is responsible for ensuring the livestock are prepared according to the conditions of the Approved Export Program (AEP), including ensuring that livestock are identified to their property of source, when specified.

Instructions

- 1. Exporters and Registered/Approved Premises operators must ensure that all livestock sourced for export are able to be identified to the property of source.
- 2. If specified on the AEP, AAVs must declare that the livestock are identified to the property of source.
- 3. At the time of presenting export documentation to AQIS, the Exporter must also provide details of the source property and the method by which stock are identified to this property.
- 4. AQIS officers must reject livestock that are not able to be identified to the property of source.
- 5. Ear tags are an example of animal identification that will be acceptable to AQIS to meet this requirement. AQIS will consider requests for approval of other methods of animal identification, provided that sufficient notice of such request is provided by the exporter.

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