

LPA accredited producers: Stand by what you sell

June 2017

Changes have been made to strengthen the Livestock Production Assurance program and further safeguard Australia's enviable status as a world leader in red meat safety, integrity and traceability.

From 1 October 2017:

1. There will be two new modules 1) on-farm biosecurity and 2) animal welfare practices which will be requirements of LPA accreditation.
 2. LPA-accredited producers will need to renew LPA accreditation every three years. As part of this, producers will need to complete an assessment and pay a \$60 (plus GST) fee every three years.
 3. Online learning modules will be available to help producers understand their obligations.
 4. Off-line learning training modules and assessments will be available at \$22 (incl. GST) to help producers understand their obligations and to renew their LPA accreditation.
 5. A free electronic LPA National Vendor Declaration (LPA eNVD) will be available.
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What do you need to do?

As an LPA-accredited producer you must:

- familiarise yourself with the new biosecurity and animal welfare requirements
- complete the learning modules
- when your accreditation is due, complete the assessment and pay the fee

You'll be contacted approximately two months before your accreditation is due and given instructions for working through the new process online. For some producers, this will not happen until 2019.

Biosecurity:

You'll need to have a Farm Biosecurity Plan and implement best-practice biosecurity practices on your farm and complete the LPA Learning module to ensure you're meeting requirements. For a Biosecurity Plan template go to www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Grazing-Manual-Biosecurity-Form.pdf.

Animal welfare:

You'll need to demonstrate that your on-farm handling of livestock is consistent with the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines available at www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au. Those responsible for livestock management will need to have a copy of the S&Gs, be familiar with its content, complete the LPA learning module, and advise and oversee others handling livestock.

Electronic NVDs (eNVDs):

The LPA eNVD will be available soon through the LPA service centre and licensed software providers, although not all receivers in the red meat supply chain are able to accept LPA eNVDs yet. Check the list of software providers at www.mla.com.au/envd.

It is not compulsory for producers to change to the eNVD. You can continue using paper LPA NVDs. You can print the eNVD free of charge, saving \$40 for each hardcopy LPA NVD book.

More information:

Website: www.mla.com.au/lpa

Helpline: 1800 683 111

Email: lpa@mla.com.au

