



## Annual Land and Stock Return

June 2016

### About Local Land Services

Local Land Services works with land managers and the community to improve primary production within healthy landscapes. As one organisation with services delivered across 11 regions, Local Land Services brings a consistent, integrated and coordinated approach to assisting rural and regional communities to be profitable and sustainable.



## Lodging your Annual Land and Stock Return

### Why it's important to lodge

Your property information helps **build a statewide biosecurity picture** about agricultural use and livestock numbers. Along with the stock identification and traceability systems we manage, **the information on your Annual Return of Land and Stock (Annual Land and Stock Return) is invaluable in the event of an emergency disease outbreak.**

Effective animal biosecurity and welfare can be seen as insurance to maintain market access for livestock producers, now and in the future. Our produce is free of many of the pests and diseases found in other parts of the world. That's why Local Land Services works with you to monitor herds and flocks and share up-to-date advice and information to increase productivity.

### If you don't lodge a return

The due date for lodging your Annual Land and Stock Return is **31 August 2016**. It is also a legal requirement under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* that landholders lodge an Annual Land and Stock Return.

It is important that you complete an Annual Land and Stock Return, even if you do not have stock. **If you don't lodge an Annual Land and Stock Return by the due date, an animal health rate and meat industry levy will be automatically applied to your 2017 rates notice.**

### Lodge your return online

The easiest way to lodge your return is online by visiting [www.ils.nsw.gov.au/alsr](http://www.ils.nsw.gov.au/alsr).

The online form asks the same questions as the paper-based form and takes only a few minutes to complete. There are three simple steps:

- 1 Your holding reference number and unique online password are at the top right hand corner of the enclosed Annual Land and Stock Return.
- 2 Log in to [www.ils.nsw.gov.au/alsr](http://www.ils.nsw.gov.au/alsr)
- 3 Fill in your land and stock details.



### Mail

You can post your completed return to:

Local Land Services  
Locked Bag 6013  
Orange NSW 2800



# Frequently asked questions

## What do I do if the information in Section A is incorrect?

If any of the information in Section A is incorrect please contact your nearest Local Land Services office or download the Change of Details form from our website. Do not mark changes on your Annual Land and Stock Return form as they are scanned electronically and any changes marked on the form will not be updated.

## Which stock should I count?

All stock on the holding listed as at 30 June should be included, regardless of whether it is yours, agisted or other.

## What if I am leasing the property?

As you have received this paperwork, our records show you as the legal occupier so you must lodge a return.

## What if I am not the occupier?

If you were not the occupier of all or part of the holding on 30 June 2016, contact your nearest Local Land Services office or download the Change of Details form on our website. You do not need to complete an Annual Land and Stock Return.

## What if the property is changing hands?

If you are in the process of selling or leasing your land (including exchanging contracts) you are still the legal occupier at 30 June and responsible for the Annual Land and Stock Return.

## Do I complete a separate form for each holding?

A separate Annual Land and Stock Return form must be completed for each holding, including primary and secondary holdings. You should receive a separate Annual Land and Stock Return form in the mail for each of these. You can lodge your details online.

## How will my information be used?

This information provides us with contact details in the event of an emergency disease outbreak in your area. For example, it helps us go directly to the people whose land or stock may be affected in an emergency. If you do not lodge your return, we may not know that you need to be informed about animal and plant health issues.



## Are these numbers used in calculating my rates?

These figures trigger whether or not you are charged the animal health rate and the meat industry levy. Please note that rates charges are based on the notional carrying capacity and size of your land, not how many stock you have on your property on 30 June.

## What else do I need to do if I own livestock?

If you are registering livestock on this return, you should also have a Property Identification Code (PIC). We assign a unique eight-digit PIC to properties with livestock to help us trace stock in the event of disease or chemical residue management issues. Talk to the staff at your nearest Local Land Services office about whether you need a PIC.

All the information you need  
to lodge your return  
or change your address  
is on our website:  
[www.lls.nsw.gov.au/alsr](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/alsr)

## Definitions

These definitions may be helpful when completing your Annual Land and Stock Return:

### Occupier

The occupier is the person(s) entitled to immediate possession and use of the property. The occupier is not necessarily the owner.

### Intensive livestock

Intensive livestock production means the keeping or nurturing of stock for commercial purposes, wholly or substantially, by routinely feeding them prepared or manufactured feed (except temporary feeding during, and as a result of, drought, fire, flood or similar). Examples of intensive livestock production include registered feedlots and piggeries.

### Area

The area used for intensive livestock is the area in hectares that is used specifically for intensive livestock production on the holding.

### Capacity

Capacity of intensive area is the maximum number of livestock that can be maintained, for example the maximum capacity of the feedlot or piggery. This is not necessarily the figure declared as at 30 June, which is the actual stock at that time.

# Lessons galore in mock disease emergency

What if there was an outbreak of a highly virulent animal disease in the Murray region? Who would take charge? What resources would be needed? What actions would be required?

These were the questions confronting vets, biosecurity officers and local equestrians at a mock exercise in Albury recently.

An initiative of Murray Local Land Services, Exercise Unicus involved biosecurity and emergency services staff, rangers, local equine vets and representatives from NSW Department of Primary Industries, NSW Police and Albury City Council.

The exercise was held at the Albury Wodonga Equestrian Centre, which hosted the Australian Polocrosse Championships two weeks later.

Centre management and the championship coordinators also took part.

Participants grappled with the implications of a Hendra-infected horse at the championships, and formulated plans to prevent the disease spreading to humans and other horses.

And while the exercise dealt specifically with an equine disease, the many lessons learned can be applied across a range of different disease outbreaks, and have been incorporated into our emergency animal disease response plans.

The experience gained by our vets and biosecurity officers will stand us in good stead should an actual event of this nature happen in our region.



*Exercise participants grapple with the challenge.*

## Nepal experience puts vet on FMD front line

Murray Local Land Services veterinarian Dr Scott Ison recently returned from Nepal where he took part in a real-time foot and mouth disease (FMD) training exercise, delivered by the European Commission for the Control of Foot and Mouth Disease.

As part of the exercise, Scott received intensive training to recognise and sample animals for FMD, and visited Nepalese farms to investigate potential cases of infection. In doing so, he witnessed and managed real cases of FMD for the first time.

Scott's training was funded by the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, and coordinated in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the Nepalese Government.

As a result of the practical experience gained, Scott is now part of an important network of people that act as Australia's eyes and ears in preventing FMD in this country. Australia has not had an FMD outbreak since 1872, but the disease is considered one of our biggest biosecurity risks, with the potential for significant social and economic impacts.

Scott describes the trip as a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"I got invaluable experience dealing with real FMD cases," he said.



*Scott, with beard third from left, gained invaluable experience in Nepal.*

"The course has been running for several years in both Nepal and Kenya, and the coordinators were able to fit a lot of theory and practical skills into one week to prepare us for an outbreak in Australia.

"I look forward to sharing my experience with my team and other stakeholders throughout the region and across the state."

### Keep up to date on information and events

Find out what's happening in your region - sign up to our newsletter at [www.murray.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murray.lls.nsw.gov.au).

## Contact us

### Deniliquin

(03) 5881 1055  
394 Hay Rd, Deniliquin

(03) 5880 1400  
315 Victoria St, Deniliquin

### Albury

(02) 6051 2200  
931 Garland Ave, North Albury

### Corowa

(02) 6033 1196  
74 Short St, Corowa

### Jerilderie

(03) 5886 1203  
6 Jerilderie St, Jerilderie

### Moulamein

(03) 5887 5006  
34 Sainsberry St

### Tumbarumba

(02) 6948 9197  
Cnr Bridge/Winton streets

### Email

admin.murray@lls.nsw.gov.au

### Social media

Facebook:  
facebook.com/Murray.LLS/

Twitter:  
@MLLSEnviro

## Survey results inform

Regional land managers have rated the performance of Murray Local Land Services in a recent customer service survey, with some informative results.

The aim of the survey was to gauge customer satisfaction and establish a benchmark to evaluate and continuously improve customer service levels.

The survey, undertaken by an independent research company, targeted 2,200 randomly-selected private land managers across NSW, plus 100 public land managers.

For Murray Local Land Services there were positive results in a number of areas, including organisational recognition, customer satisfaction and commitment to assisting customers.

According to the survey, the majority of our customers (79 per cent) were extremely satisfied or satisfied with their most recent use of Local Land Services, and 70 per cent were likely to use our services again.

There were also several areas in which customers felt we could be doing better, and we would greatly appreciate your feedback on how we can improve in these and other areas.

For example, many of those surveyed felt that it was important for us to keep them informed of new ideas and better ways of doing things, but believed there was room for improvement in how this was being done.

As a result, among other things, we plan to trial an online suggestion box that will allow you to provide us with ideas and feedback on the things that matter to you.

In addition, a high percentage of those surveyed indicated that the frequency of contact they receive from us is "about right".

However we would be interested in further feedback, particularly around the regularity of our e-newsletters. Please keep an eye out for an opportunity to tell us what you think in future editions of Production Advice. For more details or to request a copy of the survey report, visit: [www.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au).

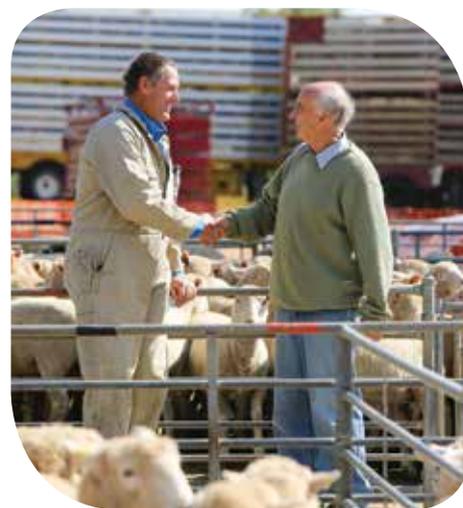
## Enrol to vote to have your say

The next Local Land Services general election will be held in 2017. Take the opportunity to have your say by enrolling to vote!

At this election, ratepayers will elect three (or five in the Western Region) people from within the region to represent local communities on the region's local board.

It's important that as many people vote as possible to ensure the people elected to these important roles represent all of the diverse interests within each region.

To make sure you are on the electoral roll, visit our website or ask for a form at your nearest Local Land Services office.



For more information about Local Land Services  
Visit: [www.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au)  
Call: 1300 795 299  
Email: [my.feedback@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:my.feedback@lls.nsw.gov.au)