



16 June 2014

## **Attention all horse owners: Do you have a Property Identification Code?**

Property Identification Codes (PICs) are a national system of property identification. In NSW a PIC is a unique eight-character number assigned by Local Land Services to properties with livestock. For many years NSW legislation has required owners of cattle, sheep, goats and pigs to have a PIC. The provision of PICs allows the tracing of livestock associated with a specific property to assist with disease and chemical residue management.

On 1 September 2012, this *legal requirement* was extended to include the land on which other stock, *including horses*, are kept.

### **Why include horses in the system?**

The outbreak of Equine Influenza (EI) in 2007 highlighted the need for NSW to join all other Australian states and territories by including horses in its PIC system. Control measures in this disease outbreak were initially hampered as it was not known *where* horses were located or *how many* there were. It was subsequently agreed by major NSW horse industry groups and NSW and Australian Governments that *all* properties with resident horses should be registered with a PIC.

### **What difference will it make?**

In the event of future disease outbreaks or other emergencies the information PICs provide will identify the location of properties with horses and will allow a quick and effective response for the benefit of horses, their owners, property holders and associated industries.

### **What if I don't own the property on which my horse resides?**

Normally the property owner should apply for the PIC. However, if the property owner is unable or unwilling to do so, you can apply on their behalf if you can provide their written permission.

### **Will I need to give the PIC to anyone?**

A PIC is required for health or export *certification* of horses. To enter horses in events, some *equestrian event* organisers in NSW are making it mandatory to provide the PIC of the property where the horse normally resides. This is already a requirement in Queensland.

South East Local Land Services supports the **Far South Coast and Tablelands Agricultural Show Societies** initiative of enforcing the provision of PICs on entry forms as a condition of entry into equine events from 1 January 2015. This will affect horses going to the Bega, Bemboka, Candelo, Cobargo, Cooma, Dalgety, Delegate, Eurobodalla, Nimmitabel and Pambula Shows.

**For further information**

It is easy to obtain a PIC for the property where you keep your horse. To apply for a PIC and for further information, simply visit [www.ils.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ils.nsw.gov.au) and click on “Get a PIC” from the right-hand menu, or contact your nearest Local Land Services office.

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