



Opportunities using Electronic Identification (EID) tags

EID will become mandatory in Western Australia from 2025

While there will be increased costs at the start, using EID will support farmers with efficiencies in their operations, bringing positive return on investment.

Potential benefits from EID

- Enhanced flock decision making
- Efficient data management
- Simplified flock management
- Streamlined cull management

Learn about how Tahara has benefited from EID

Tahara, a property near Wagin in the Great Southern, is a farm with approximately 4,000 Dohne ewes. They started using EID in 2014 and have since benefited from increased lambing.

Farmer: Clayton South

Tahara's primary aim: Optimise lamb production

Strategies: Pregnancy scanning, EID, nutritional management

“EID is a tool that empowers you to record your flock's data and achieve your desired outcomes. It allows you to capture data when you're busy and act on it when you have more time.”

Clayton South

Investment

Before implementing EID, the farm had been pregnancy scanning. In 2014, they invested in a fully automatic sheep handler on the farm, enabling automatic weighing, three-stage drafting, and EID reading. They also purchased a stick reader.

- The total cost was around \$40,000.
- EID tags were initially acquired only for ewe lambs, costing approximately \$1.40 each.

The tags are currently \$1.90, and with the 75 cent subsidy, will be \$1.15.

Was EID worth it?

- The investment of \$40,200 yielded a positive net present value (NPV) of \$121,000 over a decade.
- For every dollar invested, the return was \$4
- Payback of investment occurred in the fifth year.
- If EID ear tags had been used for all lambs, the NPV would have \$110,000, with a benefit-cost ratio of \$3.70 for each dollar invested.

Clayton's emphasis on lambing rates resulted:

- In a doubling of the improvement rate, from a 2.5% annual increase to 5.1%, after EID adoption.
- In raised lambing from 97% pre-EID to 138% in 2022 from a combination of improved management and monitoring assisted by EID.



More information

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