



# Changes to the declaration of Property Identification Codes (PICs)

The International Wool Textile Organisation (IWTO) recently updated its Core Test Regulations to enhance farm-level traceability in the wool industry. In response, Wool Industries Australia (WIA) is mandating this change across Australia, requiring Property Identification Codes (PICs) be declared for all grower lots and interlots.

Starting **1st January 2026**, this requirement will become mandatory for all grower lots (WPC = P, D, F) and interlots (WPC = I) meaning that the Australian Wool Testing Authority (AWTA) will be unable to release test certificates for these lot types without holding a valid PIC. This implementation timeline provides the industry with a sufficient transition period to adapt systems and processes accordingly.

## Enhanced Traceability

Improves farm-to-fabric tracking capabilities, meeting international market demands for transparent supply chains.

## Disease Response

Strengthens Australia's preparedness and response capabilities for potential Emergency Animal Diseases (EADs).

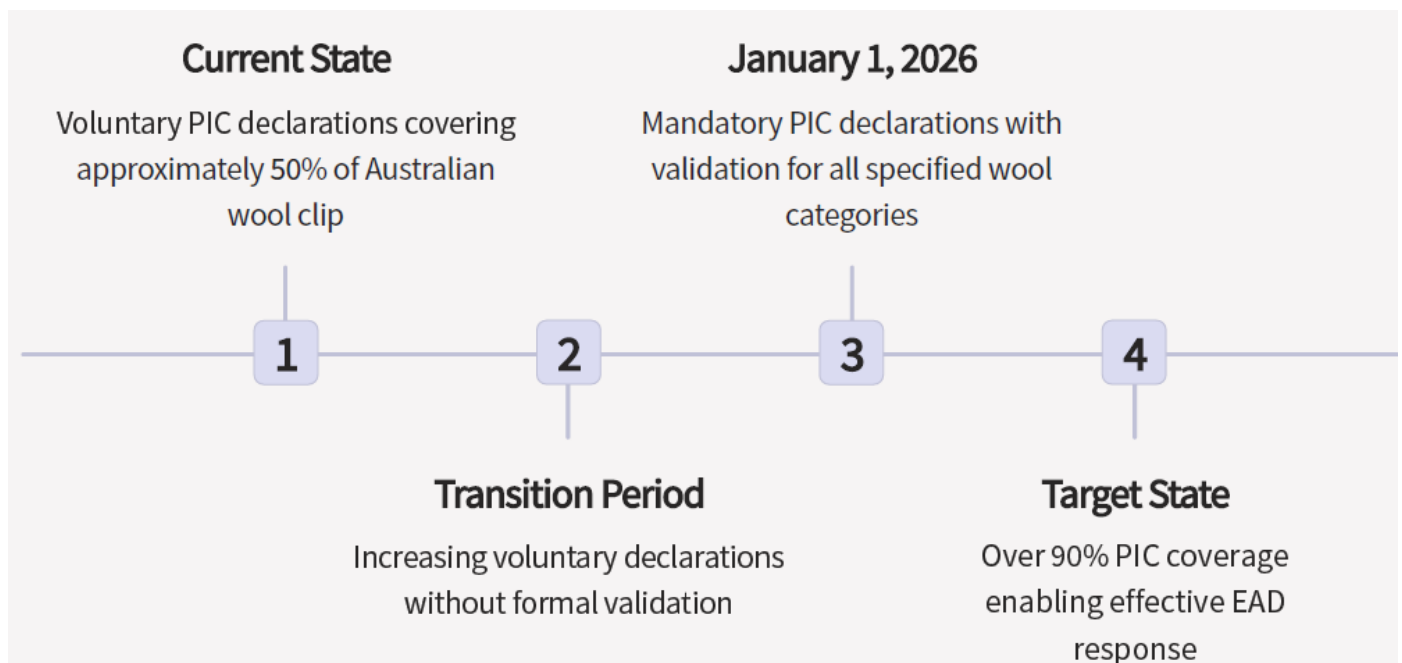
## Industry Compliance

Ensures Australian wool meets evolving international standards and maintains market access.

## What's Changing?

Currently, AWTA receives PIC data voluntarily for approximately 50% of the Australian wool clip, primarily through the efforts of selling agents. While this voluntary participation has been valuable, it falls short of the coverage needed for truly effective emergency response capabilities.

To ensure a swift and comprehensive Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) response, industry experts have determined that over 90% PIC coverage is necessary. Mandating these declarations will achieve this vital target, transforming PICs from an optional data point to a standard requirement for specified wool categories.



# How Will It Work?

Most brokers and selling agents voluntarily provide PICs to AWTA prior to testing. This practice can continue and expand during the transition period until Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2026, after which AWTA will be unable to issue test certificates for the specified lot types unless a valid PIC has been provided as below.



## PIC Requirements by Category

- Grower Lots (WPC = P, D, F) : At least one valid PIC must be provided
- Interlots (WPC = I) : At least one valid PIC must be provided for each of the component sublots
- Bulk Classed (WPC = B, Q) : PIC declaration welcomed but not mandatory



## Validation Process

AWTA will validate the above eligibility criteria and check that the PIC complies with the National Livestock Identification (NLIS) format during Test Request Verification. Non-compliant PICs will not be updated and brokers will be notified via email.



## Updating Previously Tested Lots

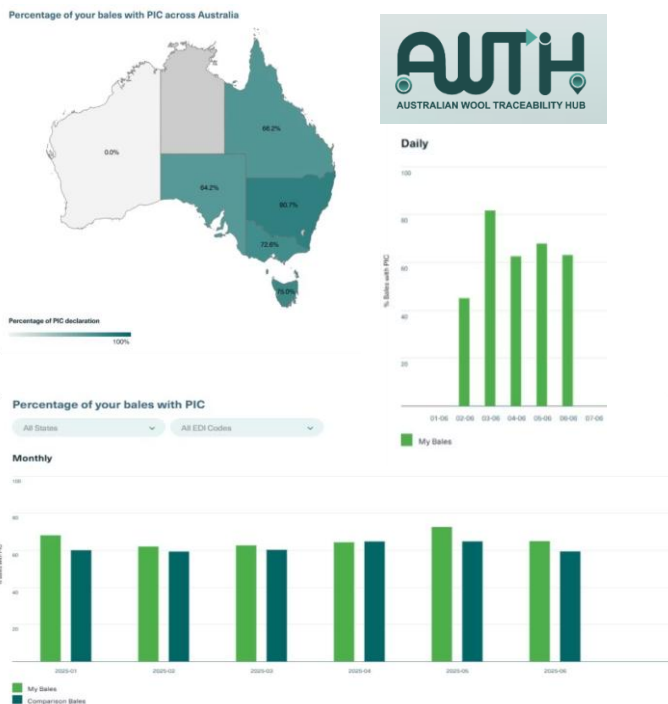
For certificates sampled before January 1, 2026, PICs can be updated prior to sale using the Test Certificate Update (TCU) process via the EDI network.

Brokers should consult with their software providers to understand how to utilize these functions and maintain the data within their existing wool selling systems.

Importantly, AWTA will only validate the format of submitted PICs and will not check property details or locations associated with the codes. The PIC data remains in AWTA's certificate database unless Brokers provide permission to release it to the AWTH. Within the AWTH are tools for Brokers to monitor their declarations.

## Need Help?

The AWTA team is committed to supporting industry stakeholders through this transition. We understand that implementing new requirements can present challenges, and we have dedicated resources available to assist you with any questions or concerns regarding the PIC declaration and validation processes.



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