



Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Tattoos** - When buying, selling, showing, registered animals check tattoos which should be in at least one ear, mostly the left as the NLIS tag will be in the right ear (Section 5.F).
2. **How to tattoo** (section 5.F) - For further information, SPI will be preparing a guidance note however for the interim we have attached information on the website under Downloads. Also see [DPI NSW Tattooing Guide](#).
3. **Tagging** (Section 5.F) – tagging is for management use. It will generally follow the tattoo i.e. the year letter followed by a number. The letter for 2011 is G. The following year will be H and so on. Size and imagination are the only limitations on what can be placed on the tag.
4. **NLIS** (as above) - This is a Cth Govt requirement. You will need the Vendor's PIC for transfer of cattle.
5. **Show uniform** - blue jeans, blue or white shirt and black vest with logo - See www.specklepark.org for details and where to order vests.
6. **Breed standards** (Section 5.E) - See www.specklepark.org for details.
7. **Fees** (Schedule) – the Fees are updated by the Board from time to time. The fees are a schedule to the Regulations and are a separate sheet under Downloads on the website at [Fees](#).
8. **Upgrading** (Section 3.E) – upgrading is not allowed in SPI.
9. **DNA** (Section 5.C) – SPI can conduct random DNA/Parentage verification on any calf. It must conduct this test on every 200th calf registered. This latter requirement has not yet been enforced. Section 5.B requires each sire to have DNA registered with SPI at the time of registering progeny. There is a Guidance Note on DNA which on the SPI site at [DNA Guidance](#).
10. **Breedplan** (Section 7.4) – membership of Breedplan is voluntary but recommended. Breedplan information is mandatory for Association events. To apply download [Breedplan Application](#). Further information is also at [Breedplan Tip Sheets](#).
11. **Association shows** (Section 7) – membership of Breedplan is compulsory for Association shows but is not for other shows such as agricultural shows or shows run by members.
12. **AI rules** (Section 4.B) – see the [AI & ET Guidance](#) on the SPI website.
13. **ET Rules** (Section 4.C) – see the [AI & ET Guidance](#) on the SPI website.
14. **Polled, horned, scurred** (Section 5.G.1-3) – Animals can be scurred but not horned. Scurs are loose when touched whereas horns are affixed to the animal's skull. The two issues result from different genes and are not related. Notify SPI as soon as you detect scurs to update records.
15. **SPI Forms** – visit the Downloads section of the SPI website where most forms are. If there is not a form there that applies to your needs, contact the Secretariat (address on website).
16. **Colour Patterns** – The breed comes in white with black tips of the ears, nose and feet, leopard which is similar to white except there will be black markings on the body, speckled which is black sided with a white strip running along the spine and to completely black. See also the Home page on SPI website.
17. **Animal husbandry** – SPI will produce a guidance note on this. For the moment please rely upon general information available and contact other members.
18. **Johne Disease** – refer to www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au for more information on this disease. It is not prevalent among beef herds. The level of assurance you wish to adopt is a balance between what you believe is reasonable and the wishes of your customers.
19. **Multiple ownership of cattle** (Section 2) – More than one person can own cattle. It can be joint ownership or through syndicates. It can be useful when showing to have both exhibitor and the owner as 'owners'. SPI will record multiple ownerships.
20. **Membership** – Membership is set out in Section 5 of the Constitution on the SPI website. To be able to record/register a calf, you must be a financial member (Section 5.D regs).
21. **Transfer** – either the buyer or seller can transfer cattle (Section 6). The transfer form is at [Transfer](#).
22. **Registering** – on the website are electronic registration form and hard copy. These are located in Downloads.