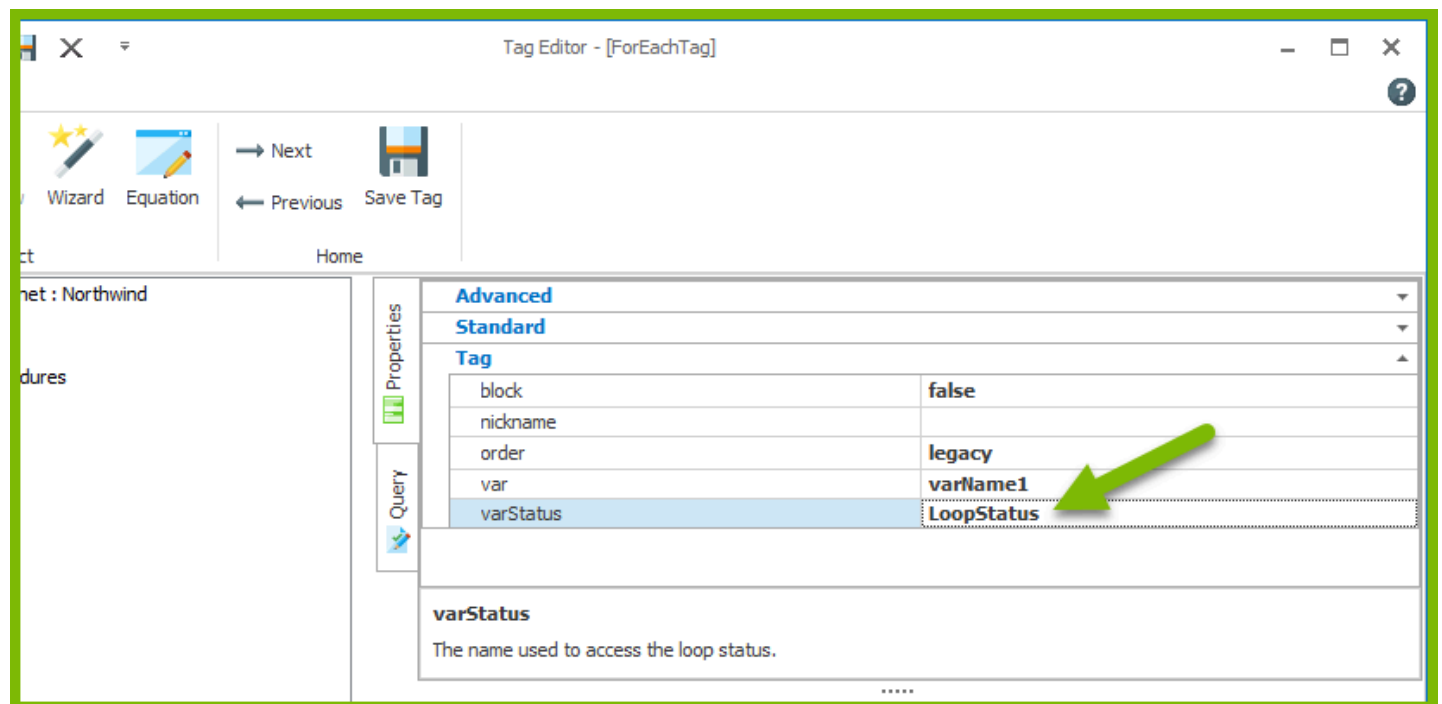# How Do I Use the ForEach Tag VarStatus Variables?

ForEach Tags provide special variables that can be used in other Tags and select statements. The *varStatus variables* give the user the means to refer to: the first row/node returned by a ForEach Tag; the last row/node returned by a ForEach Tag; the count of the current row/node returned by a ForEach Tag; and the index of the current row/node returned by a ForEach Tag.

VarStatus Variable Name

To use a ForEach Tag's **varStatus** variables, give them a name in the Properties Tab of your ForEach Tag. In this article we'll use "LoopStatus" as the name of the variables:

VarStatus Variable Syntax

In general, the syntax of the **varStatus** variables' names is the name of the variable with the **varStatus** name (set in Properties) prepended, e.g. "${LoopStatus.first}."

For example, in an Out Tag you could display the count of the current row/node returned by a containing ForEach Tag by referring to "${LoopStatus.count}."

varStatus Variable	Description
count (${LoopStatus.count})	The number of rows/nodes actually returned by the ForEach Tag so far. This is one based and only counts rows/nodes actually returned - it is not effected by the **begin** and **step** ForEach Tag properties settings, unlike index (see below). For example, if **begin** is set to 3, then the count of the first row/node returned would still be 1.
first (${LoopStatus.first})	Returns *true* if the current row/node returned is the first row/node returned; otherwise returns *false*.
index (${LoopStatus.index})	The index of the current row/node returned by the ForEach Tag. This is zero based and identifies the current row/node based on the settings of the **begin** and **step** ForEach Tag properties. For example, if **begin** is set to 3, then the index of the first row/node returned would also be 3.
last (${LoopStatus.last})	Returns *true* if the current row/node returned is the last row/node that will be returned; otherwise returns *false*.

Example Template

For a demonstration of varStatus variables, please download and review this example template. It uses our public SQL Server data source, mssql.windward.net. It shows the effects of various settings of ForEach Tag **begin** and **step** properties settings on varStatus variables.

varStatus_Variables_Example_Template.docx