

Are You Buying In Sheep?



Then don't get more than you bargained for!



When you buy in ewes, rams or lambs, or even if they are just returning from another farm, you risk bringing in anthelmintic resistant worms and sheep scab.

Follow the 3 steps below to protect your flock:

**1
YARD**

All sheep (ewes and rams) on arrival for 24-48 hours

**2
TREAT**

Drench with monepantel* (new 4-AD class) immediately followed by moxidectin. Use injectable moxidectin if sheep scab is considered to be a risk.**

**3
QUARANTINE**

Turn out on to pasture that has carried sheep this season and keep isolated for at least 3 weeks

Ask your Vet or adviser for more information and help with product choices

Note * Zolvix ©.

** 1% product. Two injections required if there is any evidence of clinical sheep scab. Alternatively sheep could be dipped in an OP.

1. WHY SHOULD I YARD SHEEP?

Any worm eggs already in the faeces when the sheep are treated will escape exposure to the anthelmintic. Yarding makes sure these are not dropped on to pasture. It also gives you time to have a good look for other problems e.g. CODD, CLA or orf.

2. WHY SHOULD I USE MORE THAN ONE PRODUCT?

To guard against importing anthelmintic resistance, you need to make sure that all worms in the sheep are killed. Just using one product would leave the risk that worms resistant to that group were allowed to survive. It is worth the investment.

3. WHY TURN QUARANTINED ANIMALS ON TO PASTURE THAT HAS CARRIED SHEEP?

You need to make sure that should any worms survive treatment, they don't go on to reproduce alone and populate a clean pasture. Incoming sheep need to pick up the worm population present on your farm as soon as possible. Remember it is your flock you are trying to protect, not the incoming sheep.

TREATING CORRECTLY

WEIGH - DON'T GUESS

Underestimating the weight of sheep is a common cause of under dosing. Select and weigh the biggest sheep in the group to determine the correct dose. If there is a wide range of weights, consider splitting the group, then weigh the heaviest in each section. Don't forget to check that the weigh-crate is accurate before you start.

CALIBRATE AND MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT

Always check that guns and injectors are delivering the right amount before you start. Remove the plunger from a suitable syringe, put your thumb over the end and squirt the dose into it, making sure you have got rid of any air bubbles first. Adjust until the dose delivered is correct. Equipment should also be well maintained and replaced regularly.

TECHNIQUE

Technique is a vital part of ensuring that the product does its job effectively. Make sure that the sheep are properly restrained and can't leap around. Sheep can suffer serious injury, or even death, if the drench gun penetrates the tissues at the back of the mouth. Place a hand under the head and tilt slightly to the side. Slot the nozzle in the gap between molar and incisor teeth and then over the back of the tongue. You must get the nozzle over the back of the tongue. With injections, check whether it is to be given subcutaneously or intramuscularly and handle carefully. When dipping make sure you follow the manufacturers instructions on replenishment rates etc. carefully.

Storage

Products should be stored securely, away from direct sunlight at 4 – 25°C. Check the 'use by' date and once open use within the time shown on the packaging.



And Remember.....
No matter how often you use a product, **ALWAYS read the instructions.** Recommended dose rates and withdrawal periods vary and can change.

