

AN INITIATIVE OF

Making More From Sheep



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development



Australian Wool
Innovation Limited



Healthy and contented sheep

Brown Besier

**Brown Besier
Parasitology,
Albany**



EVENT SUPPORTERS:



Overview – what we'll cover

Economic effects of sheep disease – relative costs

Sheep worm control

- Prime lambs
- Drench resistance update and management

Flystrike

Lice

Pain relief – new options

Biosecurity

Key messages

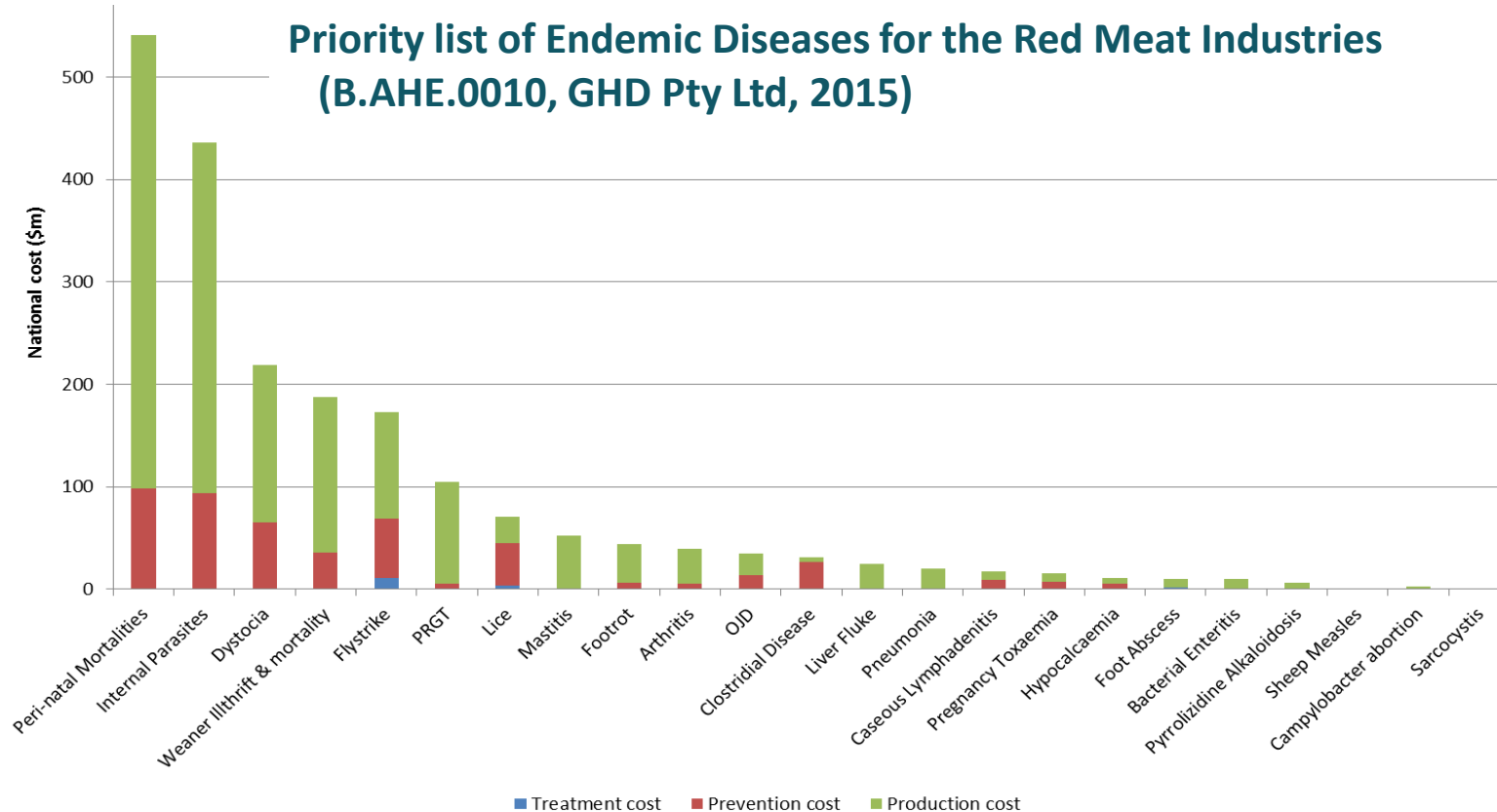
Signposts

No product or manufacturer mentioned in this presentation is specifically endorsed

Animal health costs - sheep



**Priority list of Endemic Diseases for the Red Meat Industries
(B.AHE.0010, GHD Pty Ltd, 2015)**



Animal health costs - sheep

Neonatal mortalities	\$540
Internal parasites	\$436
Dystocia	\$219
Weaner ill-thrift	\$186
Flystrike - body & breech	\$173
Perennial ryegrass staggers	\$105
Lice	\$81

Mastitis, Footrot, Arthritis, Johnes Disease, Clostridial diseases: \$30 – 50 M

Worm control in prime lambs

- What does it cost and how can we manage it ?

MLA & DPIRD - funded project, B.AHE.0072

- 2013- 2016, 14 farms, Great Southern and Esperance
- Measured effect of worms in prime lambs, monthly from marking to turn-off, worm-suppressed versus producer program
- Results:
 - growth rates, dollar value, worm counts



Worm control in prime lambs

- Results

- Losses due to worms: some in 86% cases, stat. significant in 28% :

In worm-effect mobs:

- Average worm effect loss of **2.1 kg** by 22 weeks (20 gm/hd/day)
- Average \$ loss in mobs checked: **\$5.76** at slaughter

BUT

- *Can't predict which farms will be affected*
- *Drench after loss occurs didn't re-gain lost weight*

Worm control in prime lambs

- Results

- No worm effect in fast-growing lambs
if consistently over **240 gm/head/day**
from marking to 14 weeks



Worm control in prime lambs

- Messages

Ewes:

- Ensure low worm counts before lambing
 - Low-worm risk paddocks
 - Check worm counts - pre-lamb drench ?

Worm control in prime lambs

- Messages

Lambs: Control worms at 3-4 months of age !

- Routine drench at 14 weeks (ideally, weaned then)
- OR
- Check worm counts at 10 weeks after lambing, drench at 14 weeks if 250 +

And:

- Check counts 4 weekly after drench (esp. where less than 240 gm/hd/day)
- Ideally, wean and move lambs out of lambing paddock at 14 weeks

Drench resistance update

- What drenches still work ?

Forget older drenches -white (benzimidazoles), clear (levamisole), ivermectin

- Abamectin
- Moxidectin
- Triple combinations
- “Startect”, “Zolvix”

Drench resistance update

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Forget older drenches -white (benzimidazoles), clear (levamisole), ivermectin

- ~~Abamectin~~ ?
- Moxidectin ?
- Triple combinations
- “Startect”, “Zolvix”

Drench resistance update

- Sustainable summer drenching

Summer drenching selects strongly for drench resistance – need to modify

- **Young sheep** (weaners and yearlings):
 - Low worm resistance and tolerance
 - No change - summer drenches to all in the mob
- **Adult sheep**
 - Worm resistant and tolerant
 - Drench to ensure some non-resistant worms survive (“refugia”)

Drench resistance update

- Sustainable summer drenching

Adult sheep strategic programs:

EITHER

- Autumn drench: late March/early April

OR

- “Targeted treatment”:

Caution in Barbers
Pole worm risk areas

Summer drench,

but leave 10 – 20% undrenched (condition score 3.5+)



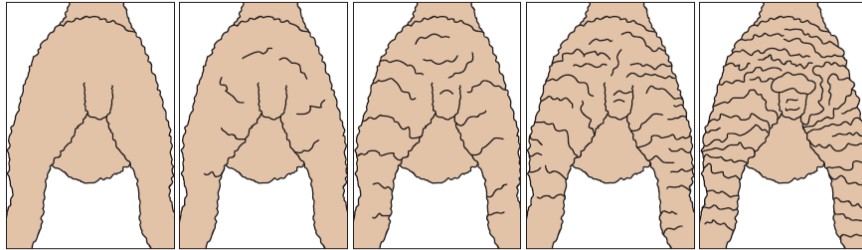
Flystrike management

Key management basis:

Reducing the susceptibility of sheep to flystrike

- Dag management tactics
- Genetics for dag, wrinkle, **body strike factors**

Breech Wrinkle



Score 1

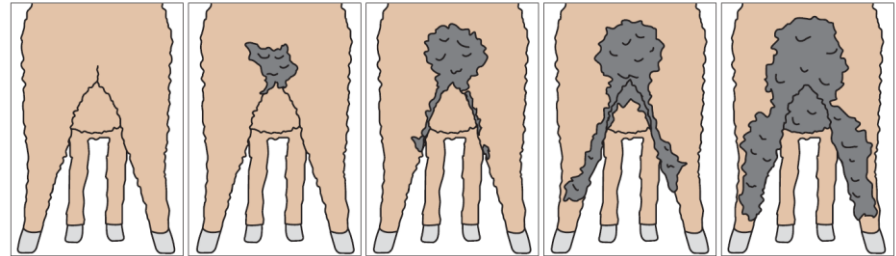
Score 2

Score 3

Score 4

Score 5

Dag



Score 1

Score 2

Score 3

Score 4

Score 5

Flystrike management

Key management basis:

Reducing the susceptibility of sheep to flystrike

- Dag management tactics
- Genetics for dag, wrinkle, body strike factors

Preventative options within the season

- Routine long-acting treatment, or wait until evidence of strikes occurs ?

Treatment options if strikes are seen

[FLYBOSS website](#)

- Effective chemicals, length of protection, withholds



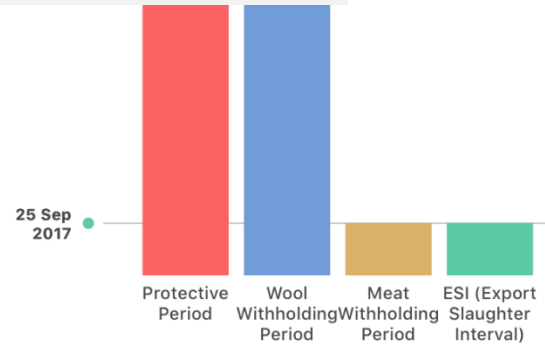
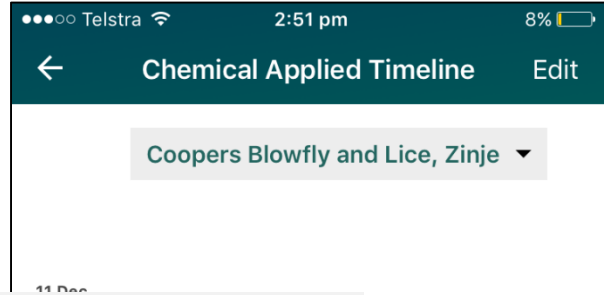
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Flystrike Assist

App store, or

<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-parasites/flystrike-management-tools>



Body lice control

Key issues

- **Is routine annual treatment justified ?**
 - Flock risk situation
 - Length of protection
 - Long wool treatments
 - Chemical withholds
- **What chemicals are effective ?**
 - Resistance by lice to chemicals
 - Method of application
- **LICEBOSS website**



Courtesy Jenny Cotter, DPIRD

Pain relief for management procedures – some new options

PRODUCT	TRISOLFEN (Anaesthetic)	BUCCALGESIC (Analgesic)	METACAM 20 (Analgesic)
Indications	Pain relief- mulesing, castration, tailing	Analgesic - Alleviation of pain/inflammation from castration and tailing	Analgesic - Alleviation of pain and inflammation (lambs over 14 days)
Purchase	Open seller or vet	Veterinarian	Veterinarian
Application	Gel - spray onto area after procedure	Oral paste, before procedure	Injection under skin, before procedure
Withholding - ESI	90 days	10 days	11 days
Price 10 -15 kg lamb (AWI, March 2017)	\$1.50	\$0.72	\$1.24

Biosecurity

Your flock will be free of many common diseases – keep them out

- Virulent Footrot
- Johnes Disease
- Ovine Brucellosis
- Lice

National Sheep Health Declaration

NATIONAL SHEEP HEALTH DECLARATION

Completing this National Sheep Health Declaration (NSHD) will assist prospective buyers to make an informed decision about the health status and management history of these sheep. The NSHD is mandatory for all sheep movements in SA and for sheep being moved into NSW and Tasmania. It is voluntary in other states (Version 5, May 2017).

Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property
This MUST be the PIC of the property that the stock is being moved from

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Attached to accompanying NVD/Waybill No.

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SECTION A – BIOSECURITY INFORMATION

- All consigned sheep were born on the consignment property. Yes No
- The number of different sources of sheep that have been **INTRODUCED** onto the consignment property in the last 5 years is:
0 (closed flock) 1- 5 6+ Rams Only
- All consigned sheep are from a property with a livestock biosecurity plan ⁽¹⁾.
If Yes, Property Plan Regional Biosecurity Plan (name)
Yes No

www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

SECTION B – FOOTROT/LICE/OVINE BRUCELLOSIS

- All consigned sheep are from a **flock that is free** of VIRULENT FOOTROT ⁽²⁾.
- All consigned sheep are from a **flock that is free** of L
- All consigned sheep are from a flock in an OVINE BR accreditation scheme.
If Yes, Flock Accreditation No. (except Q/d)

SECTION C – JOHNES DISEASE (JD)

- (a) All consigned sheep are Approved Vaccinates ⁽⁴⁾.
(b) If Yes, I have been continuously vaccinating all re lambs in the consignment flock against JD for years.
- All consigned sheep are from a SheepMAP flock ⁽⁵⁾.
If yes, Status Year commenced in SheepMAP.....
Yes No
- All consigned lambs are NLIS 'T' tag (terminal) lambs ⁽⁶⁾.
Yes No

- JD is suspected or known to occur in the flock of the consigned sheep ⁽⁷⁾. Yes No
- All consigned sheep are from a flock with a negative test for JD ⁽⁸⁾. If Yes, which test?
Faecal 350 within the past 24 months Abattoir 500 within the past 24 months
Abattoir 150 within the past 12 months Other ⁽⁹⁾
- Sheep **INTRODUCED** onto the consignment property in the last 5 years were from a flock with ^(4, 5 and 8): (multiple answers may be applicable)
SheepMAP accreditation Negative Faecal 350
Negative Abattoir 500 Negative Abattoir 150
All Approved Vaccinates Unknown status
Other ⁽¹⁰⁾

SECTION D. TREATMENT INFORMATION OF CONSIGNED SHEEP

Treatments	Product	Date of last treatment
External Parasite Treatment		

Drench resistant worms:
– multi-drench quarantine treatments

sheep in this consignment and all the information on this Sheep Health Declaration is true and correct:
Signed:Date: / / 20.....
Phone number: Fax/Email:

Producers are advised to retain appropriate records to support this declaration. Persons making false statements may be liable under fair trading and other relevant state legislation.



Climate, land &
water ▾

Crops ▾

Livestock &
animals ▾

Pests, weeds
& diseases ▾

Food, export &
investment ▾

Biosecurity &
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About us ▾

Tools &
support ▾

Home > Biosecurity & quarantine > Biosecurity > Livestock biosecurity > Farm biosecurity checklist for sheep producers



Biosecurity & quarantine

Biosecurity

Invasive species

European house borer

Livestock biosecurity

Livestock movement & identification

Wildlife biosecurity

State Barrier Fence

Plant biosecurity

Farm biosecurity checklist for sheep producers

Western Australia has a relatively disease-free status compared with the rest of the world. Good biosecurity practices minimise the potential for introducing disease into your sheep flock and reduce the chance of disease spreading within your flock or to other flocks. Following the sheep biosecurity checklist greatly reduces the risk of an emergency disease such as foot-and-mouth disease or scrapie being able to enter your flock, as well as diseases which do occur in WA such as ovine Johne's disease and footrot.



Author

Marion Seymour

See Also

- > [NLIS and identification - sheep](#)
- > [DAFWA sheep NLIS helpdesk](#)
- > [Foot-and-mouth disease: recognise and report the signs](#)
- > [Information for producers - Subsidised Disease Investigation Pilot Program \(Royalties for Regions\)](#)

External Links

- [Farm biosecurity](#)
- [Farm biosecurity for sheep producers](#)

Key messages

- Worms commonly reduce prime lamb growth rates – plan to reduce loss
- Resistance affects almost all drenches – resistance management plan
- Flystrike risk: reduce by sheep management, genetics & best-practice chemical use
- Lice infestations are common – need appropriate treatments and effective application
- Pain relief for management procedures – different options
- Biosecurity to keep serious sheep diseases off the property – plan, prevent, report

Signposts

Making More From Sheep – Healthy and Contented Sheep (Module 11)

MLA and AWI websites (Pain relief: Beyond the Bale, March 2017)

DPIRD website (Livestock Parasites, Livestock Disease)

Farmbiosecurity.com.au (Animal Health Australia) – NSHD

ParaBoss (WormBoss, FlyBoss, LiceBoss)

Flystrike Assist App (DPIRD website)