

## Management Of Newly Introduced Sheep

Newly introduced, breeding and store sheep should be held in quarantine away from the main flock for 4 weeks. This includes purchased animals but also those returning from away grazing. Any lameness, illness or deaths should be investigated to prevent the spread of infectious disease outwith the group. Diseases such as salmonellosis or pasteurellosis could flare up after the stress of sales, mixing or transport.

The table outlines selected conditions but is not a comprehensive list. The quarantine period should be used to inspect the sheep for other problems such as ringworm, orf or conjunctivitis. Remember that there could be diseases on your farm that the purchased sheep don't have immunity to e.g. Tick Borne Fever. Make use of quarantine by vaccinating to protect against clostridial diseases, pasteurella, EAE, Toxoplasmosis or footrot as required.

Disease	Action to Prevent Spread into Flock
Resistant worms and Haemonchus contortus	Treat sequentially with monepantel and moxidectin. Hold off grazing for 2 days. Don't turn out onto clean grazing. Consider collecting faeces 14 days later to check that treatment has been successful.
Resistant Fluke	Treat with triclabendazole and closantel on separate days and where possible keep off wet fields for 4 weeks. Consider checking faeces for fluke eggs after this period.
Sheep scab	On arrival either dip or inject with ivermectin, doramectin or moxidectin. Follow the instructions in the data sheet for injection intervals and check withdrawal times. Do not allow other sheep to pass through areas used by the purchased animals for at least 17 days. Dipping will also remove ticks and lice. Pour ons have no effect against scab mites.
Infectious abortion e.g. EAE, Border Disease, Campylobacter.	Manage separately until after lambing and investigate high barren rates and abortions. Source EAE accredited replacements. Can blood sample for Border Disease.
Footrot	Inspect feet. Walk through 3% formalin or stand in 10% zinc sulphate. Lamé sheep should be separated and treated.
Contagious Ovine Digital Dermatitis	Inspect feet paying particular attention to the skin at the top of the hoof. Contact your vet if concerned.
Maedi Visna	Source from a maedi-visna accredited flock. Can blood sample.
Caseous Lymphadenitis	Check head and neck for lumps. Can blood sample. Some flocks monitor sheep for sale.
OPA (Jaagsiekte)	No test available - cannot identify on purchase. Monitor on farm by postmortem of dead ewes.
Johne Disease	A blood test is available but healthy, infected sheep commonly test negative. Best monitored by investigation/postmortem of thin ewes.

**Heather Stevenson, SAC Veterinary Services**

[Heather.Stevenson@sac.co.uk](mailto:Heather.Stevenson@sac.co.uk)