

# 2012 Graham Centre Sheep Field Day 13 July 2012

Introducing sheep onto your farm

What are the disease risks?

Tony Morton DV @ Wagga wagga

# Disease risks ?

- Footrot
- Lice
- OJD
- Drench resistant worms
- Liver fluke (also some resistance problems)
- Abattoir detected diseases e.g. sheep measles, CLA, sarcocystis, grass seed

# Footrot

- Two recent local example's to get us thinking.
- Victorian sale on auctions plus
- 1.Lame when picked up in Vic/2.lame when delivered
- Agent explanation “1.been in yards/2.trucks, sore footed”
- Condition worsens after delivery.
- Footrot diagnosed on local property in the introduced sheep, one quickly, the other delayed by cold weather.



# Footrot lessons

- Victoria & Tas. are high risk (residual zone )
- Insist on national Sheep Health Statement or better still Owner/vendor declaration of footrot (required for Vic, Tas)
- Look at feet!!! Lame sheep/contractor mob inspection, seek expert advice
- Clean trucks
- Isolate introductions until they have gone through spread period, usually spring (spread less likely <10 av daily temp), 7 days spell.

**OWNER/VENDOR DECLARATION OF FOOTROT FREEDOM OF FLOCK  
(This form has been endorsed by NSW Footrot Steering Committee)**

**NOTE: FOR THIS DECLARATION FOOTROT MEANS VIRULENT FOOTROT  
AGENTS MUST NOT MAKE THIS DECLARATION ON BEHALF OF CLIENTS**  
I,

\_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_

I am the owner/authorised representative of the owner of the sheep detailed below.

No of Sheep Age Breed / Sex Ear Marks Other Marks/brands

These sheep have been kept on: (Property Name)

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Livestock Health and Pest Authority: \_\_\_\_\_ Property

Identification Code: \_\_\_\_\_

These sheep left, or will leave, my property on (date) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



## **I DECLARE THAT**

! The sheep as detailed above have been inspected by me or under my supervision within the previous 7 days and no footrot was observed AND

Were either (i) bred on the above property; OR

(ii) introduced onto the above property with a Footrot Vendor Declaration form (**copy to be provided on request**);OR

(iii) have been on the above property since (date) ...../...../.....

• To the best of my knowledge within the previous 12 months all sheep on the property indicated above have been free of footrot.

! Sheep on the property indicated above have received the following treatments for foot conditions:

foot paring (specify date ...../...../.....)

footbathing (specify product .....and date ...../...../.....)

antibiotics (specify treatment.....and date ...../...../.....)

! Within the previous 12 months sheep on the above property \*have/have not been subjected to an approved laboratory test for

footrot with the following result \*stable/unstable/not isolated/equivocal (***\*strike out not applicable***)

AND

If, within 14 days of leaving my property the sheep detailed above are examined by a veterinarian; AND

(i) a diagnosis of footrot is made or footrot is suspected and later confirmed; AND

(ii) in the opinion of the veterinarian this infection was present prior to this 14-day period; AND

(iii) a veterinary certificate acknowledging the above is provided by the purchaser; AND

(iv) all parties were notified when footrot was initially suspected; then

! I agree that this sale will be null and void; AND

! I will remove these sheep from the purchaser's property within 7 days of the confirmed diagnosis; AND

! I will pay all transport costs of these sheep to and from the purchaser's property.

DECLARED at \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: making a false or misleading statement about the disease status of sheep for sale

is **an offence under the Commonwealth Trade**

**Practices Act 1974 and the NSW Fair Trading Act 1987.** Fines up to 100 penalty units may apply under the Stock Diseases Act.



NSW Department of Primary Industries recommends that all purchasers of sheep take the following precautions after purchase:

- Request the Vendor to ensure the truck is hosed out with high pressure water prior to loading;
- Inspect sheep for lameness and all feet for underrunning immediately after arrival on the property. Sheep should be re-examined during the 14-day period. If footrot is suspected, obtain veterinary advice;
- All sheep should be placed in clean paddocks (unstocked for at least 7 days) and kept isolated for observation for as long as possible (preferably until after the next footrot spread period)
- Retain a copy of this Declaration. Note for sheep moving from a Residual Area to Protected/Control Area this Declaration should be retained for 12 months
- In flocks where footrot has been eradicated and the property released from quarantine within the previous 12 months, notice from the District Veterinarian should be attached to the Owner Declaration.

*February 2009*



# Lice

- Currently > 30 % states flocks infected
- Long term 30% infected
- 20% infected when we had a vigorous extension program + IGR's Zapp and Magnum highly effective.

# Lice should be controlled by the individual.

- Stopped by a fence
- Relatively slow spread (intervention possible)
- Carriers can be detected on farm, no need for a test.
- Don't harm people.
- Nil mortality
- Highly effective treatment is available



# Case study

- 2 lines CFA ewes with 6-8 weeks wool purchased @ WWLMC.
- Not checked for lice.
- Lamé on delivery, Ranger contacted, not footrot.
- Ranger sees fleece derangement = lice infested.
- Rapid spread within days to both mobs.

# Tracing to another farm

- Didn't check for lice.
- Shower dipped for 10 minutes
- We found fleece derangement, lots of dead lice and some live lice.



# Lessons learnt

- If you buy sheep you are buying from a market with high infection rates.
- Look pre purchase, you can afford the time to be a lot more thorough than a ranger because you are only interested in some of the lines offered plus you will suffer the loss.
- Check post purchase for 6 months.
- Isolate purchased sheep and in contact rams.

# Other strategies

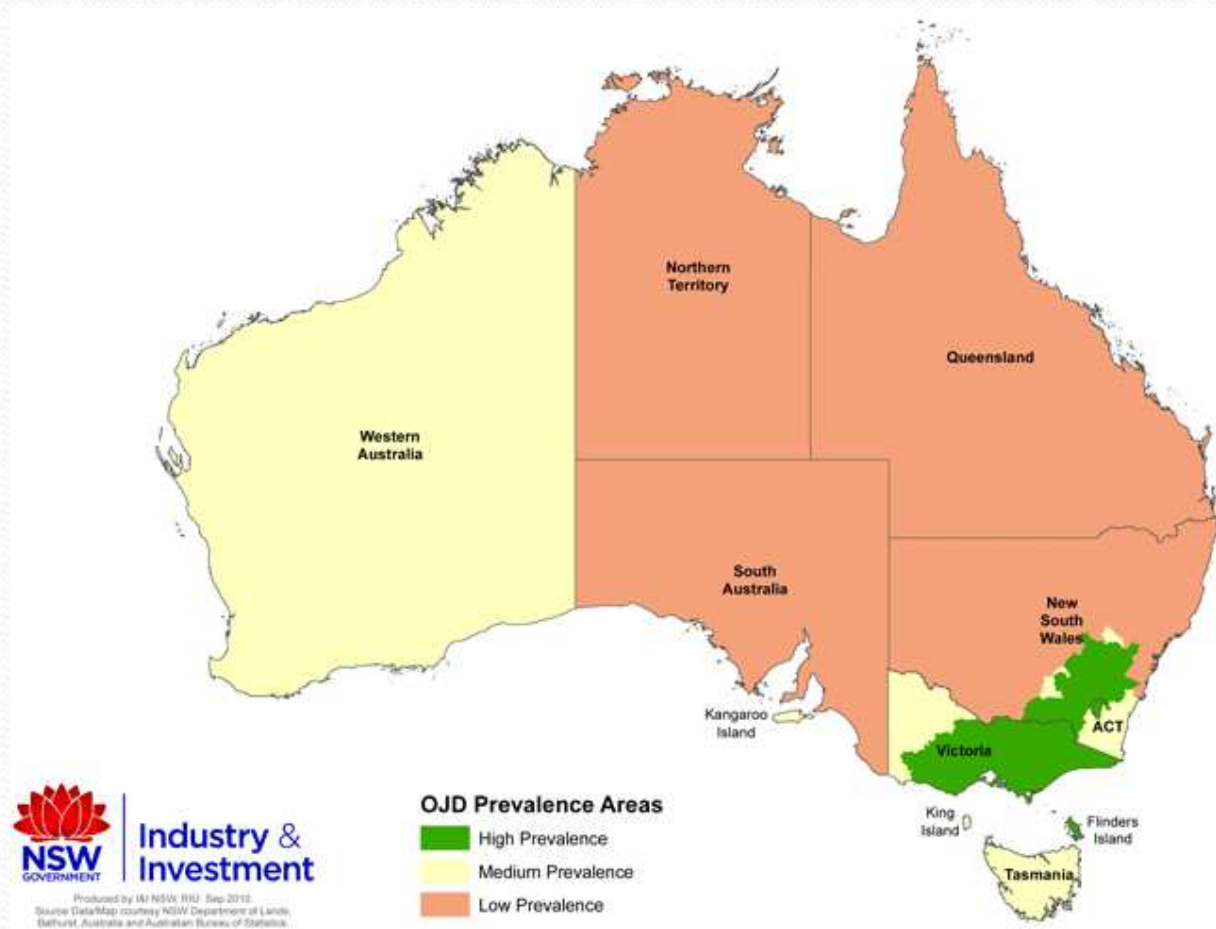
- Dividing fences act = no need to suffer an inadequate boundary fence.
- Contract plunge dipper + 100% muster + one shearing = best chance of eradication.
- National sheep health statement



# OJD

- When the 6 year OJD program finished 30.06.2004 the number of cases in this district had doubled every year for 4 years.
- 10 > 20 > 40 > 80
- Heaps of scheduled tracing and neighbour testing stopped in 2004
- Every reason to expect 80 > 160 > 320 > 640 > 1280 > 2560 in 2009.
- OJD is now a fact of life over a wide area like pulpy kidney, blowflies and lice

# OJD prevalence areas





# Case study

- The football club that bought the wethers (not vaccinated with Gudair) and distributed them all over its district.
- The source one of the best managed properties in the district.
- Because its so well managed the owner became concerned by a few wasting sheep.
- OJD diagnosed.
- Its not hard to buy in OJD

# Another case study

- Another well managed flock in the high prevalence area.
- Wasting sheep , OJD confirmed.
- They also are shearers and a few years later commented now we've seen in our sheep its obvious that a lot of people we shear for also have it!!!



# OJD choices

- Buy it in
- Have it wash in from a neighbour

# OJD strategies when buying

Attached to accompanying NVD/Waybill No.

(Version 2 - May 2009)

**SECTION 1 – CONSIGNMENT INFORMATION**

Owner of sheep.....

Property/place where the journey commenced (full address).....

..... State.....

Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property:

Number	Year born (month, if known)	Description (ie. Breed, sex and type)	Identification (eg. PIC based on ear tag if different to above)

*Please attach a list if more information is required.*

**SECTION 2 – OVINE JOHNE'S DISEASE (OJD)**

1. This consignment has an ABC score of: (refer and complete overleaf)

Category A + Category B + Category C + Category D =

(Area flock credits) (Test credits) (Vaccine credits) (Cat. low risk credits) TOTAL ABC SCORE

2. Were all these consigned sheep born on the above property? Yes  No

If no, date introduced...../...../..... ABC score at time of introduction:

(if known)

3. Have sheep of a lower ABC score than the consigned sheep been introduced into the flock in the last 2 years? Yes  No

If yes, what is the lowest ABC score of introductions?

4. How many different sources of sheep have been introduced to the consignor's property in last 2 years? None  1-5  6+  Rams only

5. Are any of the sheep in this consignment terminal 'T' tag lambs? Yes  No

6. Are these consigned sheep from a SheepMAP flock? Yes  No

Status..... Expiry date...../...../.....

**SECTION 3 – FOOTROT**

7. Have the sheep in this consignment been observed for, and any suspect sheep examined for, signs of FOOTROT during the past 14 days? Yes  No

8. To the best of your knowledge, are the sheep in this consignment free of VIRULENT FOOTROT? Yes  No

9. To the best of your knowledge, are all sheep and goats on the consignor's property free from VIRULENT FOOTROT? Yes  No

**SECTION 4 – OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION**

10. Is the flock accredited under a government administered OVINE BRUCELLOSIS accreditation scheme? Yes  No

Flock Accreditation No:.....

Expiry Date:...../...../.....

11. Has there been any evidence of sheep LICE at, or since, the last shearing? Yes  No

Date of last shearing (if known):...../...../.....

12. Treatments	Product	Date of last treatment
External Parasite Treatment	.....	...../...../.....
Drench	.....	...../...../.....
Vaccination other than OJD	.....	...../...../.....
Other	.....	...../...../.....

**SECTION 5 – DECLARATION**

As the owner and/or person responsible for the husbandry of the sheep in this consignment, I declare that the information in this statement is true and correct.

Signed:..... Date:...../...../.....

Name (print):.....

Contact phone:.....

*Persons making false statements may be liable under fair trading and other relevant state legislation.*



## sample only

## HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR ABC SCORE

### OJD ASSURANCE BASED CREDIT (ABC) POINTS

Select only one line from each category that is applicable to consigned sheep, then add for total score

CATEGORY A: Prevalence Area Flock(s) of origin - the lowest Category A credits of any property on which any of the sheep in the consignment have been run during their lives.	Possible Credits	Credits for this consignment
A Low Prevalence Area and the flock is not suspected/known to be infected	4	
A Medium Prevalence Area and the flock is not suspected/known to be infected	2	
A High Prevalence Area and the flock is not suspected/known to be infected	0	
Any area and the flock is suspected or known to be infected	0	

### CATEGORY B: OJD Testing The Flock is:

In the SheepMAP and has had 3 negative sample tests	SheepMAP Status MN: Expiry date:	Possible Credits	Credits for this consignment
In the SheepMAP and has had 2 negative sample tests		4	
In the SheepMAP and has had 1 negative sample tests		3	
Not in the SheepMAP but has had a negative PFC 350 test in the last 12 months		2	
Not in the SheepMAP but is eligible for Abattoir 500 status		2	
Not in the SheepMAP but is eligible for Abattoir 150 status		1	
A test low level infected flock		1	
None of the above		0	

### CATEGORY C: OJD Vaccination

The flock is a second generation approved vaccinate flock	4	
The consignment sheep are approved vaccinates and were born when the whole flock were approved vaccinates	3	
The whole flock are approved vaccinates	2	
The consignment sheep are approved vaccinates	1	
None of the above	0	

### CATEGORY D: Consignment Sheep – Risk Assessment The consignment sheep are:

Sourced from a flock infected or suspected to be infected but are certified low-risk by a SheepMAP approved veterinarian	1	
None of the above	0	

**TOTAL ABC SCORE FOR THIS CONSIGNMENT OF SHEEP**  
(CATEGORY A + B + C + D) =   
Maximum ABC score is 10

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Approved Vaccinate – a sheep that is

- vaccinated with an approved OJD vaccine by 16 weeks of age; or
- vaccinated with an approved OJD vaccine after 16 weeks of age where, in the written opinion of a SheepMAP approved veterinarian, vaccination occurred when there was a low risk of prior exposure to OJD and is identified as an approved Vaccinate by an NLSIS 'V' tag.

**Abattoir 500 status** – at least 500 sheep, over 2 years of age, have been submitted to an abattoir in the past 24 months, in 1 or more lots, and have been examined and all found negative for OJD. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.

**Abattoir 150 status** – at least 150 sheep, over 2 years of age, have been submitted to an abattoir in the past 12 months, in 1 or more lots, and have been examined and all found negative for OJD. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.

**Certified low risk sheep** – sheep which are sourced from a flock that is infected or suspected to be infected with OJD, and which are certified in writing as low-risk by a SheepMAP approved veterinarian on the basis of:

- a risk assessment, and
- an approved Property Disease Management Program (PDMP) that includes profiling and strategic culling, being implemented in the flock. Other strategies such as vaccination of sheep which are unlikely to have been heavily exposed, may also be appropriate.

**Infected flocks** – flocks are no longer regarded as infected when either: (1) the whole flock consists of approved vaccinates and has undertaken a PFC 350 test, with negative results, at a minimum of 2 years after the last detected infected animal has been removed; OR (2) the whole flock is a second generation approved vaccinate flock which has undertaken a PFC 350 test, with negative results; OR (3) a destocking/ decontamination program approved by the CVO of the jurisdiction, has been completed.

**Prevalence area** – There are three Prevalence Areas: Low, Medium and High. These have been agreed nationally and are reviewed annually. Details are available from Animal Health Australia or [www.ojd.com.au](http://www.ojd.com.au)

**PFC 350 test** – a test of 350 representative sheep over 2 years of age (or all sheep over 2 years of age in smaller flocks) by Pooled Faecal Culture in pools of up to 50 sheep.

**Sample Test** – a test of a sample of a flock, in accordance with the Sheep Market Assurance Program (SheepMAP) guidelines, and which is undertaken within the flock's SheepMAP program. The number of Sample Tests is the actual number of negative Sample Tests that contributed to the flock's SheepMAP status.

**Second generation Approved Vaccinate flock** – A flock comprising entirely Approved Vaccinates (except terminal 'T-tag' lambs) which were born when the whole flock (except terminal 'T-tag' lambs) were Approved Vaccinates.

**SheepMAP** – the Australian Johne's Disease Market Assurance Program for Sheep coordinated by Animal Health Australia.

**SheepMAP approved veterinarian** – you can search for SheepMAP vets in your area at <http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/jd/maps.cfm>

**Suspected to be infected flock** – a flock is suspected to be infected with OJD if the owner has reasonable grounds to believe that it has been exposed to OJD infection or that OJD may exist in the flock, based on:

- trace back or trace forward contact with an infected flock;
- contact with OJD contaminated land or facilities;
- a positive Johne's disease screening test;
- the flock neighbours an infected flock;
- the flock has introduced sheep with an ABC score of 0;
- clinical signs of OJD; or
- advice from the relevant state agricultural department AND the flock has not met the requirements for resolution of suspicion.

**Terminal 'T' tag lambs** – lambs which are to be slaughtered before they cut their first permanent teeth and are identified by an NLSIS (sheep) 'T' tag.

**Tested low level Infected flock** – an infected flock which has a history supporting a low level of infection, an approved Property Disease Management Program in place, and the most recent flock profile demonstrating a detection rate of not more than 1 of 7 pools by Pooled Faecal Culture within the previous 2 years. Sheep mobs that contributed to the positive pool are not eligible for this point.

Although vendors of non-slaughter sheep are encouraged to complete all sections of the Sheep Health Statement, legislative requirements vary between the states. For further information, please contact your local agricultural department or visit: [www.ojd.com.au](http://www.ojd.com.au)

# Drench resistant worms

- Neil Charman and Evelyn Walkers presentation = massive problem
- If you buy in resistance you reduce your drench options.
- It's common to see 10 -20 different PIC tags in lambs purchased for fattening.
- Less options = dearer drenches i.e. higher costs



# Solutions

- Use the most effective drenches available when introducing sheep e.g. Zolvix, Startect .
- Put on paddocks contaminated by your own sheep so any survivors are diluted out.
- Drench resistance test your own weaners (or do post drenching counts)

# Liver fluke

- Areas like parts of Cooma, east of the Hume highway may have fluke.
- Fluke can cause acute deaths or loss of production.
- Fluke can live as long as the sheep, I have seen problems up to 3 years after purchase.



# Options

- Ring the vendor and ask if he has ever had fluke?
- Faecal Egg count, 2 pools @ \$49.50
- Faecal ELISA 1 individual @ \$33.00
- Drench just in case .
- triclabendazole =fasinex etc
- triclabendazole + oxfendazxole= flukazole c plus
- Closantel re older fluke

• =

# National sheep health statement

Attached to accompanying NVD/Waybill No.

(Version 2 - May 2009)

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Owner of sheep.....

Property/place where the journey commenced (full address).....

State.....

Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property:

Number	Year born (month, if known)	Description (ie. Breed, sex and type)	Identification (eg. PIC based on ear tag if different to above)

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(Area flock credits)    (Test credits)    (Vaccine credits)    (Cat. low risk credits)    TOTAL ABC SCORE

2. Were all these consigned sheep born on the above property?    Yes     No

If no, date introduced...../...../.....    ABC score at time of introduction:

(if known)

3. Have sheep of a lower ABC score than the consigned sheep been introduced into the flock in the last 2 years?    Yes     No

If yes, what is the lowest ABC score of introductions?   

4. How many different sources of sheep have been introduced to the consignor's property in last 2 years?    None     1-5     6+     Rams only

5. Are any of the sheep in this consignment terminal 'T' tag lambs?    Yes     No

6. Are these consigned sheep from a SheepMAP flock?    Yes     No

Status.....    Expiry date...../...../.....

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Flock Accreditation No:.....

Expiry Date:...../...../.....

11. Has there been any evidence of sheep LICE at, or since, the last shearing?    Yes     No

Date of last shearing (if known):...../...../.....

12. Treatments	Product	Date of last treatment
External Parasite Treatment	.....	...../...../.....
Drench	.....	...../...../.....
Vaccination other than OJD	.....	...../...../.....
Other	.....	...../...../.....

**SECTION 5 – DECLARATION**

As the owner and/or person responsible for the husbandry of the sheep in this consignment, I declare that the information in this statement is true and correct.

Signed:.....    Date:...../...../.....

Name (print):.....

Contact phone:.....

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