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External Parasites

Clell V. Bagley

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EXTERNAL PARASITES





Clell V. Bagley, DVM Extension Veterinarian Utah State University, Logan UT 84322-5600

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A. Ked (Sheep Tick) (Melophagus ovinus):

- 1. Life cycle and damage
 - a. Entire life on sheep
 - b. Intermittent blood sucking
 - c. Damage to hide; downgrading of lamb pelts
 - d. While trying to scratch, some ewes get on back and die
- 2. Insecticides (Treat only the sheep, not the environment)
 - a. Pyrethroid insecticides are highly effective and very safe

Fenvalerate (Ectrin): Pour-on, Spray, Dip

Permethrin (Expar; De Lice): Pour-on

b. Other products to consider

Coumaphos (Co-Ral): Spray, Dip

Diazinon: Spray, Dip

Malathion: Spray, Dust, Dip Methoxychlor: Spray, Dust, Dip Dioxathion and Dichlorvos: Spray Crotoxyphos and Dichlorvos: Spray

- 3. Timing of Treatment
 - a. Immediately after shearing is best
 - b. Pour-on and dust products can be used during winter

B. Lice:

- 1. Feeding Type
 - a. Chewing (Biting)—Feeds on skin surface; causes severe itching, irritation and wool pulling. Very hard to see.
 - b. Sucking—Attach to skin and suck blood. Foot louse only on lower feet and legs. Body louse, especially around udder or scrotum and at withers.
- 2. Host specific and won't survive on chickens, cattle, etc. Complete entire life cycle on the sheep. Will live for a few days off the host, but spread mainly by direct contact. Reach highest populations at coldest season.
- 3. Insecticides to Consider

Generic Name	Brand Name	Method of Application
Fenvalerate	Ectrin	Pour-on, Spray
Permethrin	Expar; De-Lice	Pour-on
Coumaphos	Co-Ral	Spray, Dip
Diazinon		Spray, Dip
Malathion		Spray, Dust, Dip
Methoxychlor		Spray, Dust, Dip
Crotoxyphos	Ciodrin	Spray, Dip
Dioxathion & Dichlorvos	Kemtox	Spray
Crotoxyphos & Dichlorvos	Ciovap, Simax	Spray

The dewormer ivermectin will give some control of the sucking lice, but has almost no effect on the chewing louse.

4. Application

a. Pour-on: Highly effective for chewing louse

Less effective for sucking body louse

Ineffective for foot louse

b. Dips: Lack of facilities to dip

Problem with disposal of residual product

Best method for lice control

c. Sprays: Work well, but will not eradicate all lice from flock with a single application so they re-populate the next year. Best used after shearing and repeated at 3 weeks later, but this is usually not practical because of lambing.

C. Nose Bots:

1. Life Cycle

Adult - Flv

Larvae - Lives in nasal cavities and sinuses

2 Occurrence

Common, but seldom cause enough damage in range flocks to warrant treatment specifically for them.

3. Treatment

The ivermectin dewormer (Merck) is approved for treatment and is highly effective.

D. Fly Blow (Fly Strike) (Maggot):

- 1. Flies lay eggs by soiled wool or injured tissue; larvae invade skin and tissue.
- 2. Treatment Clip wool and apply insecticide.
- 3. Prevention Clean soiled and injured areas: Treat with repellent insecticide.

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