



**Animal Health  
Fact Sheet**



# *SUMMARY OF DISEASES OF RANGE SHEEP*

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AH/Sheep/03

## **I. GENERAL (MAY OCCUR ANYTIME)**

### **A. Ewes and Rams**

#### **1. Sudden Death**

bloat  
enterotoxemia (overeating disease;  
Clostridium perfringens type C & D  
other Clostridia (blackleg; malignant  
edema; braxy)  
acidosis (grain overload)  
injuries  
pneumonia (may appear sudden, if not  
observed)  
toxic plants  
halogeton  
lupine  
milkweed  
copperweed  
kochia  
beet tops  
sweetclover (bleeding disease)  
other toxins

#### **2. Acute Illness**

pneumonia  
acidosis (grain overload)  
injury  
intoxication (e.g. poisonous plants, above)  
polio  
bluetongue  
tetanus (shear wounds)  
toxic plants (locoweed, sneezeweed,  
greasewood, black sage)

#### **3. Chronic Ill-Thrift**

abscesses  
caseous lymphadenitis  
internal a. and adhesions  
ovine progressive pneumonia (OPP;  
progressive p.)  
chronic pneumonia (bacterial)  
parasites (internal; external)  
chronic pain (e.g. arthritis)  
nutritional deficiency (especially energy)  
teeth problems

#### **4. CNS Disturbance (Behavior Change)**

locoweed  
metabolic diseases (pregnancy disease,  
etc.)  
subclinical enterotoxemia  
polio  
rabies

#### **5. Lameness**

arthritis (septic; chlamydial)  
bumblefoot  
foot rot  
lip and leg disease

#### **6. Pinkeye**

bacterial  
chlamydial

#### **7. Parasites**

external  
keds  
lice  
mange mites

nose bots  
fly blow  
internal  
roundworms (nematodes)  
liver fluke  
tapeworms

## **B. Ram Diseases**

Ram Epididymitis  
Sheath Rot (pizzle rot)  
Urinary Calculi

## **II. LAMBING DISEASES OF EWES**

### **A. Abortion**

Vibriosis (Campylobacter)  
Enzootic Abortion of Ewes (EAE)  
Listeriosis  
Toxoplasmosis  
Leptospirosis  
Locoweed  
Border Disease (Hairy Shakers)

### **B. Downer Ewes (or Weak Ewes)**

Pregnancy Toxemia (Pregnancy Disease;  
Ketosis; Lambing Paralysis)  
Milk Fever (Hypocalcemia)  
Transport Tetany (Hypocalcemia)  
Chronic Ill-Thrift  
Starvation  
Dead Lambs in Uterus  
Intoxication  
Mastitis (Bluebag)  
Subclinical Enterotoxemia

### **C. Sudden Death**

bloat  
enterotoxemia (overeating disease;  
Clostridium perfringens type C & D  
other Clostridia (blackleg; malignant  
edema; braxy)  
acidosis (grain overload)  
injuries pneumonia (if not observed)

toxic plants

halogeton  
lupine  
milkweed  
copperweed  
kochia  
beet tops  
sweetclover (bleeding disease)

other toxins

### **D. Illness**

Mastitis (Bluebag)  
Pneumonia  
Uterine infection  
Acidosis (Indigestion)  
Poisonous plants (locoweed, sneezeweed,  
greasewood, and blacksage)

### **E. Prolapse**

Rectum  
Vagina

### **F. Hernia (abdominal)**

### **G. Skin Lesions**

Lip and Leg Disease  
Lice  
Keds+

## **III. NEWBORN LAMB DISEASES (0-21 DAYS)**

Starvation  
Stillborn (see abortion)  
Hairy Shaker (Border Disease)  
Bleeding Disease (Sweetclover Poisoning;  
Dicoumoral)  
Runny Eyes  
entropion  
injury

Tetanus (Lock Jaw)  
Soremouth  
Scours (viral; bacterial; protozoan)  
Pneumonia  
White Muscle Disease  
Goiter  
Navel / Join Ill

#### IV. DISEASES OF NURSING LAMBS (> 21 DAYS)

##### A. Starvation

##### B. Scours (Diarrhea)

salmonella  
coccidiosis (bloody scours)

##### C. Acute Illness

pneumonia  
tetanus  
enterotoxemia  
white muscle disease  
bluetongue

##### D. Sudden Death

enterotoxemia (and other Clostridia)  
dirt eating (rarely a cause of death, though often blamed)  
pneumonia  
white muscle disease

##### E. Chronic Illness

goiter  
white muscle disease  
joint / navel ill

##### F. Stiff Lambs

white muscle disease  
sneezeweed  
polyarthritis (chlamydia; arthritis)  
pneumonia  
tetanus  
bluetongue  
joint ill  
ricketts

##### G. Soremouth

##### H. Eye Disease

chlamydia  
pinkeye  
entropion

#### V. DISEASES OF WEANING AGE LAMBS

##### A. Ill

pneumonia  
bluetongue  
urinary calculi  
acidosis  
polio  
white muscle disease  
polyarthritis

##### B. Sudden Death

enterotoxemia  
bloat

acidosis

pneumonia  
polio  
white muscle disease

##### C. Diarrhea

coccidiosis  
salmonella

##### D. Other

nose bots  
internal parasites  
rectal prolapse

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