

Bluetongue in sheep

Know the signs

Bluetongue serotype 3 (BTV-3) is circulating on the eastern side of England. Bluetongue restriction zones spanning several counties are in place to help control further spread of the disease.

Bluetongue is a notifiable disease and must be reported by law. It is important to stay vigilant and report any suspected cases to DAERA immediately, whilst also isolating suspect animals indoors.

Clinical signs to look out for in sheep

- ulcers or sores in the mouth and nose
- discharge from the eyes or nose and drooling from the mouth
- swelling of the lips, tongue, head and neck
- heat and tenderness at the coronary band (where the skin of the leg meets the horn of the foot)

Other clinical signs include:

- inappetence and weight loss
- red skin as a result of blood collecting beneath the surface
- fever
- lameness and reluctance to move
- breathing problems
- abortion, foetal deformities and stillbirths
- death

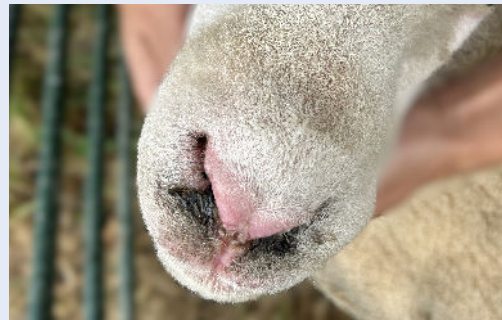
In lambs

Lambs can be infected with bluetongue if the dam is infected while pregnant. Signs of infection include:

- lambs born small, weak, deformed or blind
- death of lambs within a few days of birth
- stillbirths



Ulcers and lesions in the mouth



Nasal redness



Nasal discharge



Recumbent animal

Bluetongue is a disease of animals not humans, so there are no human or public health issues.

If you suspect or detect bluetongue, contact the DAERA help line on 0300 200 7840 or your local DAERA Direct Office. Failure to do so is an offence

Find out more information by visiting:

www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/bluetongue



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'
**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**