



Iceberg Diseases Bulletin #7

Prevention and Controls

Prevention of these diseases is essential, once they are in your flock they can spread rapidly, and with no treatments, can be very difficult to eradicate. If any iceberg diseases are in your flock, there are methods of control that may reduce spread.

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Prevention

- Excellent biosecurity- including secure and/or double fencing
- Maintain a closed flock where possible, test any incoming rams
- Avoid co-grazing with goats

Control

- Artificial rearing of lambs from infected ewes
- Embryo transfer from infected ewes to disease-free recipients
- Hard cull of infected animals
- Split flocks into infected vs. uninfected groups
- Maintain lower stocking density and reduce housing time as much as possible

Ovine Johne's Disease

Prevention

- Avoid co-grazing with cattle or goats
- Maintain a closed flock where possible, test all incoming animals (e.g. rams)
- Avoid grazing lambs on potentially contaminated pastures

Control

- Vaccination of lambs (4-16 weeks)
- Keep excellent hygiene, avoiding faecal contamination of udders etc.
- Test and cull infected sheep, do not keep replacements from infected sheep

Ovine Pulmonary Adenocarcinoma

Prevention

- Excellent biosecurity avoiding any nose-to-nose contact
- Maintain a closed flock where possible, buying from trusted sources only

Control

- Reduce stocking density
- Group sheep by age (protecting younger stock)
- Artificial rearing of lambs from infected ewes
- Scan-and-cull positives



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Caseous Lymphadenitis

Prevention

- Quarantine bought-in stock for at least 2 months to observe for abscess development
- Maintain a closed flock where possible, consider artificial insemination

Control

- Cull animals with confirmed lesions or blood tests
- Thoroughly disinfect areas and equipment used by infected animals
- Surgical drainage can offer some relief and avoid spread of abscess infective material but is not curative. Good cleaning and disinfection afterwards is essential as pus can infect other animals.

Border Disease

Prevention

- Closed flock and excellent biosecurity
- Test all new livestock
- Keep sheep separate from cattle, particularly during pregnancy

Control

- Identify, isolate and remove persistently infected (PI) animals
- Test all abortions and stillbirths
- Disinfect equipment used with PIs.