

Tasmanian Livestock Health Report – October 2022

The Tasmanian Livestock Health Report summarises information on livestock diseases and conditions observed by rural service providers across Tasmania.

See www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/tas-health for previous reports and to register for free email subscription, or join the [Tasmanian Livestock Health Facebook group](#)

Funding is provided by Animal Health Australia (with support from Sheep Producers Australia and WoolProducers Australia) and by NRE. Private veterinarians coordinate the project.

You are welcome to distribute this report to anyone you like. The next Tasmanian Livestock Health Report will be out in mid-December.

If you need more information on this project, please contact Bruce Jackson on 0407 872 520 or rja69392@bigpond.net.au.

Also see the Resources section at the end of this report.

Seasonal Disease Alerts

Barber's pole worm: high worm egg counts due to barber's pole worm have already been recorded in Northern Tasmania. Watch for anaemia (pale gums, conjunctiva), dropping to back of mob when mustered and bottle jaw. Ask for a larval ID if a worm egg count is over 1500 epg.

Footrot and scald: are actively spreading in most areas.

Mycoplasma ovis anaemia: may be seen in lambs about 4 weeks after marking. Leave them alone to recover naturally if possible.

Scabby mouth: in lambs on feet and mouth, may be on ewe's teats as well.

Arthritis in lambs: If you have more than the odd case it may be worth asking your vet about testing for Erysipelas. There is a vaccine for Erysipelas.

Campylobacter in cattle: Consider vaccinating your bulls this year.

Pestivirus in heifers: Consider vaccinating your heifers to prevent pestivirus abortions, stillbirths, 'dummy' calves and poor doers that die before 18 months of age. You may like to talk to your vet about having some blood tests done to see what the herd pestivirus risk profile is.

Flystrike: will ramp up soon. The sheep blowfly gets active as soon as the temperature is over 15 degrees, and due to wet conditions causing dermo and fleece rot, you may see body strike even in short-woolled sheep and lambs.

Pulpy kidney: Make sure lambs get their second vaccination at weaning if going onto rich feed such as clover or lucerne.

Biosecurity story of the month – Toxoplasmosis

There they were, 150 purple tag ewes, well-grown and in good condition, standing in the yards. But something was wrong, they all should have had lambs at foot - they had all been vaccinated with Campyvax and scanned in lamb but many of them did not even have any udder development.

Blood testing showed that most of them were dry because of Toxoplasmosis.

"Toxo" can cause abortion at any stage during pregnancy and full-term lambs can also die soon after birth. Ewe lambs and maidens are most commonly affected but ewes of any age can lose a pregnancy or newborn lamb.

Cats are the main multipliers and spreaders of Toxoplasmosis. The oocysts or 'eggs' are passed in their millions in the faeces of recently infected young cats and contaminate the pasture. A pregnant ewe with no immunity to Toxo grazes that pasture, becomes infected, and then loses that pregnancy. The aborted foetus is readily cleaned up by crows and not often observed by farm staff.

Cats also spread 'Sarco', a disease that produces small white blemishes in muscle that result in sheep carcase trimming and condemnation at the abattoir.

There is no vaccine available in Australia, so the best way to control Toxo is to reduce cat numbers. University of Tasmania research has shown that only 5% of ewes on North Bruny, where there are few feral cats, were positive to the Toxo blood test compared to about 30% of ewes on mainland Tasmania where feral cats are common.

Cat control over small areas is not that effective as cats soon re-invade from the edges so it is best to coordinate a cat control campaign over a number of adjacent farms if possible.

Shooting helps but is best combined with trapping.

John Bowden from the Central Coast is a very successful cat trapper. His tips for trapping cats are:

1. Trap when cats are hungry – late winter before lambing starts - and dispose of carcasses (including game and road kill) so that cats can't get at them.
2. Encourage your neighbours to trap at the same time and keep pet cats inside.
3. Set traps near carcase disposal and rubbish disposal sites, edges of water courses and water bodies, along roads and fence lines, on the edge of bush/pasture interface, around feed stores and sheds. Place the trap partly under bushes if you can.
4. You can 'free feed' for a while before trapping but this is not essential.
5. Use plenty of sturdy cage traps and bait them with freshly fried chicken wings.
6. Bury the floor of the trap in the soil and make sure it won't move and the door can close.
7. Replace the bait every 2 days. Cats are attracted by the scent of the bait.
8. Check the traps every day. Move the traps after a week or so.
9. Cats can be humanely destroyed if trapped on agricultural production land.
10. If your property boundary is within 2 km of a town then cats can stray from the town onto your land. It is best to work with local councils, community leaders and organisations such as Landcare to control the impacts of cats from townships.

After devils were decimated due to devil facial tumour disease, cat and crow numbers shot up due to additional food availability. Routine secure disposal of offal and carcasses (including game, road kill) will limit breeding and young cat survival.

If a stray dog came in and killed some lambs, you would take action to reduce the risk of another dog attack. Do the same for the feral cats that are killing your lambs.

For more information on cat control see:

1. <https://nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/responsible-cat-ownership/roaming-and-nuisance-cats>
2. <https://pestsmart.org.au/pest-animals/glovebox-guides-order-form/>

Bucks for brains

The National Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Surveillance Project (NTSESP) exists to prove to our export partners that Australia is free of diseases like bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE, better known as 'mad cow disease') and scrapie, and this gives our red meat products access to most of our markets.

If you have a sheep between 18 months and 5 years old or a bovine between 30 months and 9 years old, that shows nervous system signs, call your vet. If the animal fits the criteria, it can be euthanased and the brain can be submitted under the scheme. There is an incentive payment (\$100 for sheep, \$300 for cattle) for the producer for each animal accepted under the scheme. In addition, the costs of other tests required to diagnose the disease causing the illness will also be covered, which can be quite significant in some cases.



Diseases and conditions seen in October 2022

| SHEEP | | | | |
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| Disease/condition | Number of reports/cases | Region | Details | Prevention, treatment, and other biosecurity advice or measures |
| Barber's pole worm | Very high post drench capsule payout egg counts in ewes in one large flock. | Northern Tasmania | Worm egg counts over 2,000 epg, ewes looked OK. | See WORMBOSS website for details on diagnosis, control and prevention programs for barber's pole worm. Drench resistance very common, best to do a Drench Test to find out which drenches will still be effective on your property. |
| Black udder in ewes | One ewe in one large flock. | Northern Tasmania | One half of udder goes cold and grey, blood-stained fluid can be milked out of teat. Usually caused by a Staph bacteria. | Acute cases caught early – treat with antibiotic and pain relief under vet supervision. If teat is cold and dead, remove it so toxic fluids can drain. Isolate from flock. A lot of udder tissue will die, can be gently cleaned out and syringed with antiseptic solution and can heal up over time. |
| Bloat in 2-6 week old bottle-fed lambs | One lamb in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Lambs bloat after feeding and may die. Ulceration and rupture of 4 th stomach seen on post mortem. Caused by Sarcina bacterial infection of 4 th stomach causing excess fermentation and ulceration. Can be seen in calves as well. | Can relieve gas distension of 4 th stomach with needle but needs careful placement. Antibiotics added to milk can control the Sarcina infection. Feed milk at room temperature, don't make milk up too rich. |

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| Body condition score low | Widespread | N, NW and Southern Tasmania | Body condition less than BCS 2 | Usually not enough feed. Worms, fluke, OJD, cancer and specific deficiencies and diseases eg footrot may also be involved. |
| Campylobacter abortion | Confirmed in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | There are two types of Campylobacter that cause abortion, this outbreak caused by the "fetus" strain. | A vaccine is available and covers both strains but the course should be completed before joining. Aborting ewes can be run with unmated ewe weaners to give them immunity but vaccination is most reliable prevention. Humans can also be affected so women of child-bearing age should not be exposed to aborting ewes or afterbirth. |
| Cripple | One flock | Southern Tasmania | Variety of possible causes - arthritis, fractures, soft tissue injury eg to ligaments, dog bite etc | Sheep is unable to walk properly and is not fit to load. Euthanasia justified. |
| Dags | Wide-spread | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Due to scouring. | May be due to worms, gut infection (eg Salmonella, Yersinia), coccidia, nutritional factors. Have a WORTEST egg count done and ask the laboratory to culture for Yersinia/Salmonella/Campylobacter if egg counts are low. Check paddock for plants such as capeweed. Crutch and ensure fly prevention program is effective. The Dealing with Dag Advisor Manual is available at www.wool.com/flystrikelatest . |
| Deaths in dry sheep | 6 in one medium flock | Southern Tasmania | Possibly OJD, worms, fluke | Vet investigation would be ideal if freshly dead carcass available. |
| Dermo (lumpy wool) | Low percentage of lambs in two large flocks | Southern Tasmania | Lambs get dermo on muzzle and also seen as wool in hard blocks along topline. | Lamb muzzle lesions will generally heal naturally after weaning. Can treat generalised form with long-acting tetracycline during dry period, wait for 6 weeks and shear. Wool still valuable. Prevent by not yarding sheep when wet to skin. See: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/314320/9819-Lumpy-wool--Primefact-986.pdf |
| Dry ewes at marking | More than 25% dry in one small flock | Northern Tasmania | Could be due to abortion or a number of nutritional, management or disease factors. | Start with bleeding 6-8 wet and 6-8 dry ewes at marking and test for Toxo and Campylobacter. |
| Downer ewe in good condition | One case | Northern Tasmania | Leg and foot problems. | Close examination of joints, ligaments, tendons, feet and a neurological examination if other structures appear normal. Foot-paring, anti-inflammatories under vet supervision, may need to cull if chronic arthritis not responsive to anti-inflammatories. |
| Entropion (turned in eyelids) | Several lambs in one medium flock | Southern Tasmania | Discharge from eye usually detected at marking. Eyelid/s turned inwards and eyelashes rub on cornea. | Some cases will be corrected by simply turning eyelids out the right way. Can inject ½ ml of antibiotic just under skin of eyelid/s to turn eyelashes outwards, Surgery also possible. |
| Foot abscess | Three large flocks and also reported as widespread | Southern and Northern Tasmania | Swelling of one toe, hot, painful and discharge pus in acute stage. May affect all 4 feet | Keep mob average BCS to 3 - 3.3, autumn or pre-lamb shear, reduce interdigital skin injury, walk through 5-10% formalin or 10% zinc footbath weekly. Pare away hoof to allow drainage of pus. Treat with long-acting broad-spectrum antibiotics and anti-inflammatories under vet supervision, keep feet dry eg on slatted floor of shearing |

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| | | | in some cases, but usually one foot. Most in healing stage now. | shed, epsom salts on drainage point and bandage. Ensure fit to load if transported. Pregnancy toxemia is a common sequel in heavily pregnant ewes. |
| Footrot (virulent) | Seen in three large and one medium flock and also reported as widespread | NW, Southern, Northern Tasmania | Spread is well under way on a number of properties | Control by footbathing, use of vaccine. Prepare for eradication next summer by keeping number of infected sheep low. Prevention: Ask for a Sheep Health Declaration when buying sheep and ensure section B1 confirms flock is free of virulent footrot but still footbath quarantine and check feet on arrival. Footbath sheep returning from shows. Maintain good boundary fence. See Ute Guide for Tasmania: https://www.wool.com/globalassets/wool/sheep/welfare/other-husbandry/footrot--a-guide-to-identification-and-control-in-the-field---tas-2019.pdf |
| Footrot, benign (mild, "scald") | Two large flocks | Southern Tasmania | Inflammation between toes but limited under-running of heel and sole of hoof. | Regular footbathing is usually sufficient to control during spread period and usually disappears with dry weather. Small numbers can be treated with antiseptic or antibiotic sprays. Hard to eradicate. |
| Gait abnormal | One aged ewe in one small flock | Northern Tasmania | Legs unstable and cross over when walking | Can be due to joint, ligament or tendon degeneration. Treatment very difficult usually better to euthanase. |
| Hind leg weakness | A number of marked lambs in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Weakness or dragging hind legs, or down, can't use hind legs when lifted. | Usually due to spinal abscess. Infection can get in soon after birth through navel or through marking wounds. Can treat with antibiotics and anti-inflammatories under vet supervision if caught early, but once spinal cord is damaged it takes a very long time to recover. Prevention: poddy lambs - dip umbilical cord in iodine. Good hygiene and removing tails at third joint/level with tip of vulva at marking can reduce the problem. |
| Hogget deaths | Hoggets, scouring and found dead. | Southern Tasmania | May be caused by worms, coccidia, Yersinia, Salmonella, Campylobacter enteritis | Have worm egg count done, ask for coccidia check and culture for Yersinia/Salmonella and Campylobacter if egg counts are low to moderate or have a post mortem done on a sick or freshly dead lamb. |
| Horn growing into head (in-grown horn) | Several wethers in one large mob. | Northern Tasmania | Horn has grown into and damaged the skin. | May result in animal welfare penalties. Horns must be trimmed on-farm. Ask your vet for some embryotomy wire as it allows horn to be removed safely. Prevention: Dehorn lambs so that a margin of haired skin is removed with horn. |
| Lamb marking % low | Two large flocks | Southern Tasmania | Normal benchmark depends on strain and breed of sheep, husbandry conditions and other factors. Previous history on that property not always a good guide. | Abortion (early to mid-term abortion often not observed by managers), neonatal losses (slow birth or large lamb, exposure, mis-mothering etc) are usual causes. Blood sample and test wet & dry ewes at lamb marking and test for Campylobacter and Toxo, micronutrients, review feeding levels and calcium supplementation of ewes in late pregnancy. |
| Lambs hard to finish | Prime lambs in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Lambs grew slowly and took a long time to finish. | Could be due to Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae pneumonia, constant worm challenge from heavily contaminated pastures, micronutrient deficiency, especially selenium if on legumes. Your veterinarian can do testing. |
| Lameness | Widespread, particularly in older rams. | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Reluctant to bear full weight on at least one foot. | Could be footrot, scald, foot abscess, scabby mouth of feet, strawberry footrot, injuries, toe abscess, laminitis, standing on concrete surfaces too long. Identify cause and treat accordingly. |

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| Mycoplasma ovis anaemia in lambs | Deaths of lambs at marking in one large flock. Suspected in another flock in unmarked lamb. | Southern Tasmania | Usually seen several weeks after marking, can be at marking. Lambs can't walk far when mustered, pale gums, deaths. | Bug spread by marking equipment or insects destroys red blood cells resulting in anaemia. Lambs will recover if left alone on good feed and water for 4-6 weeks. Can treat all lambs in mob with oxytetracycline antibiotic under vet supervision if have to be yarded. |
| Nasal discharge, purulent, both nostrils | Several sheep in several flocks | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Can be due to viral or bacterial infections | If sheep are bright and alert no action required. If depressed, laboured breathing, deaths, veterinary advice should be sought. |
| Nasal discharge, bloody, one side only | Two lambs in two medium mobs | Northern Tasmania | Blood seen running from one nostril. | Could be injury or foreign body (eg a stick or grass stalk) caught in the nostril. Examine closely. Rest and re-examine. |
| Newborn lamb deaths | Excess deaths in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Newborn lambs found dead in lambing paddock | Can be due to diseases such as Toxo or Campylobacter, or can be due to slow birth, mis-mothering, exposure etc. Lamb post mortems can help identify causes and solutions. |
| Ovine Johnes' disease (OJD) | Thirty wethers died or destroyed in one large flock over a year | Southern Tasmania | Adult sheep over 2 yrs old waste away over several months and die despite drenching. | Quickest diagnosis is by post mortem. Prevent by vaccinating lambs at marking with Gudair vaccine. If confirmed present in the flock, cull any sheep over 18 months of age that waste away and don't respond to drenching. See factsheet on: http://www.ojd.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/OJD_factsheet.pdf |
| Photosensitisation | A number of lambs in one large flock. Scars seen in older sheep. | Southern and Northern Tasmania | Skin peels off face and ears and even legs in severe cases. Mainly ears in this case. Older sheep have areas of wool loss and ears shortened. | Blood sample for liver damage check, spore count pasture for Pithomyces (Facial Eczema) spores, check water for blue-green algae, poisonous plants and pigment plants (eg storksbill, medics). Treat with anti-inflammatories, antibiotics if necessary (under vet supervision), offer deep shade, move to new paddock. Older sheep with scars – make sure they always have access to shade or cull. |
| Pneumonia | One lamb in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Incidental finding on post mortem. | This one just on outer surface of lungs. Antibiotic treatment of affected lambs under vet supervision if caught early. Reduce any stress factors. See https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/NSHMP-Pneumonia-Pleurisy.pdf |
| Scabby Mouth | Small % of lambs at marking in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Crusts and raw areas on lips, sometimes on feet and on the ewe's teats as well. | Caused by a tough virus that persists on a property once introduced, but skin injury is needed to allow virus to establish. Best left to heal on their own. Can prevent with vaccine at marking. See: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/179835/sheep-health-scabby-mouth.pdf |
| Scour in ewes and prime lambs | Widespread | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Can be due to worms, coccidia, Cryptosporidia, Giardia, E coli bacterial gut infection, nutritional factors. | Worms most common cause. WORMTEST or drench and see if they respond. Check for sudden diet change to lush feed, plants such as capeweed. May need veterinary involvement if there are deaths, low growth rates. |
| Scouring with low egg counts | Weaners in one large flock | Southern Tasmania | Egg counts zero | Possibly dietary – low dry matter content in pasture or plants such as capeweed, also could be E coli, coccidia, Yersinia, Salmonella, Campylobacter enteritis, micronutrient deficiencies as well and may respond to Sulpha drugs or antibiotics under vet supervision. Can also |

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| | | | | be immature worm infestation not yet producing eggs. Use effective drench or repeat worm egg count in 2 weeks. |
| Shelly toe | 10% of one mob | NW Tasmania | Curved separation of hoof wall from sole up hoof wall near front of hoof. | Conformational defect rather than a disease condition. Is heritable and can be selected against. Best to pare off under-run hoof wall as dirt and manure can pack into the cleft and cause a form of toe abscess. |
| Spinal abscess | About 1% of marked lambs in one large flock. | Southern Tasmania | Weak or paralysed hind legs or found down | Diagnosed at post mortem. Can be associated with short tail length or local anaesthetic injection into tail at marking. Use good hygiene at marking and remove tails at third joint/level with tip of vulva. |
| Stillbirths | One medium flock | NW Tasmania | Slow birth due to ewe factors or large lambs. Campylobacter, Listeria or Toxo could also be involved. | Best diagnosis is to submit 5 aborted lambs to lab for diagnosis, can take bloods from ewes for Toxo and Campy testing about 2 weeks later. Review feeding levels and calcium supplementation of ewes in third trimester |
| Toxoplasma abortions | 60-80% of dry ewes bled at marking in 2 large flocks showed evidence of recent Toxo abortion | Southern Tasmania | Ewes scanned in lamb but dry at marking, abortions or lamb deaths soon after birth. | Toxo is spread by cats. For control strategies see: https://sheepconnecttasmania.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/sc-factsheet-no10-toxoplasmosis_lr.pdf |
| Vaginal prolapse | A number of ewes in one large flock and also 1 ewe in one medium flock. | Southern Tasmania | Pink mass protrudes from vulva in late pregnant ewes and also sometimes after lambing. Ewes bearing multiples more commonly affected. | Treat: Give 1/5 pack of 4-in-1 calcium under skin. There are plastic devices that can be inserted and also straps or harness that can be used once the prolapse has been replaced. If post lambing, vet can replace and insert a stitch to keep it in. Prevention: Remove tails at third joint (tip of vulva) when marking ewe lambs, keep pregnant ewes (especially twin-bearing ewes) on flatter ground in last few weeks of pregnancy, keep BCS 3 to 3.3. Don't feed salt or swedes in last 1/3 of pregnancy. Offer hay if on low dry matter feed. Shear in last third of pregnancy. Maintain steady body weight from start of mating to scanning. See https://www.fwi.co.uk/livestock/husbandry/livestock-lambing/step-step-guide-dealing-vaginal-prolapse-sheep for a guide on replacing vaginal prolapse in ewes. |
| Wool break | A small number of sheep in several flocks | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Wool staples easily pulled apart. Whole fleece may fall out. | Any stress can weaken the wool fibre as it grows. Individual sheep may lose fleece after acute infection eg mastitis, whole mobs can have 'tender wool' after nutritional restriction or disease outbreak (eg heavy worm infestation) events. |
| Wool loss over hocks | Small number of sheep in one large flock | Northern Tasmania | Thinning of wool over hocks. | Possibly a reaction to substances in manure or urine. |
| Worms | Widespread | Northern, Southern Tasmania | Worms can be diagnosed by scouring, anaemia, poor weight gain which respond to drenching, or by WORMTEST with or without larval identification, | Trichostrongylus (black scour worm) numbers still high now and do a lot of damage. See WORMBOSS at: http://www.wormboss.com.au/sheep-goats/programs/sheep.php Drench resistance suspected in some cases. See WORMBOSS to see how to conduct a DrenchCheck or DrenchTest. |

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| | | | or total worm count at post mortem. | |
| CATTLE | | | | |
| Abscess | One calf in one medium herd | Southern Tasmania | Swelling over thigh, lameness | Surgical drainage and antibiotics/anti-inflammatories usually effective if no crucial structures have been damaged by the infection. See your veterinarian. |
| “Bottle” teat | One cow from one large beef herd | Southern Tasmania | Teat too large for calf to get into mouth often resulting in mastitis in that quarter. | Check cows at marking or weaning and cull. |
| Chorioptic mange | Widespread | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Hair loss around tail head and flanks, shoulders. Rough scaly skin. Diagnosis by skin scraping. | Most cases should recover over the next month or so.. A number of registered treatments are available including ML drenches and pour-ons. |
| Corkscrew claws both hind feet | One bull in one large herd | Southern Tasmania | Outside claws on both hind feet grow up off ground in corkscrew shape. | This bull walked well on soft ground but very lame on hard surfaces because he was walking on his heels. Genetic cause. Cull. |
| Grass tetany (hypomagnesaemia) | Two cows in one medium herd | Southern Tasmania | Week before to 4 weeks after calving. Found dead or down, hyper-excitable. | Treat with 4-in-1 packs under skin. Prevention: Feed Causmag on hay in the last week before calving starts and during calving especially if potash and nitrogen fertilisers have been used on grass dominant pastures. Don't let cows get overfat - calve cows down in condition score 2.5 to 3. Link: https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-biosecurity/grass-tetany-beef-cattle-prevention-and-treatment#:~:text=Grass%20tetany%20is%20a%20highly,Angus%20cattle%20and%20their%20crosses. |
| Jaundice | A number of calves from a number of herds | NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania | Breakdown of foetal haemoglobin and other possible causes. | May cause condemnation of carcase at abattoir. |
| Mastitis in cow. | One case in one beef herd, a number of cases in a dairy herd | Northern and Southern Tasmania | Udder or milk abnormal. The beef cow only affected in one quarter due to bottle teat. | Antibiotics via teat canal or by injection. See https://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/en/animal-management-and-milk-quality/mastitis-and-milk-quality#.YFq2Z68zY2w |
| Scour in cows | A number of cows in one large beef herd | Southern Tasmania | Most likely dietary but could be worms, viral or bacterial infection. | Treat with broad spectrum drench and offer hay. May require antibiotics under vet supervision and/or rehydration if severe. |
| Vibrio (Campylobacter) | One large herd. | Southern Tasmania | Bacterial infection spread by bulls. Causes | Vaccinate bulls, complete course 4 weeks prior to joining. Vaccinate females as well for first few years and then test 10 empty cows at preg test. If exposure to unvaccinated bulls is likely vaccinate females routinely in long term. See |

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| | | | return to service and abortions. | https://www.mla.com.au/research-and-development/animal-health-welfare-and-biosecurity/diseases/reproductive/vibriosis/ |
| Sudden death, possible liver damage | 2 cows in one large herd. | Northern Tasmania | Unlikely to be caused by ABLD, Facial Eczema or black disease at this time of year, plant poisoning possible. | Have post mortem carried out by vet. |
| ALPACAS and CAMELS | | | | |
| NIL this month | | | | |
| GOATS | | | | |
| Nil this month | | | | |
| PIGS | | | | |
| Nil this month | | | | |
| POULTRY | | | | |
| Nil this month | | | | |

Resources

Farm biosecurity plans

Everything you need to know about farm biosecurity, for example to make a biosecurity plan for LPA accreditation, can be found on: <https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/>

Animal health declarations

Provide an animal health declaration when selling sheep, cattle, goats and camelids, and ask to see declarations when purchasing or moving these animals onto your property. See: <https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/toolkit/declarations-and-statements/>

Livestock Data Link (LDL) allows you to access information on carcass data, diseases and conditions detected in your sheep at slaughter through the National Sheep Health Monitoring Project. See: <https://www.integritysystems.com.au/globalassets/isc/pdf-files/ldl-pdf-files/about-livestock-data-link.pdf> for more details.

Report any suspicion of an Emergency Animal Disease

Report any suspicion of an Emergency Animal Disease, especially slobbering/lameness in ruminants and pigs, sudden death in multiple pigs, to your vet or the Hotline on 1800 675 888. Early detection is critical if eradication is to be successful.

Comply with the Ruminant Feed Ban

Protect access to our export markets by never feeding animal protein such as meat meal to any ruminant including sheep, cattle, goats, deer and alpacas. See: <https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/australian-ruminant-feed-ban/>

Maintain market access through strong tracing systems

Use NVDs and NLIS tags properly so that animals can be 'contact traced' quickly if there is an outbreak of an Emergency Animal Disease or a chemical residue problem. Especially important to list all PICs on NLIS tags in sale mobs of sheep on the NVD. See:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/agriculture/animal-industries/identifying-selling-moving-livestock>

If you have pigs, don't feed them swill

Check whether waste food you want to feed to pigs is "swill" or not. Swill which contains food from overseas can introduce devastating diseases such as foot and mouth disease or African swine fever into Tasmania. For more detail see:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/animal-health/pigs/swill-feeding>

Never feed raw untreated offal or sheep meat to dogs or cats.

Untreated offal from sheep, goats, cattle and pigs may spread hydatids if fed to dogs. Sheep offal or sheep meat may spread diseases such as hydatids, sheep measles and bladder worm in sheep if fed to dogs, or Toxoplasma and Sarco if fed to cats. See:

<https://sheepconnecttas.com.au/disease-factsheets/>

Bucks for Brains

If you have a sheep or cow showing neurological (nervous) signs you may be able to claim a subsidy for a post mortem investigation (https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Bucks-for-Brains_Jun16_WEB.pdf)

Maintaining Tasmania's export markets:

Information from these reports may be used to help convince our overseas trading partners that we don't have certain livestock diseases that they are concerned about, thus keeping our valuable export markets open and stopping risky imports coming in. For example, Tasmania exported approximately \$100 million worth of sheep meats and wool in 2019-20. See:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/agriculture/facts-figures/tasmanian-agri-food-scorecards>

The National Sheep Industry Biosecurity Strategy

The National Sheep Industry Biosecurity Strategy lies at the core of this program, see:

www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/nsibs

Phone A Vet

A telemedicine app that caters for production animals. Download the app from your usual provider. Can use video, photos, texting, you can select your vet. Experienced sheep, cattle, goat, camelid and pig vets are available. See: <https://www.phoneavet.com.au/>