Tasmanian Livestock Health Report – April 2023

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-June.

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

Acute bovine liver disease (ABLD): don't place cattle on paddocks that have a lot of rough dog's tail weed in them. Best to graze out with sheep first.
Barber's pole worm: there have been reports of barber's pole worm from all around the state including the South-east and North-east. Watch for anaemia (pale gums, conjunctiva), dropping to back of mob when mustered, bottle jaw, sudden deaths. Ask for a larval ID if a worm egg count is over 1500 epg.
Black scour worms: high egg counts have been seen and the risk will increase over winter. Monthly worm egg counts especially on irrigated pastures should be worth doing.
Footrot and scald: are spreading in many areas.
Flystrike: Is still occurring in most areas. The sheep blowfly gets active as soon as the temperature is over 15 degrees.
Pulpy kidney: Make sure lambs get their second vaccination at weaning if going onto rich feed such as clover or lucerne. Some may even need a third vaccination.
Lucerne red gut: seen as sudden death with a very bloated carcase on irrigated lucerne or clover. Offering roughage such as hay or straw or alternating between pasture and the lucerne/clover can help prevent cases.
Nematodirus: Seen as scouring and poor growth rates in lambs. Nematodirus egg counts often do not reflect the worm burden inside the weaner.
Liver fluke: immature fluke are migrating through the liver now, so make sure Black Disease (5 or 6 in one) vaccination is up to date. Eggs should be showing up in Fluketests now.
Pneumonia and pleurisy: are showing up in abattoir reports, slowing prime lamb growth rates and resulting in trimming at the abattoir. Look at: https://www.integritysystems.com.au/globalassets/isc/pdf-files/ldl-pdf-files/about-livestock-data-link.pdf to see if there is any data on your lambs processed this season.
Weaned lamb scours: If lambs are scouring and worm egg counts are zero or very low then coccidia, Yersinia or Campylobacter gut infection could be involved; consult with your vet on best options for treatment.

Biosecurity story of the month – *Mycoplasma bovis.*

Mycoplasma bovis is a type of bacteria that causes significant disease in cattle but can be hard to grow on an agar plate in a laboratory, so the diagnosis can sometimes be missed unless the person sending the samples to the laboratory requests Mycoplasma testing. Therefore, this

disease is probably more common than generally recognised. Even so, we believe that most Tasmanian beef and dairy herds are still free of the disease.

M. bovis can cause abortion, mastitis, arthritis, illthrift, ear infection/head tilt in calves, eye disease that looks like Pink Eye and pneumonia. It seems to be able to bubble away in a cattle herd and then, when triggered by stress such as road or sea transport, cause a severe outbreak.

While the bacteria can live in the environment for a short while, it is mainly spread by carrier cattle that do not show any signs of disease, and it is a disease worth keeping out of your herd. New Zealand is trying to eradicate the disease from the national cattle herd.

There are blood and milk (including bulk milk vat) tests for *M. bovis* so you can have tests done to check whether your herd is already infected. If your herd is free, you can make sure all introduced cattle are isolated, tested, and not mixed with resident cattle until cleared.

Other measures that reduce the risk of nose-to-nose contact with neighbour's cattle are also worth considering. Sharing cattle equipment, trading colostrum and using semen that has not been tested can also spread the disease. Measures taken to keep *M. bovis* out will also reduce the risks of introduction of other diseases as well.

If you see signs as described above in your cattle, ask your vet to rule out *M. bovis.* If it is found, you could consider eradication.

"The price of freedom is constant vigilance".

Farm Biosecurity Apps

If you want to know who is coming and going, warn visitors of risks and areas to avoid without spending your whole day on your mobile, you may like to consider an app that combines with a QR code on your farm entrances. See: https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/biosecurity-at-your-fingertips/

animalhealth AUSTRALIA

Tasmanian Government

Diseases and conditions seen in April 2023

SHEEP				
Disease/condition	**Number of reports/ cases**	**Region**	**Details**	**Prevention, treatment, and other biosecurity advice or measures**
Arthritis infectious	One lamb in one flock	Southern Tasmania	Seen as lameness and swollen joints. Whole leg will usually be removed at slaughter, often making carcase worthless or dropping it	This one had "joint mice", small balls of cartilage, in the joint. Removing tails at the third joint (level with tip of vulva in ewe lambs) at marking helps prevent many cases. Early antibiotic treatment of lame lambs may work (consult with your vet). If Erysipelas is diagnosed in the flock, then use Erysipelas vaccine. See fact sheet on: https://sheepconnecttas.com.au/disease-factsheets/

			into a lower price grade on the grid.	
Barbers pole worm	Widespread	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Sudden death, no scouring, pale gums, bottle jaw, very high egg counts.	See WORMBOSS website for details on diagnosis, control and prevention programs.
Bottle jaw	One ewe in one large flock.	Southern Tasmania	Bottle jaw usually caused by Barber's Pole Worm (Haemonchus) or liver fluke but if only one sheep over 2yo could be OJD.	Diagnosis by post mortem (Barber's Pole worms easily seen in 4th stomach, liver fluke can be squeezed out of cut section of liver, thickened lower small intestine seen with OJD) or WORMTEST/FLUKETEST (manure sample test). Treat with effective drench.
Coccidiosis in weaned lambs.	About 30% of weaned lambs in two large flocks.	Southern Tasmania	Scouring with low worm egg count but high coccidia count and response to sulpha treatment.	Usually respond well to sulpha drugs under veterinary supervision. Prevention by good nutrition and don't allow lambs to concentrate on damp areas in paddock.
Cud stain	Two ewes in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Green stain around mouth.	Various possible causes but grass seed damage to tongue or mouth suspected here. A rare parasite that gets into the lining of the throat can also be responsible.
Cysticercosis ("bladder worm")	Detected at abattoir in 1.1% of lamb carcases.	NW, Southern and Northern Tasmania.	Seen as small clear bags of fluid attached to liver or elsewhere in abdominal cavity of sheep at abattoir. Causes liver to be trimmed or condemned. Spread by a dog tapeworm.	Prevented by stopping dogs from eating sheep offal and/or by treating all dogs including pets with a wormer containing praziquantel every 30 days. Visiting dogs (contractors, shooters) must be treated at least 2 days before arrival on property. Keep stray dogs off the property. These measures also prevent sheep measles and hydatids. See fact sheet on: https://sheepconnecttas.com.au/disease-factsheets/
Downer ewes post yarding	Two ewes in one small mob	Northern Tasmania	May have been due to weed ingestion, low blood calcium, injuries, ryegrass stagers	Give 1/5 pack of calcium injection under skin, place of soft bedding, feed and water, good nursing.
Drooped ears oozing yellow fluid	A number of ewes in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Probably photosensitisation but "swelled head", a Clostridial disease, also possible.	Give access to deep shade, treat with antibiotics and anti-inflammatories under veterinary supervision. Review vaccination program.
Fleece derangement	Several rams on one property	Southern Tasmania	Wool staples hanging out from surface of fleece.	Usually body lice but can also be itch mite, grass seeds, shedding genetics etc.
Flystrike prevention chemical failure	Suspected in two large flocks	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Sheep were struck within the label claim	Maggots should be collected and sent to NSW blowfly resistance research unit at EMAI. There are other possible reasons for failure – excessive rainfall, poor application technique, wrong dose rate etc

			protection period.	
Fly strike	Many cases	Wide- spread in Northern NW and Southern Tasmania.	Mostly breech strike but some body strike too.	Identify and correct causes of scouring. Chemical preventative treatments or frequent inspection and early treatment of strikes. See https://www.wool.com/sheep/welfare/breech-flystrike/flystrikeresources/ for comprehensive information on treatment and control.
Footrot, virulent	Six individual reports plus reported as widespread	NW, Southern, Northern Tasmania	Low % on properties that have not had significant rainfall or have vaccinated but very active spread on others.	Too late to try to eradicate this summer by repeated foot inspections and culling of infected sheep. Footbathing and vaccination, paring, culling "chronics" that don't respond to treatment will help. Long acting oxytetracycline antibiotics under veterinary supervision can be effective if paddock conditions are very dry. 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 (intermediate)	One large flock	Northern Tasmania	Under -running of hoof horn only extends part way up the sole of the hoof. Can be eradicated but causes less production loss than virulent footrot.	Paring, footbathing, culling chronic cases, use of vaccine. Eradication by repeated foot inspections and culling all infected sheep can be executed next summer. Ensure culls fit to load if transported. Prevention: Ask for a Sheep Health Declaration when buying sheep and ensure section B1 confirms flock is free of virulent footrot but still footbath and check feet on arrival. 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")	A number of sheep in one medium flock.	Southern Tasmania	Inflammation between toes but less than 2mm of under-running of heel of hoof.	Regular footbathing is usually sufficient to control during spread period and usually disappears with dry weather. Hard to eradicate.
Hooves overgrown	A number of sheep in one medium flock	Northern Tasmania	Toe of hoof very long, can curl up. Soft ground, scald and footrot can be underlying causes.	Regular trimming. Control scald/footrot if present.
Lameness	A number of sheep on two properties	NW 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.
Leg fracture	One case in one flock	Southern Tasmania	This sheep had broken the shin bone.	Broken bones in sheep heal well if skin unbroken, but must be splinted properly. Must have padding between splint and leg, splint must extend one joint above and one joint below the break. Antibiotic cover and pain relief under veterinary supervision.
Lice (body lice)	A number of cases reported.	Southern Tasmania.	Sheep body lice cause fleece damage. Check for 2mm long insects with broad reddish head moving slowly away	See LICEBOSS: http://www.liceboss.com.au/sheep-goats/ for a full practical guide to managing and preventing sheep body lice. Use Sheep Health Declaration when buying sheep.

			from light by parting wool 10 times down each side of 10 sheep.	
Lumpy wool (dermo)	Widespread	Southern and Northern Tasmania	Wool in hard blocks along topline.	Can treat with long-acting oxytetracycline under veterinary supervision during dry period, wait for 6 weeks and shear. Wool still valuable. Prevent by not yarding sheep when wet to skin.
Ocular (eye) discharge, clear, one eye	Two ewes in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Most likely barley grass seed, but could be Pink Eye.	Grass seeds should be removed from eye as soon as possible and an eye antiseptic applied. Control barley grass with intensive rotational grazing, herbicide or topping.
Pink eye	A small number of outbreaks this month in several flocks	Southern Tasmania	Discharge down cheeks, white areas on cornea of eye. Usually spread by flies, long grass and close contact (eg yarding)	If low prevalence and on good feed and water leave alone to self-heal as yarding can increase spread within mob. Treat with antibiotic injections under veterinary supervision if more than 25% of mob affected. Eye ointments/sprays less effective.
Pivot wheel deaths	Several lambs in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Lambs found dead in pivot wheel ruts.	Often crossbred lambs at night. No preventions available at present.
Pleurisy	Detected at abattoir in 1.1% of lamb carcases	NW, Southern and Northern Tasmania	Lungs stuck to chest wall. Usually results in major trimming.	Treat sick sheep with cough or respiratory distress with antibiotics under veterinary supervision. Try to avoid stress events, drench sheep carefully, avoid dusty feedstuffs.
Rams not working	A number of rams in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Rams isolate themselves from ewes during joining	Ewes may not be cycling, dominant rams may have intimidated less dominant rams, or rams may have poor libido.
Ryegrass staggers	Affecting mainly young sheep but also some mature ewes on a number of properties, quite widespread.	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Usually young sheep - tremors, abnormal gait, may become downers, may convulse when disturbed. Often seek water and drown in dams. Can have high mortality.	See https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/animal-health/sheep/perennial-ryegrass-staggers for details on diagnosis treatment and prevention.
Sarcosporidia ("Sarco")	Detected at abattoir in 0.5% of lamb/hogget carcases.	NW, Southern and Northern Tasmania	Small 'rice grain' whitish raised lesions on outside of food pipe (oesophagus), diaphragm and in skeletal muscles. Carcase trimmed or condemned.	Spread by cats. Takes a long time to grow so not usually seen in lambs. Deny cats access to sheep meat, burn or bury carcasses promptly, eradicate feral cats over large area. See fact sheet on: https://sheepconnecttas.com.au/disease-factsheets/

Selenium deficiency	Two large flocks	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Detected by blood or liver testing.	Deficiency is widespread in Northern and Southern Tasmania and the Bass strait Islands. Deficiency can cause white muscle disease (usually in lambs), newborn lamb deaths, slow growth rates in young sheep, reduced immunity to footrot and other diseases, reduced fertility. See factsheet: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0016/111355/Selenium-deficiency-in-sheep.pdf
Sheep measles	Detected at abattoir in 0.7% of lamb carcases.	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Small whitish nodule in the heart, diaphragm or skeletal muscle. Carcase is trimmed or condemned.	Intermediate stage of a dog tapeworm. Prevented by stopping dogs from eating raw sheep meat. Freeze sheep carcase meat for 2 weeks before feeding to dogs, burn/bury sheep carcases promptly and treat all dogs including pets with a wormer containing praziquantel every 30 days. Visiting dogs (contractors, shooters) must be treated 2 days before arrival on property. Keep stray dogs off the property. See fact sheet on https://sheepconnecttas.com.au/disease-factsheets/
Shelly toe	A number of sheep in one large flock	Northern 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.
Skin cancer	Two sheep in one small flock	Southern Tasmania	Cancers usually on ear, nose, eye, tail or vulva.	Veterinarian can remove early cancers. Provide shade, leave some skin along top of tail when mulesing.
Sudden deaths on irrigated lucerne	Widespread	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Lambs found dead and blown up.	No postmortem so these deaths could be due to 'lucerne red gut', pulpy kidney, frothy bloat, acute Salmonella or plant poisoning. Give third PK vaccination or use 8-in-one, provide roughage eg hay or cereal straw.
Scours in lambs with zero egg count	Weaned lambs in one large cross bred flock	Southern Tasmania	Lambs have low worm egg counts or have been drenched with a known effective drench but are scouring	Cause can be coccidia, Yersinia or Campylobacter gut infections. See your veterinarian for diagnosis and treatment.
Tapeworm	One large flock	Northern Tasmania	Tape worm segments (large rice grain size) seen in dung	Most scientific studies show that sheep tapeworms do not affect growth rates so drenching for tapeworms may not be justified. Are thought to slow passage of food through intestines and pre-dispose to pulpy kidney, so ensure that vaccination is up to date.
Tendon injury	One ram in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Extensor tendon severed by wire cut on front of hind leg. Back foot folded under.	If found early, tendon can be stitched and leg splinted. If an older injury the tendon will have contracted and stuck to other tissues so leg should be splinted with foot in correct position.
Wool break	One ewe in one large flock	Northern 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 or stress eg mastitis or difficult lambing, whole mobs can have 'tender wool' after nutritional restriction or disease outbreak (eg heavy worm infestation) events.
Worms	Generally worm egg counts low to moderate except for some high counts associated with	NW, Northern, Southern Tasmania	Worms can be diagnosed by scouring, anaemia, poor weight gain which respond to drenching, or by WORMTEST	See WORMBOSS at: http://www.wormboss.com.au/sheep-goats/programs/sheep.php

	suspected barbers pole worm. Large bowel worm and black scour worm also showing up in larval ID tests.		with or without larval identification, or total worm count at post mortem.	
Yersinia enteritis	Weaners in two large flocks	Southern Tasmania	Scouring and low growth rates. Coccidia also involved.	Differentiate from worms or coccidia etc by WORMTEST and ask lab to culture for Yersinia/Campylobacter/Salmonella as well. Lab can advise which antibiotics should work. Treat scouring animals under veterinary supervision. Some stress factor is usually present (eg recent weaning, poor access to water, worms etc) and should be corrected if possible.
CATTLE				
Blindness and deaths in newborn calves	5% of a large mob of imported cows	Northern Tasmania	No lab diagnosis. Sounds most like Pestivirus	Cows can be tested for Pestivirus and vaccine used if not already immune.
Bottle jaw	One heifer in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Soft swelling under jaw	May be caused by any condition that lowers blood protein. This one due to liver fluke.
Corneal damage	Two bulls imported into one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Cloudy cornea (front of eye) and possibly deeper structures of eye plus some clear discharge.	Isolate until discharge has ceased. Be aware bulls may have limited vision on that side when handling.
Dystocia (difficult birth)	1 heifer in one herd	Southern Tasmania	Calf not delivered within 3 hours of start of birth process.	Heifers should generally be 300kg+ at mating and grow at up to 1 kg per day in last third of pregnancy. Need to be observed frequently over calving period. Assist if no progress after 3 hours.
Dystocia due to uterine torsion (twisted uterus)	1 heifer in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Calf not delivered within 3 hours of start of birth process, twist felt on internal examination.	Sometimes casting the heifer and rolling on back will 'undo' the twist.
Dystocia due to incomplete cervical dilation ('ringwomb')	1 heifer in one herd	Southern Tasmania	If cervix is not fully dilated wait an hour and re-examine.	If not fully dilated after an hour call a veterinarian.
Fetlock enlarged, lame	One steer in one medium herd and one cow in a large herd	Southern Tasmania	Fetlock enlarged, fibrous scar tissue present after foot abscess treatment	Some of these will slowly become less painful over time. Anti-inflammatory drugs under veterinary supervision may help.
Fetlock strain	One bull in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Lame, a little swelling and pain in one fetlock	Anti-inflammatories under veterinary supervision and rest.

Horn broken	One steer in one small mob	Northern Tasmania	Horn broken but still attached to head	Complete dehorning, taking a margin of haired skin around the base. If the animal is over 6 months old pain relief must be used.
Liver fluke	One heifer with bottle jaw in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Liver fluke detected by blood test in this case, no eggs in manure.	Strategic treatments in autumn and late winter with effective flukicides depending on challenge. Keep stock off areas where fluke snail survives (dam edges, lagoons, areas that flood in spring) from November to July if possible. Sheep run on same areas will also need treatment. See; https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/114691/liver-fluke-disease-in-sheep-and-cattle.pdf
Nasal discharge	A number of weaner cattle in 10 herds	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Some clear discharge, many 'snotty'. Could be caused by a number of respiratory viruses and bacterial infections or allergy.	If animal is otherwise bright and alert, just keep under observation. If any other signs of ill-health use antibiotics under veterinary supervision.
Ocular (eye) discharge (clear, watery) from one eye	One weaner from one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	Usually grass seed or an injury or foreign body if just one eye.	Examine for foreign bodies and remove. Observe again later to make sure Pink Eye is not developing.
Ocular (eye) discharge (clear, watery) both eyes	A number of weaners from a number of different herds	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Can be part of a respiratory infection, or caused by an irritant such as pollen, dust etc but can also be first stage of Pink Eye.	May not be possible to remove from irritants. Observe again later to make sure Pink Eye or respiratory disease is not developing.
Ostertagia (brown stomach worm)	One heifer in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Sub-optimal growth rates.	Ostertagia worms are poor egg layers so faecal egg counts may not be high. Use an effective drench. Long-acting products should be administered to weaner cattle in winter to prevent inhibited larvae accumulating in lining of 4th stomach and causing type 2 Ostertagiasis next autumn. Inhibited form causes that can later cause type 2 Ostertagiasis do not produce eggs and can only be detected with a blood test
Pestivirus	Empty heifers in one large beef herd.	Northern Tasmania	Pestivirus can cause early resorption of foetus, abortions, stillbirths and permanently infected (PI) runt calves that grow poorly and usually die by 18 months of age	Herd status can be assessed by blood tests or milk tests. PI animals can be detected by blood or skin sample tests. Control programs based on vaccination or exposure to PI before mating. For more information see: https://www.mla.com.au/research-and- https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0015/226041/Bovine-pestivirus-infection.pdf Use a Cattle Health Declaration to ensure you know status of cattle (including bulls) that you buy: https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/National-Cattle-Health-Declaration.pdf
Ringworm	Small number of weaners in two herds	Northern Tasmania	Scaley circular areas of hair loss usually around head and neck.	Usually heal up eventually if left alone. Antifungal ointments or iodine can be rubbed into lesions. Can spread to man so precautions must be taken.

Ryegrass staggers	Wide-spread	Northern Tasmania	Usually more severe in young cattle - tremors, abnormal gait, may become downers, may convulse when disturbed. Often seek water and drown in dams. Can have mortalities.	See https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/animal-health/sheep/perennial-ryegrass-staggers for details on diagnosis treatment and prevention. Feed with additives to absorb the ryegrass toxin in the rumen may be worth a try.
Scour in young cattle	A high percentage of weaners in three herds	Northern Tasmania	Two herds in good condition, one with thin calves. Most likely worms or dietary but could be viral or bacterial infection.	Treat with broad spectrum drench and offer hay. May require antibiotics and/or rehydration if severe.
Sheath inflammation in bull	One bull in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Can be due to Infectious Rhino-tracheitis (IBR) virus	This one was dropping inner lining in and out. No treatment attempted as not severe and should resolve inflammation naturally.
Selenium deficiency	One medium herd	Southern Tasmania	History of low growth rate etc combined with low blood or liver levels.	Deficiency is widespread in Northern and Southern Tasmania and the Bass strait Islands. Deficiency can cause white muscle disease (rare but does occur in calves), slow growth rates in young cattle, reduced immunity to diseases, reduced fertility, faded coat colour. Young cattle don't always grow faster under treatment even when blood selenium levels are low, so only treat if there is a production deficit. See https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/feeding-nutrition/selenium-deficiency-cattle
Stifle injury	One cow in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Ligaments probably torn and joint surfaces probably damaged.	Cull, or euthanase if not fit to load.
Sudden death	Four weaners in one medium herd.	Southern Tasmania	May be caused by pulpy kidney, ABLD, blackleg, plant poisoning, bloat, Anthrax.	Best to have postmortem carried out. Ensure Clostridial vaccination up to date, check for poisonous plants, legumes. If blood from nose/mouth/anus could be anthrax so contact vet or ring hotline on 1800 675 888. In this case Rough Dogs Tail was present in the paddock so Acute Bovine Liver Disease (ABLD) suspected.
Upper respiratory tract obstruction	One cow in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Making snoring sounds with each breath, head extended, poor condition, scar tissue around windpipe in upper neck	This one appeared to be due to scar tissue after an infection/abscess so was euthanased.
Warts	A small number of weaners in two herds.	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Small cauliflower-like growth anywhere on body but often around head.	Usually only seen in young cattle. Will normally self-cure if left alone. A vaccine can be made up if warts persist or are very extensive.

ALPACAS and CAMELS				
No reports				
GOATS				
Leg swelling	Several weaned kids in one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Worm egg counts low so barbers pole worm unlikely.	Seemed to respond to antibiotics under veterinary supervision so may be infection
Listeria	Three male goats on one property	Northern Tasmania	Goats may have head tilt, walk in circles, die. Often associated with silage or brassica bulb feeding.	This case associated with feeding silage. Remove from offending feed. Treat early with antibiotics under veterinary supervision but often unsuccessful.
Worms	One goat one herd	Southern Tasmania	Scouring, losing weight	Confirm with egg count. Treat with drenches registered for goats or off-label as per vet's instructions.
PIGS				
Nil this month				

POULTRY				
Nil this month				

Resources

Farm biosecurity plans

Everything you need to know about farm biosecurity, for example how 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 carcase 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, abortion or nervous signs 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
Any material containing material of placental mammal origin (other than milk and milk by-products, properly rendered meat meal, or tallow) is swill. 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/

Farm Biosecurity Apps
If you want to know who is coming and going, warn visitors of risks and areas to avoid without spending your whole day on your mobile, you may like to consider an app that combines with a QR code on your farm entrances. See: https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/biosecurity-at-your-fingertips/

Paraboss

The previous WormBoss, LiceBoss, and FlyBoss websites are now all in one place and have a wealth of information on and tools to manage sheep, goat and cattle parasites.

https://paraboss.com.au/

Includes an online learning resource: https://wormboss.com.au/learn-about-sheep-worm-control-in-australia/online-learning-tasmania-introduction/