Tasmanian Livestock Health Report – October 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 a 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

Dry and lambed-and-lost ewes at marking or weaning: If you have more than 10% of scanned in lamb (singles) or 20% (multiples) that are not lactating, talk to your vet about having blood samples taken at lamb marking or weaning to see if Campylobacter and/or Toxoplasmosis could be affecting lamb survival.
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.
Barber's pole worm: significant numbers have been seen on larval IDs so will build up from now on.
Black scour worms: high egg counts are still being seen. Monthly worm egg counts on weaner sheep should be worth doing.
Brown stomach worm: is a summer worm, numbers are building and they are often resistant to drenches so do a DrenchCheck or Drenchtest if egg counts are high soon after a drench.
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.
Liver fluke: Eggs can be present in Fluketests if stock were not treated in winter, otherwise blood tests are the best test to detect migrating fluke in live animals.
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: Flies very active in some areas now. 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.

Biosecurity story of the month – Avian Influenza

Avian influenza has been detected in many countries around the world since 2020, with Australia and Antarctica being the only continents not affected so far.

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is mainly a virus of birds and in this outbreak many wild birds and poultry have died. Deaths can be sudden with few signs but respiratory or nervous signs are usually seen. Death rates in domestic poultry can be nearly 100%.

The interesting thing about this outbreak is the impact it has had on wild mammals. It is estimated that 26,000 sea lions have died across South America along with red foxes, fur seals and a number of humans.

Apart from keeping an eye on the farm chooks, it is important to report any increase in deaths of native species. Sometimes diseases of importance to production animals and even human health can be seen in wildlife, and if detected early, measures can be taken to reduce the risk of spread to production animals and people.

If you see anything unusual, including odd signs and symptoms or an increase in the number of wild animal carcases, have a chat to your vet or ring the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

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Diseases and conditions seen in October 2023

SHEEP				
Disease/condition	**Number of reports/ cases**	**Region**	**Details**	**Prevention, treatment, and other biosecurity advice or measures**
Barbers pole worm	A small number of detections at the laboratory, some with egg counts up to 9000 epg.	Flocks affected in central coast, Flinders Island, NE, N midlands and Southern Tasmania	Sudden death, no scouring, pale gums, bottle jaw, high egg counts, identified by postmortem or larval culture in lab.	See WORMBOSS website for details on diagnosis, control and prevention programs.
Brown stomach worm	Widespread but not dominant in larval IDs at the lab.	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Scouring, high worm egg count. Brown stomach worm identified by larval differentiation test at lab.	See WORMBOSS web site for good treatment and prevention strategies. Brown stomach worm more common in summer and are poor egg producers so egg counts not always really high. May be resistant to different drenches compared to Black Scour Worm, our main winter parasite, so drench resistance tests may give very different results in summer vs autumn in the same flock.
Black scour worm	Still the dominant worm on larval ID at the laboratory. Some high counts.	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Scouring, sometimes bottle jaw, high worm egg count, black scour worm identified by larval ID test at lab.	See WORMBOSS web site for good treatment and prevention strategies.

Condition score, low	Ewes in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Body condition scores (BCS) lower than optimal for breeding and production	Most common cause is insufficient energy in the diet, but specific deficiencies (selenium etc), broken mouth, worms, fluke, pneumonia, kidney disease, liver disease, etc can also be responsible. OJD versus worms most likely in this case.
Dags	Wide-spread but mainly in small proportion of sheep.	Northern Tasmania	Due to scouring.	May be due to worms, gut infection (eg Salmonella, Yersinia, coccidia), nutritional factors. Have a WORMTEST egg count done and ask the laboratory to check for coccidia, culture for Yersinia and Salmonella if egg counts are low. Check paddock for plants such as capeweed. Crutch. The Dealing with Dag Advisor Manual is available at www.wool.com/flystrikelatest.
Deaths of lambs immediately after marking	A number of smaller lambs died within hours of marking in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Smaller marked lambs found dead in paddock within hours of marking. Drenched with abamectin.	Abamectin should not be given to lambs under 6 weeks of age, less than 10 kg liveweight (due to toxicity), or in marking cradles (may inhale the drench into the lungs). Deaths stopped in this flock after a change to a different drench family.
Deaths of lambs and ataxia 6 weeks after marking	A number of large lambs in one large flock.	Southern Tasmania	Large lambs found dead and one found alive was wobbly when walking.	Possibly spinal abscess or pulpy kidney. These deaths could also have been due to Mycoplasma ovis anaemia.
Dentigerous cysts (lumpy jaw)	One 2T ram in one medium flock.	Northern Tasmania.	Boney hard lump under chin. This one infected.	A cyst or cavity forms around an unerupted incisor tooth. Secondary infection common. Abscess can be drained but often leaves hard bony lump and mis-aligned incisor teeth causing loss of condition.
Epididymitis in ram	One ram in one medium flock.	Northern Tasmania.	A lump is felt usually just under the testicle, but can be on side or top.	Can be due to trauma or infection. Ovine Brucellosis should be suspected if a number of rams have epididymitis (see vet). Ram may still be fertile if only one testicle affected and the other testicle is in good order.
Flystrike	Fly wave reported in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	A lot of sheep struck in a short period.	See FLYBOSS for treatment methods and prevention strategies.
Footrot, virulent	Widespread	NW, Southern, Northern Tasmania	Low % on properties that have not had significant rainfall or have vaccinated but very active spread on some irrigation paddocks.	Could start eradication inspections now in really dry areas, but program could get disrupted if storms come through. Footbathing and vaccination, paring, culling “chronics” that don’t respond to treatment are on-going strategies. Long acting oxytetracycline antibiotics under veterinary supervision is risky at this time of year due to risk of wet conditions immediately after treatment reducing cure rates. 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, virulent M serogroup	One large property	Northern Tasmania	Repeated vaccination with Footvax has been ineffective and prevalence of	An M serogroup vaccine has been produced may be used if a permit from the veterinary chemical registration authority can be obtained. In the meantime use other methods of control. See Ute Guide for Tasmania: https://www.wool.com/globalassets/wool/sheep/welfare/ot

			M serogroup has risen in the flock.	her-husbandry/footrot--a-guide-to-identification-and-control-in-the-field---tas-2019.pdf
Liver fluke	Fluke eggs detected in the laboratory on samples from a small number of properties.	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Fluke eggs found in FLUKETEST on manure samples sent to laboratory.	Liver fluke can be both adult stage in bile ducts in liver and as migrating 'larvae' in the liver tissue at this time of year. Triclabendazole best treatment from November to July as it kills immature fluke as well as mature fluke. It is now too late to use a flukicide from a different drench family as triclabendazole is the best treatment for immature liver fluke. See fact sheet on https://sheepconnecttas.com.au/disease-factsheets/
Low lamb marking % compared to scanning	One medium flock	Southern Tasmania	Normally expect 10% less lambs marked in singles and 30% less in multiples compared to scanning in Merino ewes	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 test 8 wet and 8 dry ewes at lamb marking or weaning and test for Campylobacter and Toxo, review feeding levels and calcium supplementation of ewes in third trimester.
Ovine Johnes' disease (OJD)	Stressed wethers in one large flock, stressed ewes in another large flock.	Northern & 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 or weaning with Gudair vaccine. A very small % of sheep will not respond to vaccine and still die. 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 and www.ojd.com
Primary predation of newborn lambs	A number of lambs in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Total of seventeen lambs found dead and half eaten over time.	Deaths stopped after large feral cat was shot. Make sure all owned dogs and cats are controlled and reduce feral cat numbers.
Selenium deficiency	One sheep in 5 sampled in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Detected by blood or liver testing.	Indicates that selenium deficiency could be a problem in good clover years. 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
Scouring in ewes and lambs	50% of lambs in one large mob.	Northern Tasmania	Can be due to worms, coccidia, Cryptosporidia, Giardia, E coli or yersinia 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.
Scrotal mange	One ram in one medium flock	Northern Tasmania	Usually seen in Merino rams but can affect other breeds. Unlikely to affect fertility unless more than 10 square centimetres of thickened skin/scabs on	The Chorioptes bovis mite lives on cattle and other species and survives for a number of days off the host so is hard to eradicate. Individually effected rams can be treated – see your vet.

			scrotum. Pasterns affected as well in severe cases.	
Sheep measles	Detected at post mortem on one aged ewe from a large flock.	Northern Tasmania	Small whitish mass about half the size of a 5 cent piece protruding from the muscle of the heart, in this case. These lesions are the 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	10% of one mob	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 cavity and can cause a form of toe abscess.
Stumbling and falling on knees	One 10 week old lamb in one medium flock.	Northern Tasmania	Lamb marked 6 weeks ago. May have spinal abscess, Gudair staggers (if vaccinated on top of neck) or copper deficiency (swayback)	Best to have a vet diagnose problem. Antibiotics and anti-inflammatory under vet supervision can sometimes help spinal abscess cases.
Testicle smaller on one side	One ram in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	One testicle smaller than normal	Ram likely to be fertile but ram lambs by that ram may be hard to castrate as condition may be heritable and the small testicle may be carried high.
Tetanus	Two lambs in one medium flock	Southern Tasmania	Lamb lies on side with neck and legs all stiff, mouth cannot be opened (lockjaw)	Often associated with using rings for marking in lambs where ewes have not been vaccinated. Very hard and uneconomical to treat so euthanase immediately. Prevention is by the use of 3-in-1, 5-, 6- or 8 -in-1 vaccine. Ewes should have a booster pre-lambing.
Toxoplasma abortions	10-20% of dry ewes bled at marking in one large and one medium flock showed evidence of previous exposure	Northern & Southern Tasmania	Late 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
Wart	One ram in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Crusty-tipped round lump on side of face	Vet can remove surgically under local anaesthetic.
Worms	Widespread	NW, Northern, Southern Tasmania	Worms can be diagnosed by scouring, anaemia, poor	Worm egg counts generally moderate except for some high counts associated with barbers' pole and black scour worm. Large bowel worm and black scour worm also

			weight gain which respond to drenching, or by WORMTEST with or without larval identification, or total worm count at post mortem.	showing up in larval ID tests, also some brown stomach worm. See WORMBOSS at: http://www.wormboss.com.au/sheep-goats/programs/sheep.php
CATTLE				
Body condition low	Widespread in weaner cattle especially in drier areas.	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Poorly grown weaners.	Improve nutrition of young cattle. Cull older cattle before they lose too much condition.
"Bottle" teats	One cow from one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Teats too large for calf to get into mouth resulting in calf loss soon after birth.	Check cows at weaning and cull.
Brown stomach worm (Ostertagia)	A few cases seen in the lab	NW, Northern & Southern Tasmania	Worm egg counts with larval identification showed that brown stomach worm is an emerging problem.	Brown stomach worm egg counts are often low even though significant worm burdens are present. A blood test that detects a stomach wall enzyme (pepsinogen) can assist diagnosis. Worm larvae picked up over winter/spring can lie dormant in stomach wall and emerge next autumn. A long-acting ML anthelmintic to cover the winter/early spring period may be required. See; http://www.wormboss.com.au/cattle/worms/roundworms/brown-stomach-worm.php
Calf scours	Widespread, though lower incidence than recent years due to drier season.	NW, Northern & Southern Tasmania	May not have ingested enough colostrum in first 12-24 hours after birth.	Caused by variety of agents such as E coli, rotavirus, cryptosporidium, Salmonella etc. Keep feeding milk but also electrolyte (not at same time) to give 8-10 litres of fluid a day. Only use antibiotics under veterinary supervision. See https://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/animal-management-and-milk-quality/animal-health/calf-scours for more information
Chorioptic mange	Two cows from two small herds	Northern & Southern Tasmania	Hair loss around tail head and flanks. Rough scaley skin. Diagnosis by skin scraping.	More common as winter progresses and start to heal up from September. Can become severe if cattle are stressed and short on feed. A number of registered treatments are available including ML drenches and pour-ons but injectable MLs probably best. See: http://www.liceboss.com.au/cattle/lice-mites/species-of-mites.php
Cooperia worms in up to 15 month old cattle	The dominant worm species found at the lab.	NW, Northern & Southern Tasmania	Seen in young cattle up to 15 months of age. Scouring, lower than optimal growth rates	Most text books claim Cooperia worms don't hurt cattle much and disappear by 12 months old. Experience has been that Cooperia can harm weaners and cattle up to 15 months of age. These older cattle can still scour and have lower growth rates. See: http://www.wormboss.com.au/cattle/worms/roundworms/small-intestinal-worm.php
Corkscrew claw	Front foot on one cow on one large property	Southern Tasmania	Outside claw on front leg in this case grows up off ground in corkscrew form	Genetic cause. Cull. Can trim hoof for temporary relief until, calf weaned.
Cough in older cattle	One aged cow in one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Can be due to lungworms, bacterial or	Lungworm unlikely. Could be infection. Antibiotic cover under vet supervision if show signs of pneumonia.

			viral diseases that infect the respiratory tract.	
Dags	A number of young cattle in a number of herds	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Dried faeces stuck on tail hair.	Previous scour. Worm control, dietary control, viral diseases can all be involved.
Dystocia (difficult birth)	Several heifers and cows in a number of herds.	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.
Eye cancer in cow.	One case in one herd	Northern Tasmania	Growth or ulceration of eye or eyelid. More common in breeds with pale pigmentation around eye.	Very early growths can be frozen, burnt (electrocautery) or scraped off. More advanced require surgery. Severe require euthanasia. Don't transport if cow can't close eyelid over growth. Abattoir may condemn the carcase if evidence of spread to lymph node
Jaw swollen	One weaner in one small herd	Northern Tasmania	Probably an injury.	Could be a blood clot (haematoma) or an infection.
Large bowel worm (Oesophagostomum)	Common in larval ID tests in the lab.	NW, Northern & Southern Tasmania	Heavy worm burden associated with scour, loss of condition	See WORMBOSS for treating and preventing large bowel worm
Liver fluke in cattle	A small number of detections at laboratory	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Live fluke eggs detected in cattle manure at lab. There is a blood or milk test available and it is the best test at this time of year.	Nearly too late to kill off adult fluke with a flukicide from a different family from Triclabendazole which is best used in summer and autumn to kill immature liver fluke. Strategic treatments in autumn and late winter with effective flukicides depending on challenge are the best overall strategy. Keep stock off areas where fluke snail survives (dam edges, lagoons, areas that flood in spring) if possible. Sheep run on same areas will also need treatment. Deer are often infected and should be controlled if possible. See: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/114691/liver-fluke-disease-in-sheep-and-cattle.pdf
Mycoplasma bovis	A number of dairy herds	NW Tasmania	Abortions, arthritis, pneumonia, calf disease mastitis all seen over these outbreaks.	Practice good hygiene when administering dry cow intra-mammary drying off products. Prevention: isolate and test introduced cattle. More information: https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/mycoplasma-bovis-look-after-your-herd-and-your-back-pocket/
Nasal discharge, clear	One steer in one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	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.
Nasal discharge, purulent (snotty)	Widespread	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Could be caused by a number of respiratory viruses and	If animal is otherwise bright and alert, just keep under observation. If any other signs of ill-health use antibiotics under veterinary supervision.

			bacterial infections.	
Ocular (eye) discharge (clear, watery) both eyes	A number of weaners from a number of herds	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Usually caused by an irritant such as pollen, dust etc but can be first stage of Pink Eye.	May not be possible to remove from irritants. Observe again later to make sure Pink Eye is not developing.
Ocular (eye) discharge (clear, watery) only one eye	A number of weaners from a number of herds	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Usually caused by a foreign body such as a grass seed	Examine eye for foreign bodies including under the third eyelid.
Ringworm	A number of young cattle in two large herds	NW, Northern & Southern 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.
Runty weaners	A small number of calves from one large property	Northern Tasmania	May be due to pestivirus. under-nutrition, chronic infections, early weaning etc	Calves that are infected with Pestivirus as a foetus at 40-120 days of pregnancy may be persistently infected and usually do not grow well and die before 24 months of age. Blood or skin tests can detect such PI calves. Some calves are orphaned or cow has chronic mastitis etc.
Salivation	Two weaners in two medium herds	Northern Tasmania	Appeared stressed during handling. No other signs of an exotic disease eg lameness, ulcers between toes.	Allow time to settle. Examination in a crush may reveal cause, treat appropriately.
Teat cut	One cow from one large herd.	Northern Tasmania	Wound on teat/s	Usually due to barbed wire or some other sharp object contact. Cows usually still allow calf to suck. Leave alone to heal of not infected or penetrating through to inside cavity of teat.
Warts	Several weaners in a number of herds	NW, Northern and Southern Tasmania	Small cauliflower-like growth anywhere on body but often around head.	Normally 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 cases reported				
GOATS				
Worms	Several goats in one herd	Northern Tasmania	High egg counts	Treat with drenches registered for goats or off-label as per vets' instructions.
PIGS				
No cases				

POULTRY				
No cases reported				
DEER				
Winter death syndrome	A number of fawns and stags on one medium farm	Northern Tasmania	If deer go into winter without sufficient fat reserves they can die even if feed is provided later.	Make sure deer, especially stags and fawns are in reasonable condition by late autumn.
Worms	Significant worm egg counts in deer in one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	Egg counts over 100 may be significant	Deer break down drenches very quickly and special dose rates may be required under veterinary supervision.
Molar loss	One aged doe in one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	Aged does may start losing teeth	Best to keep records and cull does before they get too old.
Sudden death in stags	Two stags in full hard antler	Northern Tasmania	Found dead next to fence	Possibly shot.

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. Untreated sheep offal or sheep meat may spread other diseases such as sheep measles and bladder worm in sheep if fed to dogs, or Toxoplasma and Sarco if fed to cats. See: https://sheepconnecttasmania.files.wordpress.com/2023/07/sct-disease-factsheets-all.pdf

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 $264 million worth of sheep meats and wool in 2020-21. 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/