Tasmanian Livestock Health Report – November 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-January.

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 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 and Chlamydia. There is a vaccine for Erysipelas.
Barber's pole worm: clinical cases and responses to closantel treatment have been seen.
Black scour worms: high egg counts are still being seen. Monthly worm egg counts on weaner sheep would 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 100 epg 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.
Flystrike: Flies are very active now.
Pulpy kidney: Make sure lambs get a booster if going onto rich feed such as clover or lucerne.
Acute bovine liver disease (ABLD): use sheep now to graze off paddocks that grow a lot of rough dog's tail weed, so that cattle can graze safely in autumn.
Ryegrass staggers: Graze off paddocks with a history of staggers before the season starts and plan to place weaners on safer pastures.

Biosecurity story of the month – Chlamydia in sheep and cattle

Chlamydia are a special kind of bacteria that can infect a range of animals (including people) and can cause a number of different disease conditions. Koalas can suffer from Chlamydial disease and many bird species (and humans and horses) can be affected by psittacosis also caused by a Chlamydia.

Certain strains of *Chlamydia pecorum* can cause pinkeye, abortion and arthritis in sheep and arthritis or neurological disease in calves in Australia. One study in Western Australia showed that Chlamydial abortions and stillbirths occurred in 5 of the 6 flocks. Chlamydia has been reported as causing abortions in at least one flock in Tasmania in recent years and is suspected currently as a cause of abortion in some ewe lambs.

But there is another Chlamydia that causes abortion and stillbirths in sheep that has not been recorded in Australia. This one is called *Chlamydia abortus*, and is diagnosed as the cause of about 45% of abortions in the United Kingdom. It is so common that a vaccine has been developed to try to prevent outbreaks.

If *Chlamydia abortus* got into Australia, how would we know it was here so that we could take action to limit its spread and impact?

The most important action we can take is to investigate all cases where abortion is suspected as the cause of poor reproductive performance in sheep. If the common causes of abortion and stillbirth (such as Campylobacter and Toxo) are ruled out by testing, then Chlamydia testing should be considered. Talk to your vet.

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Diseases and conditions seen in November 2023

SHEEP				
Disease/condition	**Number of reports/ cases**	**Region**	**Details**	**Prevention, treatment, and other biosecurity advice or measures**
Abscess on cheek	One 2T in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Swelling on cheek in this case. May be vaccination lesion if vaccinated on cheek.	Surgical draining and antibiotics under veterinary supervision usually effective.
Barbers Pole worm	Several flocks	Northern Tasmania	Sudden death, no scouring, pale gums, bottle jaw, high egg counts, identified by postmortem or larval culture in lab.	Clinical signs and response to closantel drenching. See WORMBOSS website for details on diagnosis, control and prevention programs.

Bloat in 2-6 week old bottle-fed lambs	Several cases	Southern Tasmania	Lambs bloat after feeding and may die. Ulceration and rupture of 4th stomach seen on post mortem. Caused by Sarcina bacterial infection of 4th stomach causing excess fermentation and ulceration. Can be seen in calves as well.	Can relieve gas distension of 4th stomach with needle but needs careful placement. Antibiotics can control the Sarcina infection (under vet supervision). Feed milk at room temperature, don't make milk up too rich, give small feeds more often, add 1:1000 formalin to milk.
Cough, persistent, in young ram	One young ram in one small flock	Southern Tasmania	Young ram with chronic cough.	Try lungworm drench. If no response probably an infection. May be due to a virus. May not need treatment but if production losses (deaths, poor growth rates) occur and postmortem indicates bacterial involvement, use antibiotics under veterinary supervision.
Dags	Wide-spread but mainly in small proportion of sheep.	NW, Northern and Southern 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.
Dermo (lumpy wool)	Small numbers in two large flocks	Northern and Southern Tasmania	Wool in hard blocks along topline.	Can treat 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 ewe lambs at marking	60% of scanned in lamb red tag ewe lambs dry in one medium flock	Southern Tasmania	Few dead lambs picked up at lambing so abortion suspected.	Testing has shown that Toxo and Campylobacter were not responsible. Positive Chlamydia antibody levels indicate that Chlamydia pecorum may be involved. No vaccine available.
Foot abscess (heel abscess)	Several ewes in one medium flock	Southern Tasmania.	Swelling of one toe, hot, painful and discharge pus in acute stage, these in healing phase now.	Keep mob average BCS to 3 - 3.3, autumn or pre-lamb shear, reduce interdigital skin injury, walk through 5-10% formalin footbath weekly. Treat with long-acting broad-spectrum antibiotics (under vet supervision), keep feet dry eg on slatted floor of shearing shed, epsom salts on drainage point and bandage. Ensure fit to load if transported.
Footrot, virulent	Two large flocks.	Southern, Northern Tasmania	Low % on dryland & have vaccinated but very active spread on some irrigation paddocks. Some 'dormant' lesions seen in sheep on dryland.	Can start eradication inspections now in most areas. Footbathing and vaccination, paring, culling "chronics" that don't respond to treatment are on-going strategies. Long acting oxytetracycline antibiotics under veterinary supervision is useful from now on if conditions stay 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, virulent M serogroup	One large property	Northern Tasmania	Repeated vaccination	An M serogroup vaccine has been produced may be used if a permit from the veterinary chemical registration

			with Footvax has been ineffective and prevalence of M serogroup has risen in the flock.	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/other-husbandry/footrot--a-guide-to-identification-and-control-in-the-field---tas-2019.pdf
Interdigital fibroma	One ewe in one medium flock,	Southern Tasmania	Lump of skin between the toes, red and raw and associated with scald/ Ovine Interdigital Dermatitis (OID).	Vet can cut it out and bandage foot till it heals or treat the scald/OID by footbathing and/or anti-bacterial sprays and get skin over the fibroma to heal so it is less painful.
Lameness	Sixteen of 400 lambs in one mob	Southern Tasmania	Reluctant to bear full weight on at least one foot.	Could be footrot, scald, foot abscess, scabby mouth of feet, injuries, toe abscess, laminitis, standing on concrete surfaces too long, Chlamydia or Erysipelas arthritis. Identify cause and treat accordingly.
Lice (body lice)	One large and one small flock	Northern and Southern Tasmania.	Sheep body lice cause fleece damage. Check for 2mm long insects with broad reddish head moving slowly away from light by parting wool 10 times down each side of 10 sheep.	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.
Lung abscess	One wether at post mortem	Northern Tasmania	Can be CLA, secondary to lungworm, Mycoplasma, viral pneumonia or hydatids.	Take appropriate samples to determine cause if clinically significant.
Lungworm (large)	One wether in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Lungworm rare in general and more so in older sheep	Large lungworm in sheep take a long time to develop (7 weeks) and larvae rather than eggs are found in the sheep's faeces so a special test must be requested for detection in faecal samples. The series of wet years has probably been a factor here.
Low lamb marking % compared to scanning	Only marked 84%	Southern Tasmania	Normally expect 10% less lambs marked in singles and 30% less in multiples compared to scanning in Merino ewes	Only occurred in merino ewes joined to prime lamb sire. Allocated poorest pasture and shelter. Many dead lambs picked up at lambing time during poor weather so probably exposure. 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, shelter and calcium supplementation of ewes in third trimester.
Mulesing wound infection	One 2T ewe in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Rare. Scar tissue and discharging areas seen in this one.	Prevent by hygiene at marking.
Nose ulcer	One 2T ewe in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	May have been a healing injury	No treatment necessary if there is evidence of healing well.

Ocular (eye) discharge, purulent, one eye	One 2T ewe in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Most likely barley grass seed.	Grass seeds should be removed from eye as soon as possible and spray or ointment applied. Control barley grass with intensive rotational grazing, herbicide or topping.
Osteitis of elbow joint	One lamb in one medium flock	Northern Tasmania	Rare. Unknown cause.	Anti-inflammatory treatment under vet supervision.
Ovine Johnes' disease (OJD)	Stressed wethers in one large flock.	Southern Tasmania	Adult sheep over 2 years 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
Paraplegia	Several hoggets in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Several went down with both hind legs stretched out behind when yarded for shearing.	Could be spinal fracture due to weak bones due to copper deficiency or vitamin D and calcium deficiency if grazed on cereal crops. Spinal abscess, injury also possible.
Photosensitisation	Several 4T ewes in one large flock.	Southern Tasmania	Skin swells on face and ears and may peel later.	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.
Polymelia (extra legs)	One lamb in one large flock	Northern Tasmania	Rare foetal development accident. This lamb had 6 legs and had survived to marking age.	Sometimes extra legs can be surgically removed there if no other abnormalities. The additional legs were interfering with urination in this case, so the lamb was euthanized.
Pulpy Kidney	Several lambs in one large flock	Southern Tasmania	Ewes not vaccinated pre-lambing	Vaccinate ewes pre-lambing. Vaccinate lambs at marking and weaning. May need to use 8-in-1 or 3rd vaccination if losses occur later, especially if on pure Lucerne or clover.
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
Scald	Several ewes in one medium flock	Southern Tasmania	Score 1 and 2 lesions (less than 2mm under-running of hoof horn at heel)	Also called benign footrot but can be due to Ovine Interdigital Dermatitis (OID) as well. Re-check in 14 days to ensure not progressing to virulent footrot. Usually responds to footbathing and dry conditions underfoot.
Sheep measles	Detected at post mortem on one 4T wether 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, food	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/

			pipe and skeletal muscles. These lesions are the intermediate stage of a dog tapeworm.	
Shelly toe	15% of one mob of first cross ewe lambs	Southern 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.
Split scrotum	One ram and a number of progeny in one small flock	Southern Tasmania	Cleft in middle of bottom of scrotum.	Appears to be hereditary, should not affect fertility and regarded as an advantage in hotter countries. Only cull if associated with other deformities or if more than 1/3 of the length of the scrotum.
Toxoplasma abortions	90% of dry ewes bled at marking in one medium flock and 40% in another were positive to the blood test. Diagnosed as a cause of abortions in another large flock.	Northern & Southern Tasmania	Early or late abortions or lamb deaths soon after birth. Or seen as a low lamb marking percentage.	Toxo is spread by cats. For control strategies see: https://sheepconnecttasmania.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/sc-factsheet-no10-toxoplasmosis_lr.pdf
Worms	Widespread	NW, 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, or total worm count at post mortem.	Worm egg counts generally moderate except for some high counts associated with barbers' pole and black scour worm. See WORMBOSS at: http://www.wormboss.com.au/sheep-goats/programs/sheep.php
CATTLE				
Blue eye (corneal oedema)	One cow in one small herd	Northern Tasmania	Usually due to damage to cornea	Protect eye, vet may give antibiotics and anti-inflammatories.
Body condition low	One cow in one small herd	Northern Tasmania	Lactating aged cow from dry area.	Cull older cattle before they lose too much condition.
Cough	One weaner in one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Can be due to lungworms, bacterial or viral diseases that infect the	Lungworm unlikely. Could be infection. Antibiotic cover under vet supervision if show signs of pneumonia.

			respiratory tract.	
Dags	A number of young cattle in one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	Dried faeces stuck on tail hair.	Previous scour. Worms, dietary factors, viral diseases can all be involved.
Deaths of aged cows on bush runs	Six of 42 died in one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	Poisonous plants, possibly BJD, malnutrition due to teeth problems, pregnancy toxaemia, difficult births could be involved.	Fire weed and river trident bush present and may have been responsible.
Dry PTIC cows at marking	About 8% of cows	Southern Tasmania	Pestivirus, Vibrio, Neospora, and a number of other diseases and conditions possible.	Start with some sampling for common causes of abortion such as Pestivirus and Vibrio.
Eye cancer, pre-cancerous lesion in cow.	One case in one herd	Northern Tasmania	Growth or ulceration of eye or eyelid, but not typical of eye cancer. More common in breeds with pale pigmentation around eye.	These very early lesions can be frozen, burnt (electrocautery) or scraped off before they turn into a cancer.
Injury to cheek	One steer	Southern Tasmania	Post transport	Prevention: ensure cattle handling facilities do not have any sharp protruding objects.
Liver fluke in cattle	Reported from testing on one property in NE Tasmania and one in Fingal valley	Northern Tasmania	Liver 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
Lump on side of face	One yearling in one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Could be Actino or another bacterial abscess, a blood clot, or scar tissue.	Vet can investigate and drain if it is an abscess.
Malnutrition	Several cows on one large property	Northern Tasmania	Cattle in poor condition, weak, down, deaths.	Monitor nutrition levels by body condition scoring. Start supplementary feed once cattle get below condition score 2.
Melanoma	One 18 month old Angus heifer in one herd	Northern Tasmania	Common in Angus cattle where it is usually benign	A veterinarian can surgically remove the melanoma.

			(doesn't spread to other organs) but can grow very large.	
Nasal discharge, blood-stained, one nostril	One steer in one medium herd	Northern Tasmania	Could be caused by an injury, a number of respiratory viruses, by trauma 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, clear	Widespread	NW, Northern and Southern 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 bacterial infections.	If animal is otherwise bright and alert, just keep under observation. If any other signs of ill-health use antibiotics under veterinary supervision.
Nasal granuloma	One mature heifer in one large herd	Northern Tasmania	Probably caused by Allergic (Eosinophilic) rhinitis, an allergic reaction to environmental factors such as grass pollen that makes inside of nose itchy.	Cattle try to scratch with stalks of weeds etc which can break off in nose. Lining of nose become reddened and slightly lumpy. May be some inherited susceptibility. Cull severely affected animals.
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 and also some adult dairy cows.	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.
Respiratory disease	One mob of agistment heifers	Northern Tasmania	Difficulty breathing, cough, deaths. Pasteurella and Histophilus bacteria detected in this case but still could be	Many respond to antibiotic treatment (under vet supervision). See: https://www.mla.com.au/research-and-development/animal-health-welfare-and-biosecurity/diseases/infectious/bovine-respiratory-disease/

			secondary to viral disease.	
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.
Salivation	Two steers in two medium herds	Southern 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.
Scabby skin all four legs	One undergrown weaner in one small mob.	Northern Tasmania	Moth-eaten appearance to hair coat on all 4 legs	Could be Pestivirus or a contact allergy due to wading into a dam to eat water plants
Scabs on pin bones	One cow in one small herd	Northern Tasmania	May have been due to riding by other cows when on heat	Local skin treatments.
Scabs on pressure points	One weaner from one medium herd	NW Tasmania	Hips and shoulders affected.	May have been down for a while. Local treatment. Prevent: keep downers on soft bedding with gates to keep them rolling off. Lift daily to keep circulation going to skin and legs. Roll onto opposite side every 6 hours.
Swollen foot	One bull in one large herd	Southern Tasmania	Dew claw damaged during mating.	Responded to skin spray, antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs administered by veterinarian.
Twisted bowel	One dairy cow from a medium herd	NW Tasmania	Cow showed signs of abdominal pain	Corrective surgery by veterinarian was successful.
Vaginal discharge	Two cows from one medium dairy farm	NW Tasmania	Blood-stained discharge	Normal for several weeks in recently calved cows. If discharge turns a yellowish colour, then metritis (infection of uterus) could be present and veterinary examination and treatment worthwhile.
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.
Wooden tongue	One cow in one herd	Southern Tasmania	Tongue sticking out a bit, not eating	Intravenous iodine given by vet usually best treatment. Antibiotic injections may work. Reduce access to spikey plants.
ALPACAS and CAMELS				
No cases reported				
GOATS				
No cases reported				
PIGS				

No cases				
POULTRY				
No cases reported				
DEER				
Deaths after handling	A number of adult deer on one medium farm	Northern Tasmania	If deer are very stressed and experience violent exercise/struggle their muscles can break down and they can die.	Make sure deer handling facilities are adequate and handle deer quietly at night.

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/

myFeedback 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.mla.com.au/meat-safety-and-traceability/WhatismyFeedback/ 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/