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Making More From Sheep



Australian Wool
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Department of Agriculture and Food



Sheep Lice Update

Jenny Cotter DAFWA Albany

EVENT
PARTNERS:



EVENT
SUPPORTERS:



Sheep lice in 2011: Outline

Control *versus* Eradication

- Chemical applications likely to achieve eradication
- Chemical applications **not** likely to achieve eradication
- Ewe + lamb treatments
- Sheep lice levels continue to be high. Why?

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Eradication *versus* Control

Short Wool Treatment or 'off shears' = Eradication
potential

Long Wool Treatment = Control only

- local farm factors
 - chemical label claim control 6m
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‘OFF SHEARS’ TREATMENT: the only method likely to achieve eradication

1. Pour- On Treatments (Within 24 hours of shearing)

- **Neonicotinoids:** imidocloprid (“Avenge”)
- **Spinosyns:** spinosad (“Extinosad PO”)
- **Organo-phosphates:** diazinon (“Eureka Gold”)





‘OFF SHEARS’ TREATMENT: the only method likely to achieve eradication

- **2. Dips (shower or plunge)***



- **Organo-phosphates: temephos (“Assassin” or “Wham”)**
NOT diazinon

- **Spinosyns: spinosad (“Extinosad”)**



- **Magnesium fluorosilicate: (“Flockmaster II”)**



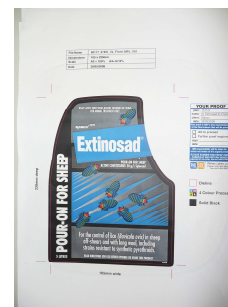
*** 14 - 42 days post shearing, and providing that sheep are thoroughly wetted**



NOT LIKELY TO ACHIEVE ERADICATION

Long-wool treatments (backline or hand jet)

- Spinosyns (“Extinosad PO”)
- Ivermectin (“Paramax”, “Coopers Blowfly and Lice Jetting Fluid”, “Zinjet”)



NOT LIKELY TO ACHIEVE ERADICATION

Chemical groups against which lice resistance is common

- Synthetic pyrethroids (SPs) vanquish
- Insect growth regulators (IGRs) magnum, zapp



Ewe and lamb flocks

OPTIONS

- Treat 6 weeks prior to lambing, dip or PO (**BEST OPTION**)
- (**not** Eureka Gold)
- Avenge on shorn ewe and unshorn lamb to 8 weeks
- Extinosad Pour-on on shorn ewes and unshorn suckling lambs
- Dip (temephos, Extinosad, MgF II)

consider

Ewe and lamb welfare, metabolic disease in ewes, infections including dermatophilosis, arthritis

Why is it difficult to eradicate lice?

- Lice resistant to chemical – IGR, SP
- Management factors: split shearing, shedding and haired breeds, poor fences
- Products likely to achieve lice eradication do not have long protective periods – will not protect a treated flock from an infestation after a lice incursion
- Dipping failures
- Mis-use of chemical, (use of incorrect chemical for length of wool, application with fire hose, automatic jetting races)

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Use Biosecurity

- What do YOU want to do about lice?
 - Eradication? Plan to eliminate lice and keep them out
 - Control? Consider economics and neighbours

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 - Treat introduced sheep (including strays) as infested
 - Fences
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Use Biosecurity

- What do YOU want to do about lice?
 - Eradication? Plan to eliminate lice and keep them out
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STRATEGIES

- Whole farm/flock approach (easily undone without good biosecurity)
 - Choose chemical / application to suit situation
-

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Further Information

- **PRODUCT LABELS**

- Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), especially their PUBCRIS database.

Website <http://www.apvma.gov.au/>

- DAFWA publications and staff
 - DAFWA website agric.wa.gov.au/ animal health/parasites
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