

Flocknews September 2023

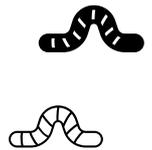
Dog parasites that can affect the quality of your sheep carcasses.

There are several parasites which dogs and even cats can harbour that can affect the health of your sheep. For example, tape worms that infect dogs (and foxes) have a two-stage life cycle whereby the first stage lives inside the dog and the second stage lives inside the sheep. A few examples of dog tapeworms are; *Taenia ovis* (sheep measles), *Taenia hydatigena* (bladder worm) and *Echinococcus granulosus* (hydatids, can affect human health). We have sadly had some producers affected this year with a percentage of their consignments condemned due to damage to the carcasses, resulting in reduced revenue. Below are some steps that may help reduce your farm contamination levels:

- Farm dogs should be wormed every 4 weeks with an effective praziquantel product (we sell Milbemax at the clinic).
- Avoid feeding raw meat/organs to your dog.
- Foxes can also harbour these parasites so having effective fox control is important.
- Avoid allowing dogs to scavenge the carcasses of dead sheep.

Take control of your worms now

We have looked over our records of disease investigations for this year and there has been a significant number of gastrointestinal worm issues and poor nutrition cases. These situations can be unpleasant and, to a degree, avoidable by planning ahead. This is something that we can help with in a range of ways with our Flock Management Programs. To set your farm up for a successful 12-month calendar, get in touch now.



New product for lice – Flexolt by Coopers

You may have heard there is a new product on the market to treat lice. This product is the first of its kind as it is administered orally and can be effective at any wool length. As a veterinary clinic, we can dispense this product in smaller quantities. This may cater for smaller producers or situations where quarantine lice treatment is required for biosecurity reasons. We are taking expressions of interest to organise such a service so please get in touch with our clinic if this is something that may be of interest to you.



Plan ahead

Check list for upcoming joining season:

- Have your rams vet checked 12 weeks prior to joining.
- Check your ewes at a similar time to the rams.
- Check to see if you have enough teasers for the upcoming season and organise more if required.
- Plan your joining length.
- Book in your sheep scanning with us the day you put your rams in.



 **Please call the clinic to update our system with your email account for future newsletter editions (03) 5484 2255. Do not hesitate to get in touch with Rochy Vets today!**

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 **OCTOBER 2023**

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T90 Trainer Dr Frankie Collert
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admin@rochyvet.com.au or 03 5484 2255



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