



Lice control this season

For farmers, a lice outbreak can be embarrassing, costly and inconvenient. You don't want the on-going treatment costs and associated extra work.

Up until 1992, it was compulsory in New Zealand to dip sheep. Nowadays it is something that many farmers choose to do only in an emergency situation, once they discover very lousy sheep. Lice are an unwanted problem for all involved. The numbers of sheep lice (*Bovicola ovis*), peak in the late autumn and winter, which often coincides with the longest wool on sheep.

Prevention is better than cure. Pour on lice treatments such as Magnum® are designed for use off shears, this means within 24 hours of shearing, not a month later. This is because the lanolin grease layer on a sheep after shearing assists with the movement of the lice control chemical around the animal, in order to provide lice protection.

Magnum is a user-friendly, off shears, highly effective treatment that provides up to 20 weeks lice control. The water-based formula is safe for humans, stock and the environment. Magnum can be applied after winter shearing and as it has a nil meat withholding period, meaning dry cull ewes can be sold immediately.

For optimum results, treatment with Magnum is recommended within 24 hours after shearing. For further details contact your PGG Wrightson Technical Field Representative.

ARTICLE SUPPLIED BY MSD

Give calves the best start

When it comes to calf rearing, hygiene and dry comfortable bedding are first priorities to ensure the calves get the best possible start.

The new AHD animal bedding product offers high-quality clean bedding made from New Zealand pine with proven superior benefits over alternative bedding materials.

It has a low moisture content of less than 8%, where typically wood chips and sawdust are above 47% moisture. The AHD bedding has very high absorbency making for a dryer healthier animal housing environment without the buildup and stench of ammonia.

AHD animal bedding offers significantly reduced wastage, up to 50% less when compared to alternative bedding materials, this also means it is easier to maintain and quicker to clean out. When laid the AHD bedding is sterile, ensuring a greatly reduced presence of bacteria. In fact, a recent independent test carried out in an equine stable showed a bacteria count of 1,000,000 per 25 g in the old bedding, once cleaned out and replaced with AHD bedding, after two weeks the bacteria count was only 6,700 per 25 g.

The AHD bedding has greatly reduced dust levels and is allergy free, again this is a huge benefit for a calf rearing house. The AHD bedding is very cost effective, less wastage, easier to keep clean and can last a whole calf rearing season without having to be completely changed, just requiring the odd top up. All key reasons why this product will lower your calf rearing housing costs.

The AHD bedding was the bedding of choice for the 2016 Horse of the Year show, installed in 600 stables.

For more information about calf bedding this season, contact your local PGG Wrightson Technical Field Representative.

ARTICLE SUPPLIED BY ANIMAL HEALTH DIRECT

