

Controlling
SHEEP PARASITES

CIR. 492



Extension Service Oklahoma A. & M. College

Shawnee Brown, Director

Controlling Sheep Parasites

BY

STIRLING KYD, ASSOCIATE

EXTENSION ENTOMOLOGIST

The most costly sheep parasites in Oklahoma are sheep ticks or keds, stomach worms, and nodular worms.

SHEEP TICK OR SHEEP KED

WHAT TO USE FOR CONTROL

Use a dip or spray containing 0.25 percent DDT. This can be made by mixing 4 pounds of 50 percent DDT wettable powder to 100 gallons of water.

Use 0.5 pounds of cube or derris powder (containing 5% Rotenone) in 100 gallons of water as a spray or dip.

HOW TO USE IT

Sheep dipping vats are the most effective and practical way to treat large flocks. Thorough spraying will give good results if vats are not available.

Unless sheep are sprayed immediately after shearing, a sprayer that will maintain 300 pounds of pressure is needed to drive the spray into the wool.

Treat every animal in the flock, and thoroughly cover each individual, including lambs.

WHEN TO USE IT

Spray or dip as soon as keds are noticed, providing weather conditions are such that sheep will not be damaged by the soaking.

It will take less material to treat immediately after shearing, and small low-pressure sprayers can be successfully used at this time.

If the wool is to be stored, however, treat with DDT a few weeks before shearing. Enough DDT will remain in the wool to protect it from insect damage for several months.

Only one thorough dipping or spraying is needed for control.

STOMACH WORMS

WHAT TO USE FOR CONTROL

Use phenothiazine as a drench or bolus. Phenothiazine contains the most effective drug for control and elimination of this worm.

HOW TO USE IT

Use phenothiazine in doses recommended by the manufacturer. This is necessary since several mixtures are available on the market. It is most commonly used in a prepared suspension for drenching. If this method is used on a large number of sheep, the use of two or four ounce drenching syringe will be advantageous.

Good control has been obtained under range conditions by treating sheep individually in the spring and fall. In addition to the individual treatment, keeping a one to nine mixture of phenothiazine and salt before the flock at all times, is a sound and valuable precaution to prevent reinfestation. This salt mixture must be kept dry, since phenothiazine will be washed away by rain.

Farm flocks are usually kept in small pastures where the ground soon has many more worm eggs per acre than are found on range pastures. For this reason, it may be necessary to individually treat sheep more often than twice a year. The condition of the sheep, and, if possible, a microscopic fecal examination for worm eggs would be the determining factors in number of wormings necessary.

One of the advantages of using phenothiazine is that it is not necessary to withhold feed before or after worming sheep. As a result, no particular precaution is necessary.

NODULAR WORMS

WHAT TO USE FOR CONTROL

Use phenothiazine as a drench or bolus at dosages recommended by the manufacturer.

WHEN TO USE IT

Only two treatments a year are needed to control nodular worms. Spring and fall are the recommended times of the year to worm the animals.

If phenothiazine is used for stomach worm control, no extra treatments are necessary for nodular worms.

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Oklahoma A. and M. College, and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. Distributed in the Furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. Stillwater, Oklahoma.

10m12-48