



299 Research paper

Sheep lameness presents a huge challenge in terms of welfare and economics

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In Significant Impact Groups:

Pathogen management \ Managing sick animals Diagnostics

Species targeted: Sheep;

Age: Not stated;

Summary:

A study was conducted in 2008 where 809 English sheep farmers were asked to identify six foot lesions; only 20% of farmers named all six lesions correctly. This study highlights the necessity of vets in advising and educating producers about sheep lameness. Foot lameness in sheep can be attributed to infectious or non-infectious causes. The three infectious causes of lameness covered in this article are:

- Ovine interdigital dermatitis (OID), often referred to as scald.
- Foot rot.
- Contagious ovine digital dermatitis (CODD).

Non-infectious causes of lameness are less common and include:

- White line degeneration
- Foot abscess
- Toe granuloma

Getting an accurate diagnosis is essential in advising on prevention, control and treatment. Often, one or more conditions are present on a farm. Lesions can be in the early or chronic phase, where they can appear grossly very different, so sufficient animals need to be examined to achieve a diagnosis.

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Where to find the original material:

<https://www.vettimes.co.uk/app/uploads/wp-post-to-pdf-enhanced-cache/1/sheep-lameness-common-types-causes-and-control-strategies.pdf> ;

Country: UK