

Dermo (mycotic dermatitis or lumpy wool)

Dermo spread between sheep requires moisture to allow the release of bacterial spores from dermo scabs of affected sheep. Then there has to be direct physical contact with another sheep whilst both sheep are still wet.

Prevention

- Avoid close wet contacts in young, short-wooled sheep
 - another reason NOT to lamb mark if rain around
 - if no roof over count out pens , count out regularly before gets full if rain about
 - if get caught handling wet sheep keep time packed tight in race or any pen to absolute minimum
- It is not genetic so culling has little impact.
- Dipping
 - add 1% zinc sulphate to dip will prevent spread at dipping but have minimal treatment benefit for existing cases
 - Dip affected sheep last
 - Let affected sheep straight out don't keep them in draining pen

Treatment

- 1ml per 10kg Oxytet LA injection (eg Alamycin LA 500 Norbrook)
- 6- 8 weeks before shearing enables scabs to lift for shearing.
- Only treat sheep plan to shear within 6-8 wks of treatment. This is because If not shorn after treatment the dermo can reoccur.
- To check for signs of lameness daily. So can treat promptly.

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