



Pinkeye in Sheep

Dr. J.D. Bobb

Pinkeye is an acute and contagious disease in sheep which causes the eyes to water and can cause loss of eyesight if severe. When a flock becomes infected via exposure to a shedding carrier sheep it will rapidly spread through the flock. Up to 90% of a naïve flock will break when first exposed, this disease can cause economic losses in feedlots, and many purebred or show flocks experience outbreaks which limits their movements while infected.

The Chlamydia organism which causes the infection is related to the same organism that causes polyarthritis in feedlot lambs. The infection is maintained in the sheep population by intestinal infections which persist over long periods with continued shedding.

Cases of Pinkeye develop immunity, most of the sheep will clear the infection in 6-10 days, however, 40% of the infected sheep will retain the Chlamydia organism for three months.

Many cases require no treatment. In severe cases or show sheep, treatment should be as soon as possible. The use of Draxxin (need a veterinarian client patient relationship) is very effective using the cattle rate. The use of injectable tetracyclines is the standard treatment and now with the introduction of single injections that last a week, they are also very economical and easy to treat large flocks.

In the last several years we are seeing a strain of Pinkeye that is more challenging to treat and seems to stay in a flock for extended periods. During summer months make sure to control fly populations as they are a vector which helps spread the disease.

NEW Shipping Policy

We are pleased to announce that we are changing our shipping policy in an effort to benefit you and simplify the ordering process. As of June 15th, Pipestone Veterinary Supply will be offering free freight for all orders shipped within the USA. Regardless of your location or size of your order, all you will have to pay is a handling charge of \$7.95 with the following exceptions:

Hazardous Materials—products classified hazardous by the EPA will incur a shipping charge. Hazardous items are noted with *“special shipping requirements”*. Example: Catron IV, Formaldehyde, screw worm spray.

Oversize Packages—packages exceeding UPS dimensions or ship heavy weights, weight rules will incur a shipping charge. Oversize items are noted with *“special shipping requirements”*.

Expedited Services—requested by you, will be at your expense.

Orders shipped to AK or HI—all freight charges apply for those two states. Please call for estimate.

Information Requests—please feel free to email us at: customerservice@pipevet.com or call 1-800-658-2523 if you have any questions about your order, order status, tracking information, or just need more details about your order.

Returns—contact customer service regarding return of any product. Returns are subject to a 15% restocking fee. Special orders, books, tapes, DVD's and vaccines are not returnable.

Damages & shortages—to ensure appropriate credit or replacement. Contact customer service within 48 hours of receipt of product.

Service Area—50 states in USA. Sorry, no international shipments.

We strive to provide the best customer service and continue with out on-going effort to improve customer service and make our sheep supply catalog and web site as user friendly as possible. We sincerely appreciate your business and hope that this will make your ordering process easier.

KHSI 2011 Expo Schedule

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE—PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA

September 15 Thursday

- * Optional Tour: Meet at the Hotel at 7:30 AM to Board the Bus
- * Tour sheep production farms in the Pipestone Sheep Project
- * 5:00 p.m. Expo Sale Sheep check-in at Pipestone Fairgrounds
- * 6:30 p.m. Pipestone Vet Clinic will provide a meal for Expo Attendees

September 16 Friday

Events at the Pipestone Vocational Technical School & Pipestone Fairgrounds

- * AM—Vocational Technical School Educational Sessions. Topics include health, nutrition, and marketing
Speakers include, Mike Caskey & Philip Berg of MN West Technical College; Drs. G.F. Kennedy, J.D. Bobb, J.L. Goelz of Pipestone Veterinary Clinic; Dion VanWell—Watertown, SD Lamb Feeder and Marketer
- * Lunch.....Catered by “Tu Phat Girls”
- * PM.....Vocational Technical School, educational sessions continued
- * KHSI Annual Membership Meeting

At Pipestone Fairgrounds

6:00 p.m.....Dinner catered by “Tu Phat Girls”

September 17 Saturday

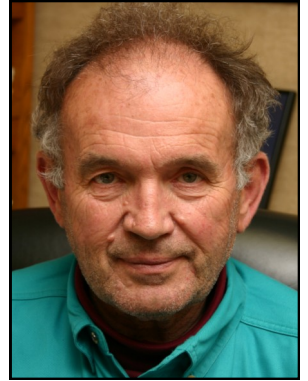
Events at Pipestone Fairgrounds

- 8:30 a.m.....View Sale Animals
- 9:30 a.m.....Sessions on Conformation & Soundness
- 12:00 noon..Sale—Registered Katahdin Rams & Ewes Sale, followed by Commercial Katahdin Ewe Sale
- 2:00 p.m.....Hair Coat Inspectors Training. Will start 1 hour after the end of the Expo Sale.

Straight Talk

This is probably my last straight talk before leaving for Alaska. My journeys will be shorter this summer. We will be leaving after Sedalia and will return for the National Rambouillet Show and Sale in Pipestone mid July, return for the Minnesota State Fair and back in September for the Katahdin Expo also in Pipestone. Looking forward to a lot of good sheep experiences this summer and will be piling up some frequent flyer miles in the process.

This week we opened a facebook account, Pipestone Vet sheep-goats. Now, not only being accused of being an eighty year old fart on a blackberry, I will be on facebook as well. Our thoughts about facebook are, I will post the most interesting and most timely questions that I receive on askavet. Ask a vet has been an interesting endeavor. I was not totally aware of how many people were in need of veterinary information and the difficulties of finding it. The other aspect I found was the satisfaction of being able to service so many producers and the appreciation they have given me for providing the information.



Veterinary service and information for sheep and goats is a difficult commodity to find in many areas of our country. There is a program to forgive part of education expenses for new graduates who are willing to locate in rural areas of the country where veterinarians are not readily available. While this program may have some merit there is no shortage of veterinarians in sustainable practice situations.

Many of our sheep farms do not provide an economical enterprise for veterinarians because of numbers both of size and number of flocks in practice area. Recent price increases in lamb and wool may help this situation. I can remember when I first came into practice one of my senior partners reflected when baby calves became worth something when they started treating them.

Availability of drugs and biologics continues to be a problem. It is very difficult for companies to get approval of products for sheep and goats that make economic sense for them. As long as we support politicians that want more government instead of less this problem won't correct itself. We continue to import meat from other countries where drug approval is less complicated and more and better products can be used. An unfair advantage I would say.

With a lot of wet weather I continue to get emails on what to do with foot scald and rot. Fortunately, our local producers have declared war on the disease and I see it very seldom. The only way you can get it is to buy it. You can't get foot rot unless you have scald first. You can have scald without foot rot but you can't have foot rot without scald.

My approach to treatment is simple, get rid of it. Trim all feet and do the formaldehyde bath. Mix one part formaldehyde and 19 parts water. Switch lots or pasture and repeat every ten to 12 days switching lots or pastures each time, culling those resistant to treatment.

Presently, no vaccines are available. They didn't eradicate disease but help to control and eradicate the disease. There are all kinds of stop gap measures; zinc sulfate baths, putting zinc sulfate around waters and feeders, treating them using LA200, Nuflor topically and systemically. All treat but very seldom get eradication results. Remember you have to buy it. Isolation and foot bathing of all additions to flock is absolutely essential. This is also important when returning from shows.

This is the most costly disease in the sheep industry. In some areas of the country it is endemic but as an industry we need to eradicate it.

I would like to welcome all visitors to Pipestone for the Rambouillet Show and Katahdin Expo and stop in and see us when you are in town. We are one half mile south of the fairgrounds on highway 75.

Don't forget to look us up on facebook at Pipestone Vet sheep-goats.

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Veterinary services, procedures, biologicals, and drugs mentioned in this publication represent the personal opinions and clinical observations of the contributing author. They are in no way intended to be interpreted as recommendations without the consent of the producer's own practicing Veterinarian. We strongly urge that producers establish a patient-client-veterinarian relationship that allows extra-label use when there are no drugs approved for treatment or if approved drugs are not effective. This procedure allows veterinarians to go beyond label directions when "prudent use" is necessary. The limited availability of drugs and biologics in this country is a major factor in restricting the growth of the sheep industry and allowing producers to compete in the world Market place.

2011 Rambouillet Show and Sale

Monday, July 11...Arrive at the Pipestone County Fairgrounds

Tuesday, July 12...10:00 a.m. paperwork and check-in...deadline 6:00 p.m.

- * 7:00 p.m. COWBOY SUPPER—brats, buns, beans & chips. You are invited to bring along your Dutch ovens and cook also. The event is located at the fairgrounds and is sponsored by the Pipestone Veterinary Clinic.

Wednesday, July 13...9:00 a.m. NATIONAL JUNIOR SHOW

- * Junior pizza party following the show sponsored by Dew Drop Farms
- * 1:00 p.m. paint branding of all open entries with vet inspection and sifting
- * 7:00 p.m. lamb kabobs at Harmon Park next to the Pipestone Aquatic Center sponsored by Big Gain, Hal Schmidt and Crew
- * Pool party following supper at the Aquatic Center

Thursday, July 14...8:00 a.m. NATIONAL OPEN SHOW starting with yearling rams

- * 7:00 p.m. Pipestone Pork Chop BBQ at the Three Maidens located at the entrance into the Pipestone National Monument. Planned walking tour of the National Monument.

Friday, July 15...9:00 a.m. Annual Business Meeting of ARSBA—Fairgrounds or Motel

- * 9:00 a.m. Junior Association activities—Sioux Falls Wild Water West or Washington Pavilion located in Sioux Falls, SD
- * 1:00 p.m. ARSBA Annual Golf tournament located at the Pipestone Country Club
- * 6:30 p.m. Annual banquet, awards, junior auction—Pipestone Country Club

Saturday, July 16...9:00 a.m. NATIONAL RAMBOUILLET SALE—PIPESTONE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE LET US KNOW!! JAY—507-215-1700 or SCOTT 507-215-0488

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