Diseases

Sheep
Acidosis

- Aka Grain Poisoning
  - Grain overload usually when finishing for market
- Caused by excess consumption of grain
  - Results in high level of acid being produced in the rumen
  - Can be prevented by proper feeding management
- Affected sheep should be drenched with an antacid such as carmalax, baking soda, or product containing magnesium carbonate or magnesium hydroxide
Scrapie

- Progressive disease of the central nervous system usually occurring in sheep over 14 months old
- Identified by microscopic examination of the brain, tonsil and lymph tissue
- Suffolk and cheviots are very susceptible
Urinary Calculi

- Occurs when wethers and rams are fed a ration with high phosphorus or a calcium-phosphorus imbalance

- Buildup of stones in the pelvis of the kidney, in ureters, the bladder or the urethra

- Symptoms of affected animal will
  - Arch its back
  - Strain to pass urine
  - Appears like it is constipated
  - May kick its belly
  - Appears dull
  - Uninterested in food and water
Coccidiosis

• Intracellular parasite

• Symptoms would include
  ➢ *Watery diarrhea (commonly dark in young lambs)*
  ➢ *Poor body condition or weight gain are common*

• To prevent put coccidiostats in the feed or mineral and more pasture space

• Treatment would be fecal exam and vet prescribed medication
Rectal Prolapse

• Causes is from short docking and high concentrated feeding

• When lambs cough this could happen
Internal Parasites

• Commonly caused by worms, especially stomach worm known as Haemonchus, “barber pole”

• Symptoms include:
  - Poor body condition or weight gain
  - Anemia (white around the eyes)
  - Bottle jaw (swelling under jaw)
  - Depression
  - Listlessness when good quality

• Prevent by deworming and pasture rotation
Pregnancy Toxemia

• Occurs in late pregnancy, where fetus decreases size of the rumen
  ➢ *Ewe will break down body fat to meet nutriental requirements*

• Symptoms included
  ➢ *Separation from flock*
  ➢ *Unsteady walking and appears to be going blind*

• Prevent by keeping ewe in moderate body condition and feed adequate energy during late gestation

• Treat with propylene glycol, dexamethasone to induce early lambing or C-section
Enterotoxemia

- “Over Eating”
- Caused by bacteria that affect fast growing lambs, triggered by rapid increase in energy of feed
- Symptoms are sudden and unexplained lamb death
- Prevent by vaccination for Clostridium prefringens types C and D
Foot Rot

- Highly infectious disease caused by two different bacteria that infect the foot
- Symptoms is limping and foul smelling foot
- Prevention:
  - Do not purchase chronic foot rot cases
  - Vaccination in flocks with the disease
- Treatment would include regular foot trimming, foot bath and antibiotics
Sore Mouth

• A poxvirus characterized by small red spots or blisters on the mouth (corners of the lips), nose and even teats.

• May be transmitted to people

• Symptoms usually seen as an open sore on the lips

• Prevention is with vaccination and wear gloves when treating

• Treatment is topical ointment and supportive care
Show Lamb Fungus

• “Ringworm”

• Highly infectious fungal infection of the skin. May be transmitted to people

• Symptoms are 1-1½ inch circular patches of crusted wool which, when pulled off leave a wet, raw skin surface

• Prevention is rinsing lambs with 10% bleach wash after every show, leave infected lambs at home, don’t share grooming equipment
Mastitis

• Inflammation/infection of the udder caused by bacterial infection
• Symptoms are hard udder, abnormal milk and depression.
• Caused by pathogens entering teat during nursing or exposure in unclean housing areas
• Prevent by keeping lambs in clean, dry housing
White Muscle Disease

• “Stiff-Lamb”
• Deficiency of the mineral selenium and Vitamin E
• Symptoms include stiffness, arched back and difficulty walking or nursing
• Prevent by adequate selenium in ewe’s diet
Tetanus

- Fatal disease caused by bacteria that live in the soil
- Usually occurs after tail docking or castration
- Symptoms are stiffness, erect ears, seizures, and death
- Prevent by vaccinating before docking or castration, annual booster in adults
External Parasites

- Lice, ticks, and mange
- May be treated with liquid sprays or powders
Pneumonia

- Infection of the lungs
- Symptoms include elevated temperature, coughing, increased respiration rate, poor appetite and depression
- Prevention is good ventilation, isolation of infected animals and new arrivals and appropriate vaccination
Navel Ill

• Bacterial infection of the navel cord stump
• Navel may swell and be painful, could develop an abscess next to the belly
• Will be seen first 2-3 weeks after birth
• Prevent by cleaning lambing areas and applying iodine to the stump for 2-3 days after birth
AGING LAMBS
Lamb Teeth

![Lamb Teeth Image]

- Lamb
- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
Yearling Teeth
2-year old teeth
3-year old teeth
4-year old teeth
Full Mouth (7-8 yrs)
Broken Mouth
Gummer
Mouth

- Overshot
  "parrot-mouth"
- Undershot
  "monkey-mouth"
- Normal