Disease Alert September 2014

- Fog Fever
- Footrot in sheep

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Fog Fever (atypical interstitial pneumonia) – cause

- Breathing difficulties not associated with foggy weather, or fever!
- Typically 5% affected
- High mortality rate in affected animals
- Lush pasture high in L-Tryptophan
- Concerted to 3-methyl indole
- Destruction of lung lining

“PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE”
Plan for health with your vet - get a veterinary health plan
Fog Fever – signs and diagnosis

- Extended neck
- Rapid breathing
- Sudden death
- Subcutaneous emphysema
- Important to rule out other causes of respiratory disease
Fog Fever - treatment and prevention

- No specific treatment
- Antibiotics not helpful
- Limit exposure
- Graze youngstock or sheep first
Footrot – cause

- Initial damage to interdigital skin
- Infection with
  - Fusobacterium necrophorum
  - Dichelobacter nodosus
- Can cause separation of the hoof wall
- Secondary weight loss, and poor fertility
Footrot – treatment

- Antibiotics
- Anti-inflammatories
- Footbathing mild cases
- Trimming best left until infection subsided
- Use clean grazing to avoid re-infection

Same sheep as video 1 but one week after treatment. Overgrown wall carefully pared back at this time
Footrot - prevention

- Biosecurity
- Eradication possible
- Regular monitoring and footbathing
- Separating infected animals
- Vaccination
Also keep an eye out for....

- Lungworm
Jobs for September

• Check and trim ewe feet (only if necessary)
• Check body condition scores
• Check Non-esterified Fatty Acids)
Thank you for watching

Please have a go at the clinical quiz!