



Vaccinating against Clostridia and Pasteurella

Need/issue: Flock health

Aim: Benefits of vaccination against Clostridia and Pasteurella

How to implement:

- A typical schedule for both Clostridial and Pasteurella vaccination in sheep is:
 - Ewes
 - Annual booster prior to lambing
 - Lambs
 - 1st shot approx. 3 weeks of age
 - Booster shot 4-6 weeks after
 - Annual booster if retained on farm



Description:

- Clostridia and Pasteurella are two families of bacteria that can cause major problems.
- Pulpy kidney, black disease, braxy, lamb dysentery, struck, blackleg, tetanus, bacterial red water, haemorrhagic enteritis, enterotoxaemia, Clostridial metritis, malignant oedema, and Pasteurella pneumonia are diseases that can be vaccinated against.
- Most of these diseases do not cause detectable illness/symptoms other than death.



Expected benefits:

Risk of death from Clostridial and Pasteurella diseases are drastically reduced.

By vaccinating ewes annually before lambing, their antibody levels remain sufficiently high to allow protective cover to be transferred to their lambs.

Prerequisites and/or limits:

- Availability and proper storage facilities for vaccines.
- For lambs to benefit from their dam's vaccination, they must receive adequate quantities of good quality colostrum within the first 2 hours after birth to receive passive immunity.
- Animals should not be vaccinated if sick or immunodeficient.

Country: Ireland

Dairy or/and meat sheep: Meat and Dairy sheep

Category of Animal (ewe, replacement, lamb):
All

Topic:

- Health
- Nutrition
- Management

Level of solution:

- Knowledge
- Practical

Source of information:

<https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2016/Sheep-Conference-Booklet-2016.pdf>