



## Flock biosecurity – develop a health plan

**Need/issue:** Flock health plan

**Aim:** To present best practice guide for flock biosecurity

**How to implement:**

- Biosecurity protocol to be implemented in the flock health plan:
  - Quarantine all purchased sheep and treat with Group 2 or 3 wormer and flukicide
  - For scab, lice, keds and tick control sheep must be plunge dipped
  - Vaccinate against enzootic abortion



**Description:**

- Diseases (e.g. footrot, CODD, iceberg diseases, enzootic abortion) are highly infectious and can spread rapidly.
- Purchased sheep (rams, ewes) are a risk of introducing disease, parasites or anthelmintic resistance to a flock.
- A good flock biosecurity protocol is important for the overall improvement in health, welfare and productivity of animals, and will reduce the incidence of disease on farms.



### Expected benefits:

Reduce the introduction and spread of disease and anthelmintic resistance on farm, which negatively affects animal productivity.

### Prerequisites and/or limits:

- Purchased stock need to have an area to quarantine before being introduced to the rest of the flock (housed for 48 hours after dosing)
- Purchase rams at least 4 weeks before they are introduced to the flock
- Good farm fencing is necessary
- Commonage and hill grazing can present challenges to managing the spread of disease so good cooperation between shareholders is required and a common health plan.

**Country:** Ireland

**Dairy or/and meat sheep:** Meat sheep

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

### Topic:

- Health
- Nutrition
- Management

### Level of solution:

- Knowledge
- Practical

### Source of information:

<https://www.teagasc.ie/medi a/website/publications/2017/ Teagasc-Finishing-Store-Lambs.pdf>

