

Northern Tablelands Ovine Johne's Disease (OJD)

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GLENRAC Producer Update

April 2023

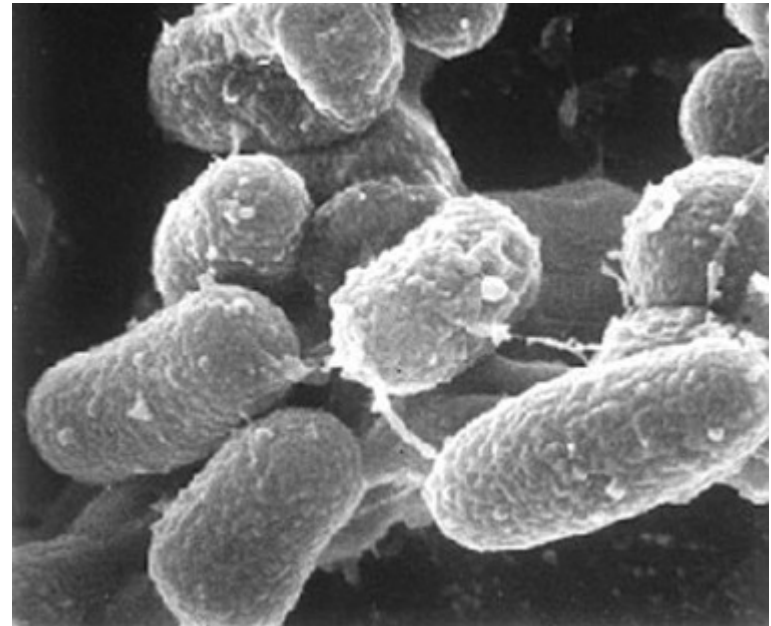


Ovine Johne's Disease

What is it?

The What?

- Bacterial disease – *Mycobacterium avium subsp. paratuberculosis*
- Chronic wasting disease
- Long incubation period
- In last 12 months has become endemic across the whole of the Northern Tablelands



The Changes



- National OJD Management Plan – ended in 2018
- Framework for management set out by Sheep Health Project (Animal Health Australia)
- **No** quarantine
- **Minimal** movement restrictions
- **No** ‘notification’ requirements

SHP Steering Committee

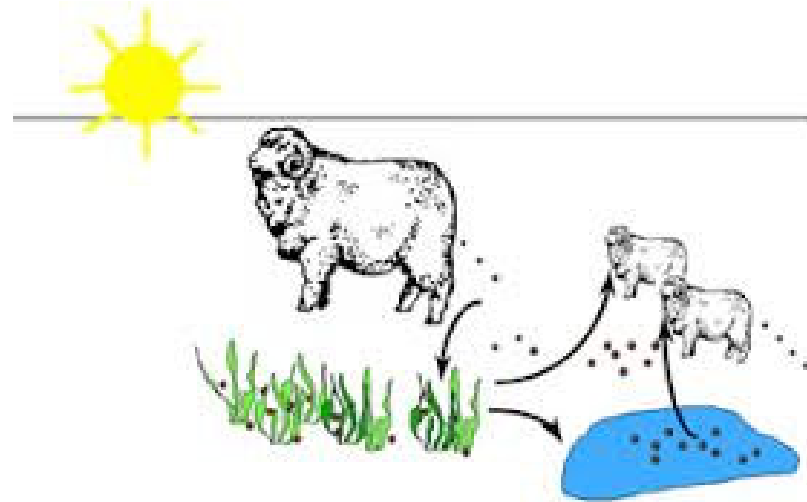


Ovine Johne's Disease

The Signs

The How?

- Bacteria shed in faeces
- Spread when sheep eats/drinks contaminated material
- Causes inflammation of the intestines and lymph nodes
- Affects intestines ability to absorb nutrients
- Sheep usually 2-3 years old become clinically affected
- Amplified by stress & poor nutrition



Clinical Signs

- Ill thrift & wasting
- Diarrhoea
- “Tail end” of the mob that doesn’t respond to treatments



OJD or Something Else?

- Worms
- Liver fluke
- Coccidiosis
- Mycoplasma ovis
- Selenium deficiency
- Copper deficiency
- Cobalt deficiency
- Zinc deficiency
- Nutrition
- Shy feeders
- Salmonella
- Yersinia
- Pneumonia
- Age



Finding Out if You've Got OJD

Vet testing:

- Post mortem
- Faecal cultures
- Blood tests



Healthy sheep intestine



Johne's affected intestine

Ovine Johne's Disease

Management

Manage vs. Eradicate

- No treatment
- HARD
- De-stock – re-stock program
- Biosecurity plan
- Enterprise change?



Culling

- Cull clinically affected sheep ASAP
- Reduces the shedding of OJD → decrease pasture contamination



Vaccination

- Guidar®
- 1 dose
- Lambs 4-16 weeks of age
- 'Approved vaccinates' on NLIS tag
- WHS issues



Grazing Management

- Spelling pastures
- Grazing with adult cattle
- Grazing with terminal lambs
- Low-risk pastures for weaners, then for lambing



Early Weaning

- Restricted joining period so no delayed weaning from late born lambs
- Reduces exposure of lambs to potentially infected/shedding ewes



New Stock

- OJD free – SheepMAP
- Vaccinated
- Request Sheep Health Declarations

NATIONAL SHEEP HEALTH DECLARATION

July 2019

Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property
This MUST be the PIC of the property that
the stock is being moved from

Attached to accompanying NVD/Waybill No.

SECTION A – Biosecurity Information

- All consigned sheep are from a Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) accredited property? Y N
- The number of different sources of sheep that have been introduced onto the consignment property in the last 5 years is:
0 (closed flock) 1-5 6+ Rams Only

SECTION B – Animal Health Information

- All consigned sheep are from a flock that is free of virulent footrot? Y N
- All consigned sheep are from a flock that is free of benign footrot or scald? Y N
If (N) please provide further information below
- All consigned sheep are from a flock that is free of lice? Y N
- All consigned sheep are from a flock in an ovine brucellosis accreditation scheme? Y N
If Yes, Flock Accreditation No. (except Qld) _____ Expiry Date ____/____/____
- All consigned sheep are Johne's disease (JD) Approved Vaccinates? Y N
If Yes, I have been continuously vaccinating all retained lambs in the consignment flock against JD for _____ years. *(Vendor-bred sheep only)*
- All consigned sheep are from a SheepMAP flock? Y N
If yes, Status _____ Year commenced _____ Certificate Number _____

*See explanatory notes on back page for further information

- All consigned sheep are from a flock with a negative test for JD? Y N
If Yes, which test? _____ Date of test ____/____/____

10. Any other JD management practices carried out on the property?

11. Any other relevant health information

SECTION C – Treatment Information of Consigned Sheep

Treatment type	Product	Date of last treatment
External Parasite Treatment		
Internal Parasite Treatment		
Other treatments		
Vaccination (other than JD)		

Declaration (see explanatory notes for further information)

I _____
(Full name)

(Address) _____ (Town/suburb) _____ (State) _____ (Postcode)

Tel. No. () _____ Email _____

declare that, I am the owner and/or person responsible for the husbandry of the sheep in this consignment and all the information on this Sheep Health Declaration is true and correct:

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Producers are advised to retain appropriate records to support this declaration. Persons making false statements may be liable under fair trading and other relevant state legislation.

On-farm Biosecurity Plans

- Purchase & induction of new stock
- Boundary fencing
- Stray stock



Ovine Johne's Disease

But What if I'm Positive?

The Changes

- National OJD Management Plan – ended in 2018
- Framework for management set out by Sheep Health Project (Animal Health Australia)



Requirements

- “Discharge your general biosecurity duty” under the Biosecurity Act
- Selling direct to slaughter
- Declare infected property through Sheep Health Declaration
- No tracing
- No quarantine
- No obligation to notify any parties



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Questions?

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Local Land Services