

# SHEEP MEASLES INFORMATION FOR DOG OWNERS



## THE ROLE OF DOG OWNERS

As a dog owner you can play a key role in reducing the spread of sheep measles by:

### 1. Freezing or cooking all sheep or goat meat before feeding to dogs.

- Freeze all sheep or goat meat at  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  or colder for 10 days before feeding to dogs
- Cook meat by heating to core temperature of  $72^{\circ}\text{C}$  or greater
- Do not feed untreated scraps of meat to dogs

### 2. Controlling dogs

- Dogs should be under control at all times when not under supervision
- Do not let your dogs go onto or enter sheep pasture without permission from the landowner

### 3. Treating dogs to remove infection

- Dogs should be dosed to remove any infection on a regular basis
- Monthly dosing provides best control option
- Any new dogs should be dosed 48 hours before going on or near sheep pasture

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PROMOTE PROTECT PARTICIPATE

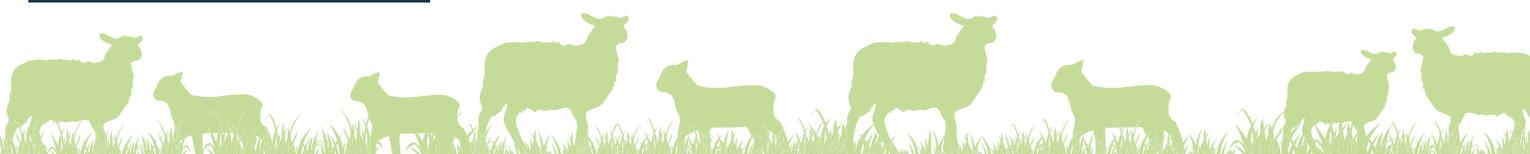
**Freeze all  
sheep meat  
at  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$**   
for 10 days before  
feeding to dogs

0800 222 011  
[www.sheepmeasles.co.nz](http://www.sheepmeasles.co.nz)



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# SHEEP MEASLES: THE ISSUE

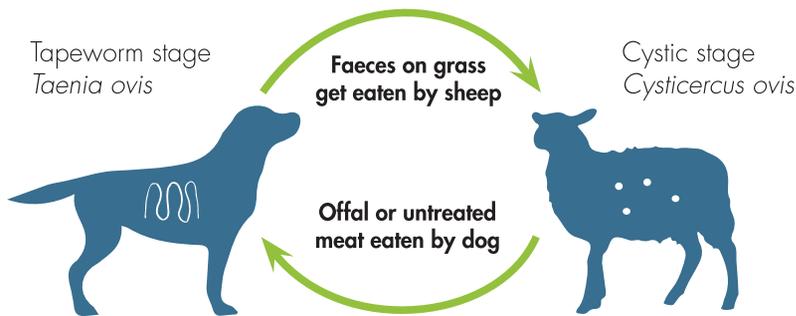
Sheep Measles (*Cysticercus ovis*) are small cysts found in the muscle tissue of infected sheep (and goats).

Cysts are found throughout the meat. Only a small proportion are on, or near, the surface, so as a result many of the cysts are not detected during processing.

Cysts are most easily seen in the diaphragm, flaps, heart, muscles of the jaw and tongue.

Sheep Measles poses no risk to human health but it does cause blemishes in sheep meat which are undesirable for consumers both at home, and most certainly for the export market.

The Farmers are financially disadvantaged if stray dogs get onto their farms and pass this on. So please do your bit to support them, and protect their livelihood, but also the reputation of New Zealand. We are proud to serve the world with the best lamb products.



## DON'T FORGET...

**NEVER FEED RAW OR UNTREATED HOUSEHOLD SHEEP OR GOAT MEAT SCRAPS TO DOGS. THIS ALSO INCLUDES OFFAL.**

- If you feed offal and meat scraps to cats make sure dogs cannot gain access
- Always have alternative feed on hand in case of a shortage of treated sheep meat
- The sheep measles tapeworm takes 35 days to mature so if dogs are on or near sheep pasture regularly they should be dosed monthly with tablets from a Veterinarian or rural supply stores
- Worming tablets with the active ingredient Praziquantel are effective against Sheep Measles and are only a couple of dollars. We recommend either Droncit or Wormicide
- Check out the dose rate on our website [www.sheepmeasles.co.nz/dose-rate](http://www.sheepmeasles.co.nz/dose-rate) or speak to your Vet
- **If you are not dosing monthly, dogs must be dosed at least 48 hours before going on or near farm land**



[sheepmeasles.co.nz](http://sheepmeasles.co.nz)

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