

C-S.1 Diseases of Adult Sheep

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – Institute of Veterinary Science

RCVS Content Covered

Module Content

At the end of this module, candidates should be able to:

- Explain the aetiology, pathology, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and control of the principal diseases of sheep in the UK.
- Have knowledge of the diagnostic techniques available for determining a diagnosis, together with an understanding of the practical techniques involved, the limitations of the techniques, and cost implications.
- Demonstrate the role of the veterinary surgeon in planned sheep health and production
- Understand the basic principles of sheep husbandry and the relationships between management, breeding, genetics, nutrition, environment, behaviour, health, welfare, productivity, food quality and food safety
- Describe the husbandry and management of sheep in the UK, and evaluate the relative merits of the systems used, on the basis of the health, welfare and productivity of the animals, and the safety and quality of the food produced
- Understand factors affecting the economics of quality sheep production in the UK.
- Have knowledge and understanding of notifiable diseases control in the UK.

Aim of the Module

The aim of this module is to:

1. develop a logical, systematic and reasoned approach to sheep health and production;
2. enable the candidate to critically evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the module, candidates should be able to:

1. demonstrate a systematic understanding of the aetiology, diagnosis, management and control of the principal diseases of adult sheep in the UK;
2. develop the skills and knowledge in order to apply diagnostic techniques appropriately as part of the overall investigation of clinical cases; together with an understanding of the limitations of techniques and economic implications;

3. demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the role of the veterinary surgeon in planned sheep health and production;
4. demonstrate a systematic understanding of the basic principles of sheep husbandry and the relationships between management, breeding, genetics, nutrition, environment, behaviour, health, welfare, productivity, food quality and food safety;
5. demonstrate the ability to systematically evaluate the husbandry and management of adult sheep and make sound judgements on the basis of health, welfare, productivity and the safety and quality of the food produced;
6. demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the legislation relating to sheep management and infectious diseases and how it relates to the health, management and welfare of sheep and food production in the UK;
7. critically evaluate the literature in order that evidence based medicine underpins their decision making processes.

Module Structure

The module will be divided into 4 study units:

Study Unit 1: UK Sheep Industry

UK Sheep Industry Structure and Economics, Flock Economics and Key Performance Indicators, Animal Welfare Legislation, Notifiable Diseases and Diseases of Public Health Importance

Study Unit 2: Management of Disease 1

Diagnosis of Disease Clinical Examination of Sheep and Post Mortem Examination of Sheep Respiratory Diseases of Sheep, Neurological Disease, Lameness in Sheep

Study Unit 3: Management of Disease 2

GI disease and weight loss in sheep, Skin disease, Anaesthesia and Analgesia of Sheep

Study Unit 4: Flock Health Planning

Flock Health Planning, Biosecurity and Accreditation Schemes, Genetic Tools for the Improvement of Sheep Production

Assessment Strategy

3 x reflective, clinical case reports (1500 words each), 1 x short answer question and/or MCQ test and 1 x journal critique/journal club presentation (pass/fail)

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to sufficient appropriate cases where you were the primary decision maker to produce adequate material for the module. This may not be possible with some internship positions. You must also be aware of any limitations of your facilities that may make the accumulation of appropriate cases difficult or impossible.