Do you drench and inject correctly?

1. Weigh – don't guess

Underestimating the weight of sheep is a common cause of under dosing. Select and weigh the biggest sheep in the group to determine the correct dose. If there is a wide range of weights, consider splitting the group, then weigh the heaviest in each section. Don't forget to check that the weighcrate is accurate before you start!

2. Calibrate and maintain equipment

Always check the gun is delivering the right amount before you drench. Calibrate using a graduated pot (shown) or remove the plunger from a 10ml syringe and put your gloved finger over the end and squirt several doses into it. Make sure there are no air bubbles. Adjust until correct. Clean with warm soapy water after use and check for kinks and worn seals or springs. Use clean, sterile needles for injecting and always follow manufacturer instructions carefully.

3. Drench and inject correctly

The drenching technique is a vital part of ensuring that the wormer does its job effectively. Make sure the sheep are properly restrained and can't leap around when you are drenching, so they swallow the whole amount. Sheep can also suffer serious injury, or even death, if they are unrestrained and the gun penetrates the tissues at the back of the mouth. Place a hand under the head and tilt slightly to the side. Slot the nozzle in the gap between molar and incisor teeth and then over the back of the tongue. Injections must be given according to manufacturer’s instructions. Subcutaneous products should be given using a 1.6cm needle making sure it is under the skin of 10-15cm below the ear. Intramuscular injections go into the mid neck with a 2.5-4cm needle aiming inwards and upwards towards the head. Moxidectin 2% LA is given at the base of the ear. Massage the site of any injection gently after administration.

Storage

Wormers should be stored securely, away from direct sunlight at 4-25°C. Check the 'use by' date and once open, use within the time shown on the packaging. Shake the white (1-BZ) products well before use.

Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep

Know Your Anthelmintics Groups

SCOPS includes representatives from the following industry organisations:

- AHDA
- AGRISERACH-LAHTRA
- APHA
- AHDB Beef & Lamb
- HCC
- NFU
- NOAH
- NSA
- QMS
- RUPA
- Sheep Vet Society
- SRUC
- SERAD
- Welsh Assembly
- VMD
- Independent advisers.

More information on SCOPS can be found on our website www.scops.org.uk

www.scops.org.uk

*Visit SCOPS website for details.
The information in these tables was correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing (January 2020). Always check the data before using any product.

You can check the most up to date information on the VMD website at: https://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/ProductInformationDatabase/