Sheep Herd Health Program

Purpose: To encourage purebred and commercial sheep flock owners to utilize the professional services of a veterinarian, on a regular basis, for the maintenance and improvement of flock health, through application of the principles of preventative medicine.

Eligibility: Nova Scotia sheep owners, with a flock of thirty (30) or more ewes, who are registered under The Farm Registration Act. Eligible flock owners will have to complete an application process as specified by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture.

Assistance: Assistance to be available for a maximum of four (4) properly recorded visits per year for a sheep flock. The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture will cost share the veterinarian’s fees as follows;

1. Fifty percent (50%) of the “basic call fee”, not to exceed ten dollars ($10.00), for program calls made within regular hours; and,
2. The professional fee for veterinary consultation and service at a rate not to exceed seventeen dollars ($17.00) per hour.

Herd Owners’ Responsibility: Enrolled sheep owners must -

1. Agree to maintain current breeding and production records;
2. Arrange with their veterinarian for regular visitation to their flock;
3. Understand that when calls are made by the veterinarian under this program, the veterinarian cannot be expected to deal with other unrelated problems.

Veterinarian’s Responsibility: The veterinarian supervising the on-farm program should -

(a) Cooperate in making the necessary arrangements for regular flock visits;

(b) Assist in the dissemination of current knowledge and technical information, as it relates to the sheep industry;
(c) Take the lead role in providing owners of enrolled flocks with the expertise of others to assist in the resolution of a particular problem;

(d) Agree to apply the principles of preventative medicine in enrolled flocks, specifically as it relates to the areas of:

1. Production / reproduction
2. Health Management
3. Bio-security
4. Other diseases or conditions that are deemed to be of increased importance, to the specific flock, by the veterinarian in consultation with the Program Veterinarian, Agriculture Protection (NSDA).

(e) Complete the necessary paperwork as required by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture.

Correspondence may be directed to:

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Protection
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