



## Agriculture

Animal Health Laboratory  
65 River Road  
Bible Hill, NS  
B2N 5G6

### Sheep Flock Health Assistance Program (SFHAP)

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**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*.

**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;

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

**Application:** Eligible flock owners should complete an Agreement Form and forward it to:

Animal Health Laboratory  
65 River Road  
Bible Hill, NS B2N 5G6  
ph: 902-893-6540  
fax: 902-895-6684

**Flock Owners' Responsibility:**

Enrolled sheep owners must:

- (a) Agree to maintain current breeding and production records;
- (b) Arrange with their veterinarian for regular visitation to their flock;
- (c) Understand that when calls are made by the veterinarian under this program, the veterinarian cannot be expected to deal with other unrelated problems.
- (d) Sign or have one's agent sign the veterinarian's flock health report at the conclusion of each visit.

**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. Biosecurity
  - 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) Agree to keep confidential all information discussed with the flock owner or their employees;
- (f) Complete the necessary paperwork as required by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture.

**Claims:**

- (a) Claims by the veterinarian / veterinary practice center for the assistance afforded to enrolled flocks under this program, are made by forwarding a completed copy of the "flock health summary report form", along with a statement of account to the Animal Health

Laboratory at the address below.

- (b) Claims made under this program must be received within one (1) month of the end of the month in which the call being claimed is made by the veterinarian.
- (c) Claims being made for visits to enrolled flocks which are submitted after the period stated in the foregoing section (b) will be considered stale-dated and not eligible for payment under this program.

**Termination:**

- (a) The Director of Agriculture and Food Protection may investigate the operation of the Program within any enrolled flock, and may drop a producer's enrollment if the producer fails to carry out the terms of the agreement.
- (b) A designated veterinarian may, at any time, terminate their participation in the Program, for one or more flocks, by notifying the Director of Agriculture and Food Protection.
- (c) A producer may discontinue enrollment in the Program, at any time, by notifying their designated veterinarian who should, in turn, notify:

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