

Sheep External Parasites

Eric R. Day, Extension Entomologist, Virginia Tech

Table 2.27 - Sprays or Dips¹

Pests	Insecticide Active Ingredient [Percent A.I. in Product] (Trade Name)	Mixing and Application Information	Precautions
lice, sheep keds	Permethrin [7.4%] + Piperonyl Butoxide [7.4%], Cumaphos, Diazinon	Check label for specific application instructions.	Can be applied topically to sheep and their premises. Check label for precautions.
	Fenvalerate [10%]	Mix 1.0 qt product in 100 gal water. Wet animal with up to 1.0 qt of solution.	For use only on non-lactating sheep or goats. Repeat application in 30 days if necessary. Do not apply more than 2 times in spring and 2 times in fall. Do not apply within 2 days of slaughter.
lice, mites, sheep keds, ticks	Permethrin [11%]	Mix 1.0 pt product in 25.0 gal water. Apply 1-2 qt of coarse spray/ animal over entire body surface.	Do not contaminate feed or drinking water. Check label for details.
lice, sheep keds, ticks, fleeceworms	Coumaphos [25%]	Follow directions according to label.	Repeat as necessary but not within 15 days of slaughter.
fleeceworms	Permethrin	Follow directions according to label.	See label.

¹May be applied as a spray or dip.

Do not apply to sick, convalescent, or stressed livestock, or to any animals less than 3 months old except in Federal and State eradication programs. Do not treat animals for 10 days before or after shipping or weaning, or after exposure to contagious and infectious diseases except in Federal or State eradication programs. Do not spray in confined non-ventilated area.

Animals must be wet thoroughly to penetrate wool for control of lice next to the skin. Dipping is the most reliable method of eliminating lice on sheep.

Table 2.28 - Pour-ons

Pests	Insecticide Active Ingredient [Percent A.I. in Product] (Trade Name)	Mixing and Application Information	Precautions
lice, sheep keds	Fenvalerate [10%]	Mix 4.0 oz product in 1.5 gal of water. Apply up to 4.0 oz of solution down midline of back 1-2 times in the spring.	For use only on non-lactating sheep and goats. Repeat application in 30 days if necessary. Do not apply more than 2 times in the fall pest season. One application after shearing is usually adequate for sheep ked control. Do not apply within 2 days of slaughter. Repeat as needed, but not more than once every 2 weeks.
	Permethrin [1.0%] & Piperonyl Butoxide synergist [1.0%]	Apply 0.25 oz/50 lbs of body weight, up to maximum of 3 oz/animal.	
	Permethrin [1.0%]	Ready to use. Apply along back. Use 0.25 oz/50 lbs of body weight, up to 3 oz/animal.	
	Permethrin [1.0%] + Piperonyl Butoxide [1.0%]	Apply at rate of 0.25 oz/50 lb body weight up to a maximum dosage of 3 oz/animal.	
face flies, horn flies, lice, sheep keds	Permethrin [5%]	Apply 0.05 oz/50 lbs body weight, up to 0.61 ml/animal.	Repeat as needed, but not more than once every 2 weeks

Table 2.29 - Dust

Pests	Insecticide Active Ingredient [Percent A.I. in Product] (Trade Name)	Mixing and Application Information	Precautions
lice, sheep keds, ticks	Zeta-Cypermethrin [0.075%] + Piperonyl Butoxide [0.15%]	Check label for specific application instructions.	Check label for precautions.

Scabies

Sheep scabies is a disease caused by mange mites. Virginia has been declared free of this disease for several years. Nevertheless, scabies may occur occasionally on sheep in areas that have been declared free of the disease. Scabies suspected on sheep in Virginia should be reported immediately to your county Extension office or to representatives of the State Veterinarian's office of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Richmond, Virginia. Inspection and diagnosis is a free service. If scabies is positively identified, the necessary treatment will be applied without charge by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.