

# Footrot in Sheep in New Zealand

- Footrot is costly to the sheep industry (reduced wool production, decreased lambing percentage)
- Footrot in sheep is an animal welfare concern
- Footrot control programs require sound advice, good planning, sufficient labour and suitable facilities
- Footrot infection is not only confined to fine wool sheep breeds; it is also an issue in many cross-bred flocks and an issue for terminal sire longevity
- Antibiotics remain a cornerstone for treating footrot in NZ sheep, but there are
  no 'silver bullets' and must be prescribed by your veterinarian as part of a footrot
  management plan, and administration timed to maximise success
- A single dose of tilmicosin (5mg/kg SQ) has been shown<sup>1</sup> in merino sheep with grade 4 footrot infection to
  - Achieve high cure rates of 98.3%
  - Limit new feet infections when assessed
     15 days post-treatment (0.2%)
  - Have significantly lower levels of uninfected feet 15 days after treatment (98.3%)



Grade 4. Advanced, active footrot



Grade 2. Ovine interdigital dermatitis (OID)



Grade 1. Water maceration - early OID



Grade 0. Non-infected hoof

1. Roberston, DRH. 2014. Comparison of tilmicosin and lincomycin/spectinomycin combination for treatment of footrot in merino sheep. Proceedings of the Society of Sheep & Beef Cattle Veterinarians of the NZVA Annual Conference.

## Features of TilmoVet

- · Long-acting antibiotic formulation for cattle and sheep
- Fast absorption and long half-life with good distribution into bronchial secretions and alveolar macrophages
- Tilmicosin injection has very high cure rates for treating footrot in NZ sheep

## Benefits of TilmoVet

- · Single injection for rapid treatment when signs of disease detected
- Extended period above MIC for many bacteria leads to higher cure rates in cattle with respiratory infections
- Proven antibiotic for treating footrot in sheep1

# Handler Safety when using TilmoVet

Use under direct veterinary supervision. It is essential individuals administering TilmoVet exercise extreme caution to avoid accidental self-injection. Injection in humans has been associated with fatalities.

### Needlestick-resistant gloves for use with TilmoVet 300 Injection

Safety gloves are available for Veterinary Practices to purchase, to improve user safety when injecting

TilmoVet. The gloves are 'HexArmor 3041 Hercules NSR' (needlestick-resistant) and are available in sizes XL, L and M (which match the sizing of common latex gloves). The gloves are resistant to needle puncture, but not completely needlestick proof. These gloves offer the best available protection for the non-vaccinating hand, which is generally parting the sheep's wool to allow needle access, to minimise the risk of self-injection while using TilmoVet.





# TilmoVet 300 Injection

Tilmicosin injectable antibiotic

## Description

Contains 300mg/mL tilmicosin

#### Action

Tilmicosin is a semi-synthetic antibiotic of the macrolide class. It has been shown to be active in vitro mainly against Gram positive organisms (Streptococci, Staphylococci) and some Gram negative microorganisms (Pasteurella spp, Mannheimia haemolytica), as well as against Mycoplasma spp.

### Pack Sizes

Available in 100mL glass bottles

### Indications

For the treatment of footrot in sheep.

For use in cattle for the treatment of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) associated with Mannheimia (Pasteurella) haemolytica and Pasteurella multocida, and other organisms sensitive to tilmicosin.

## Dosage

Directions: Inject only subcutaneously in the anterior part of the neck.

CATTLE: For BRD, administer a single subcutaneous dose of 10 mg/kg of body weight (1mL per 30kg). Do not inject more than 15mL per injection site. If no improvement is noted within 48 hours, the diagnosis should be re-evaluated.

SHEEP: For footrot, administer a single subcutaneous dose of 5mg/kg of body weight (1mL per 60kg). Do not treat lambs weighing less than 15kg.

## Withholding Times

MEAT: Cattle: 28 days

Sheep: 42 days

MILK: 35 days

## **Precautions**

Exercise extreme caution to avoid accidental self-injection. Injection in humans has been associated with fatalities. Do not work alone when using TilmoVet. Do not use in automatically powered injectors or syringes. Do not carry a syringe loaded with TilmoVet with the needle attached, except for filling the syringe or for administration to the animal. Remove needle at all other times. In case of human injection, consult a physician immediately and apply ice or cold pack to the injection site. May cause skin and eye irritation, and may be harmful if swallowed.

## Other Information

Store in original container, locked up, avoiding direct sunlight and temperatures above 25°C. Use within 28 days of opening.

ACVM Registration Number: A11195. Restricted Veterinary Medicine.

