

Recommendations for treating outbreaks of Fly Strike by the Wohlfahrtia Fly



Sheep
Version

THE DISEASE

Concerns the larvae (maggots) of the Wohlfahrtia Magnifica fly, which multiplies during hot and dry periods. The adult flies lay their eggs during these periods, directly onto shorn and most areas of the sheep, principally around the vulva, the feet, but also in the ear, and in any wounds (for example those arising from tagging etc). The maggots are found pressed tightly together and penetrate deeply into flesh wounds.



Wohlfahrtia Magnifica

TREATMENT

Any treatment authorized for external parasite infection, such as Deltamethrine, (Spotinor Deltanil) cypermethrine (Ectofly) or phoxime (Sebacil), must be used at the recommended dose, and must come in contact with the maggots, but which is not always the case when the maggots are stacked tightly and deep into the lesions.

For a successful treatment it is necessary to:

Day 1

- Remove and dispose of all visible maggots with tweezers. Any untreated maggots on the ground can continue their life-cycle. It is very important to remove all maggots and destroy them.
- Apply the recommended dose of product, following the manufacturer's instructions, directly on to the lesions with their remaining maggots.

Day 2

- Verify that any remaining maggots in the lesions are, in fact, dead. It may be necessary to remove them with the tweezers in order to prevent the risk of reinfection. Bring the animals indoors if possible for ease of observation.
- Treat open wounds with an aerosol or healing cream to help avoid further infection.

Alternatively it is possible to use insect repellants or healing products such as Oil of Cade, Stopmyasis, or Oxyllis.

PREVENTION

To achieve a good level of protection, during the high risk period of Spring to end of October, and depending on climate and conditions, it is vital to organise a complete preventative protocol.

A) Reduce the risk factors to a maximum

- ↳ Foot care : Treat and prevent foot problems, (MAL BLANC, PIETIN) and define a protocol with the vet.
- ↳ Cuts and abrasions: treat as soon as possible, especially head wounds on the [rams](#) to aid rapid healing.
- ↳ Put the animal indoors, or if this is not possible spray with insect repellant or insecticide, around the tail, SPONGE, or before covering (saillies).
- ↳ Docking tails of ewe lambs : be sure to leave sufficient length of tail to at least cover the vulva, the constant movement of shaking of the tail in adult ewes prevents flies from being able to lay their eggs on the skin around the tail area.

B) Seasonal protection with insecticides or natural insect repellants :

DICYCLANIL – CLIK®

Dose : 0.6ml/kg (eg 80 kilo ewe = 48mls)

Frequency : every 12-13 weeks

Mode of application : 45cm distance from the line of sheep's back in order to achieve a band width of 10cm

Attention : do not treat during heavy rain or before bad weather in order to avoid the risk of reducing the period of protection.

PYRETHRINES or ORGANO-PHOSPHORES

Spray application : BUTOX® 50/1000; SEBACIL®

Dose : dilute as recommended by manufacturer for spray application

Frequency : every 4 weeks

Mode of application : use at least 2litres of the diluted solution per ewe

PYRETHRINES POUR ON ECTOFLY® ; DELTANIL® ; SPOTINOR®

Dose : as per manufacturer's instructions

Frequency : every 4 weeks

Mode of application : directly on the animals' skin

ORGANIC INSECTICIDES

Organic Spray : OXYLLIS® ; STOPMYASIS®

Dose : as per manufacturer's instructions

Frequency : every 2 weeks

Mode of application : by spraying

PREVENTION CONTINUATION

- ↪ Before individual treatments, **check weight of heaviest animals**
- ↪ **Apply an extra dose of insecticide around the tail area just before mating.**

Recommendations for flocks with persistent lameness problems :
Footbath using a recommended external insecticide
Dose : dilute as per instructions for dipping
Frequency : every 2 weeks

C) Supplementary feeding with garlic vegetable extract.

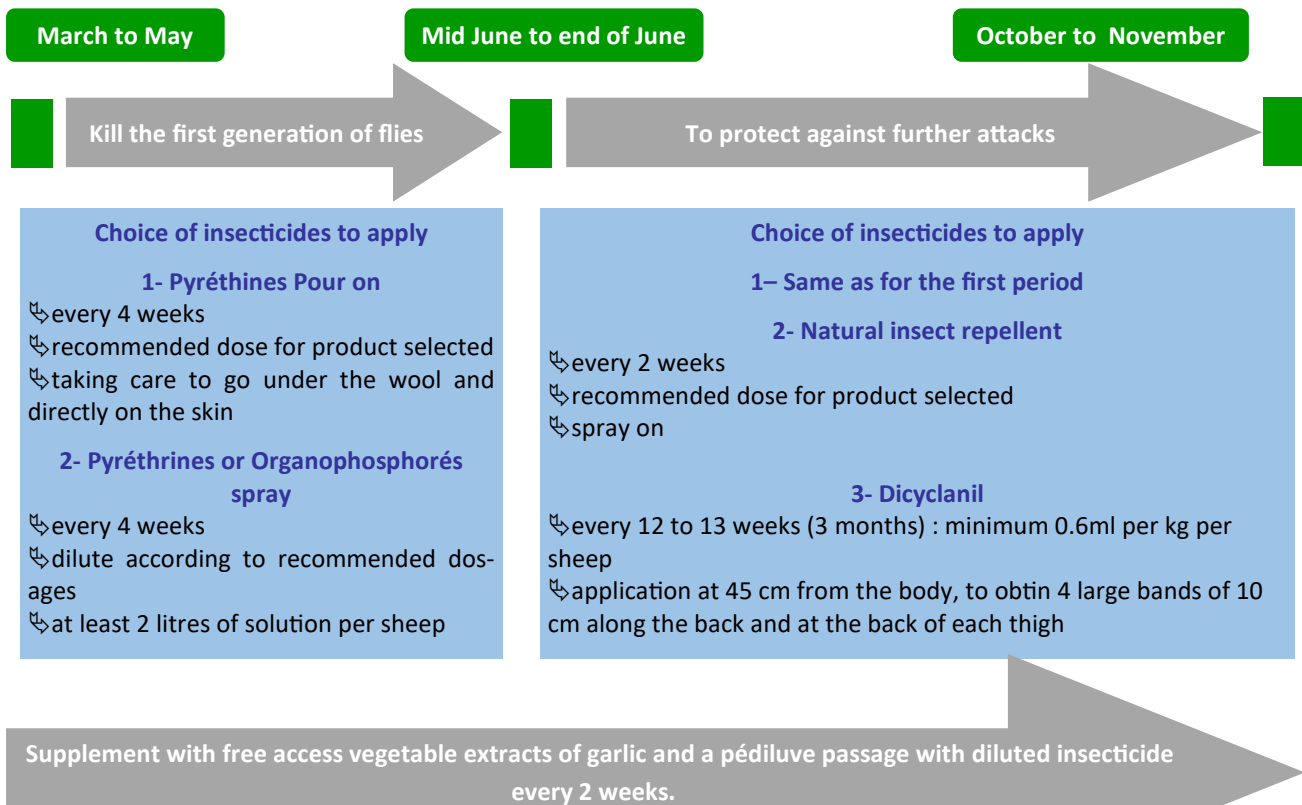
Provide a bucket per 20 ewes during the risk period.

Check the concentration of garlic in the product, not all manufacturers follows the same recipe. Check for regular consumption of the buckets, if necessary add water or break up the mix during dry weather to aid consumption.

Please note farm management practices may differ.

Your **vet can help** you find the protocol that is best adapted to your specific situation.

The above protocol must be respected for all ewes and rams. Lambs are not affected by this protocol due to statutory withdrawal periods. (Be aware of statutory retention periods and specific rules applying to Quality Assurance Conventions concerning all treated animals).



PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES :

Operator :

- ↪ Wear gloves and a mask
- ↪ Use footbaths and sprayers in well ventilated areas

Animals :

- ↪ Respect dose limits
- ↪ Respect precautionary use during the gestation period
- ↪ Respect withdrawal periods

Environment :

- ↪ Carry out all treatments well away from water courses



Credits photos : Alliance Pastorale Pâle Santé Animale et éleveurs ovins.



The copil Wohlfahrtia (Steering Committee) bring together breeders and animal health professionals from affected zones. Together they take decisions in the interest of best practice and techniques of care. They direct test procedures, define protocol for collaborative disease resistance, and communicate these to all concerned.

