Sheep Scab (Psoroptic mange)
A health, welfare and production issue in UK sheep flocks

Disease
• Disease caused by the highly contagious mite *Psoroptes ovis*
• Major production losses associated with heavy infestations

Diagnosis and treatment
• Accurate diagnosis is critical prior to treatment using skin scrape or blood test
• Moredun’s blood test is able to detect sub-clinical cases
• Effective treatments for sheep scab include OP plunge dipping or endectocide injection

Scab busters
• Practice good biosecurity including maintenance of perimeter fences
• Treat and quarantine ALL incoming sheep for at least 2 weeks
• Mites can survive off host for several weeks therefore disinfect all shared equipment/premises
• Control strategies involving all neighbouring farms are most effective

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