



# MoreDun Sheep Scab Blood Test

*– for the early detection and confirmation of sheep scab*

- **Sensitive detection** – detects disease before clinical signs appear limiting the spread of infection.
- **Detects sheep scab within 2 weeks of mite infestation** – informs rapid treatment and control strategies.
- **Accurate diagnosis of scab** – highly specific, will not detect other ectoparasites such as lice, ensures correct treatment prescribed.



## When to use the test?

- Testing of individual animals e.g. when sheep scab infestation is suspected.
- Whole flock testing to detect the presence or confirm the absence of sheep scab, e.g. hogs returning from wintering pasture.
- Use as a biosecurity tool prior to introduction of new stock onto farms, e.g. rams or breeding females
- Use as a surveillance tool for scab, e.g. test rams before and after introduction to a flock.
- Eradication programs - use to confirm effectiveness of treatment or eradication of disease.

## How many sheep should be tested in a flock?

For use on a whole flock or management group test 12 sheep from the group (up to a group size of 2,000).



## Sheep Scab

Sheep scab is caused by infestation with the ectoparasitic mite *Psoroptes ovis*. It is highly infectious and a single infested animal can spread the disease. The mites can remain infective in the environment for 16-19 days.

### Moredun Sheep Scab blood test

Sheep that have been infested with the sheep scab mite produce antibodies specific to a mite protein.

The test can detect these antibodies in the blood of affected animals within 2 weeks of a mite infestation.

Skin scraping can only effectively diagnose scab once lesions have developed (this can be several weeks after the initial infestation). This sensitive diagnostic test is a major step forward in controlling and preventing further spread of the disease.



**Note:** As with any blood test of this type, which measures antibody levels in the blood, it indicates exposure to the mite but cannot discriminate between a sheep with a current 'active' infestation or a very recently resolved infestation. In the absence of clinical signs, sheep testing positive should be re-sampled and tested after at least 10 days to confirm an "active" infestation.

**Contact your veterinarian to discuss the application of the test and arrange for blood samples to be taken for testing.**

**Contact us for further information:  
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