The goal of the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) and the U.S. sheep industry is to eradicate scrapie from our borders. In addition, it is the objective to have the World Organization for Animal Health, OIE, declare the United States scrapie free by 2017. This quarterly publication is created specifically for those of you in the field who are also working to achieve this goal.

This newsletter brings together, into one spot, current information from all 50 states, as well as from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and any other organization providing scrapie news, and reports it back to the field.

If you have first-hand accounts that you believe would be relevant for others to read or have information that you would like included in this newsletter, please let us know at becky@sheepusa.org.

**Scrapie Confirmed Cases in 2008**

Scrapie Cases as of August 31, 2008 = 164

126 field cases, including 5 goats*; 38 RSSS cases (Reported by State of ID tag. Collected in October-August and reported by Sept. 18, 2008. 4 cases—state of ID unknown, 1 Nor98-like case**.)

**Scrapie Brochure Developed to Promote Youth Involvement**

As many youth in the United States raise sheep, many for 4-H or FFA projects, it is crucial for them to understand their role in scrapie eradication.

Because of this, a youth-specific brochure was developed by the American Sheep Industry Association to explain scrapie, the National Scrapie Eradication Program and how youth can comply with the program. This brochure will be first offered to sheep-interested youth at the 81st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind., October 22-25.
How can I protect my sheep from scab?

- Choose healthy, uninfected sheep for purchase.
- Keep newly acquired sheep isolated for a period to monitor for signs of scab.
- Use a scab vaccine as recommended by your veterinarian.
- Implement a sanitation plan by regularly disinfecting the premises.
- Maintain adequate hygiene by washing and cleaning equipment.
- Ensure proper nutrition by providing a balanced diet.
- Provide shelter and access to clean water.
- Monitor sheep for signs of scab and treat promptly.
- Keep records of vaccinations and treatments.

The image shows a sheep, and the text provides advice on how to protect sheep from scab.
Animals Sampled for Scrapie Testing
Sheep and Goats
As of August 31, 2008

44,640 animals have been sampled for scrapie testing: 40,411 RSSS; 1,517 goats for the CSPS study; 2,171 regulatory field cases; 282 regulatory third eyelid biopsies; and 259 regulatory rectal biopsies.

Infected and Source Flocks New Statuses by Year
FY 1997 – 2008*

*Through August 31, 2008

Released Scrapie Infected and Source Flocks
FY 2008

55 flocks released as of August 31, 2008
Scrapie Flock Certification Program
Participating Flocks

As of August 31, 2008

Total Enrolled Flocks—2,002
Complete Monitored—1,471
Certified—504
Export Monitored—23
Selective Monitored—4

SFCP Flocks Enrolled and Certified in August 2008

Complete Monitored = 7
Certified = 1
Export Monitored = 2*
The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s goal is to collect 4,000 slaughter surveillance samples each month from around the United States.

Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance (RSSS) Statistics through August 31, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Since April 1, 2003:</th>
<th>In FY2008:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>185,605 samples collected</td>
<td>40,411 samples collected</td>
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<tr>
<td>380 NVSL* confirmed positive</td>
<td>38 NVSL confirmed positive</td>
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*National Veterinary Services Laboratories

Web Sites Dedicated to the Eradication of Scrapie

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahps/scrapie

Maryland Small Ruminant Page
www.sheepandgoat.com/scrapie.html

National Institute of Animal Agriculture
http://www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie/Scrapie.htm

Scrapie QuickPlace
https://qp01.aphis.usda.gov/QuickPlace/scrapie/Main.nsf?OpenDatabase
State and federal employees can access this password-protected site by e-mailing Earl.T.Thorpe@APHIS.USDA.gov to receive a password.