

Parasite Matters

Autumn 2020

Elanco

We've had a warm and dry spring with June and July being wetter in most places, but not everywhere, and the first half of August has been warm, wet and humid. What impact is this likely to be having on parasite challenges as we move into the late summer and autumn?

Blowfly

The NADIS blowfly risk has moved to "Severe" for most of the country. They comment "Warm, humid weather is perfect for blowflies and increases the survival of any maggots on the sheep. This time of year is the peak of the strike season, the risk of strike is severe across most of the country. Fly populations are at their maximum, any lambs still on the farm are at high risk, and the risk for ewes is increasing as their fleece regrows. High levels of vigilance are therefore required even if animals have been treated against strike." As fly numbers peak any gaps in application will be exploited by the high fly numbers.

<https://alerts.nadis.org.uk/>



Worms

After a largely dry year in the South, the wet and humid conditions in the first half of August is likely to lead to a rapid rise in worm challenge. Monitor worm egg counts and think about timings for mid/late season Zolvix break dose.

<https://www.scops.org.uk/news/5221/sheep-farmers-encouraged-to-use-newer-wormers-as-a-mid-season-lamb-dose-this-summer/>

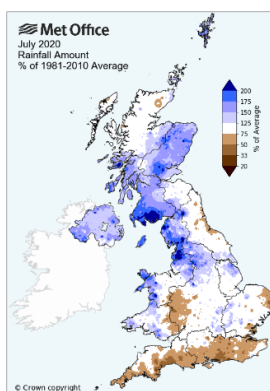
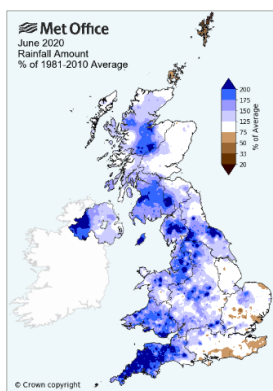
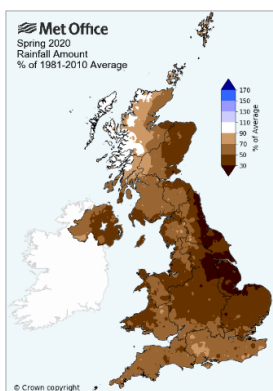
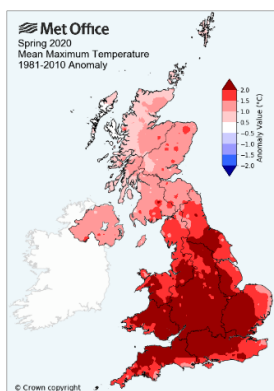


Liver Fluke

Last year was a generally low challenge year for liver fluke which came later in the season. The dry spring and wetter summer this year could give very localised areas of high challenge, while leaving other areas with little or no fluke challenge until much later in the season. Checking for liver fluke antibodies in lambs (or calves) will let you if the fluke challenge has started on your farm. Visit <https://www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk/webinars> for more information.



Weather September 2020 Courtesy of the Met Office



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