



Parasite Matters

Parasite Matters Spring 2021

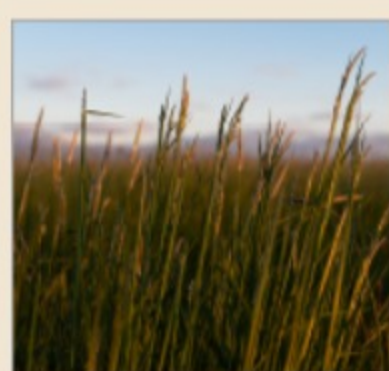
Met Office weather data shows that winter 2020 was generally warmer and wetter than average. This allowed parasite lifecycles to continue well into the winter months. This gave a late worm challenge, similar to 2019, and allowed continued mud snail activity and increasing fluke risk (although this was at a relatively low level in most areas). January and February have been colder than average, putting a stop to most parasite activity in the environment.

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Liver Fluke

- With a late start to the liver fluke season in 2020, and relatively low challenge in most areas, there's a risk of mis-timed treatments, or treatments not given. This leaves the opportunity for low levels of fluke to survive to adults in both cattle and sheep. Any surviving adults can shed huge numbers of eggs to continue the lifecycle for the next fluke season. Testing cattle before turnout, and sheep around lambing time (fluke egg detection is cheap and easy) will allow targeted treatment for adult fluke in any positive groups. Check www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk for more information.



Ticks

- As the weather warms up after the cold of January and February, ticks will be the first of the spring parasites to emerge. Those in tick areas should consider an insecticide treatment, such as Crovect™, to protect ewes in late pregnancy from ticks and the diseases they carry.



Blowfly Strike

- Blowflies will emerge in the spring a few weeks after temperatures pass 9C. With temperatures above 10C in the south of the country at the end of February, blowfly season could start as early as March. Follow the online blowfly alerts at [NADIS](#) and apply a blowfly prevention product before strike hits. See [how to apply CLiK](#) to get the best results.



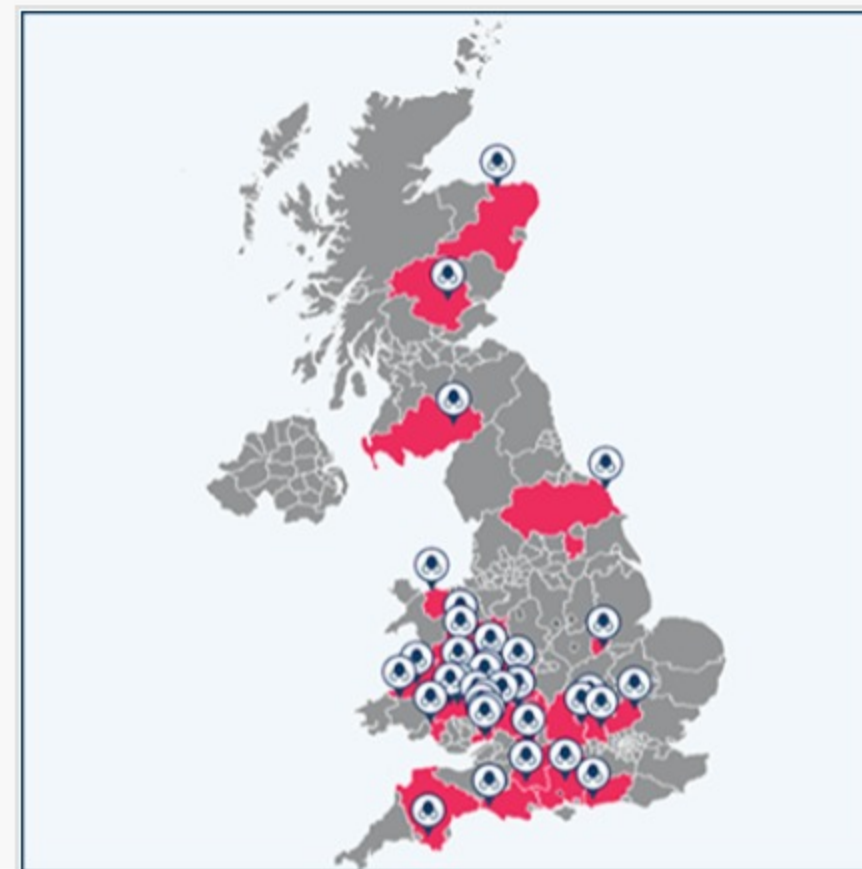
Nematodirus

- Nematodirus is usually the first gut worm to cause a problem for lambs in the spring. It is spread from one lamb crop to the next, as most nematodirus eggs overwinter, hatching in the spring when the temperatures rise. Avoiding having young lambs on the same ground grazed by lambs the previous summer will greatly reduce the risk from Nematodirus. Where this is not possible, follow the nematodirus [forecast here](#) and treat with a white drench (e.g. [Rycoben™](#)) when indicated by the risk level.

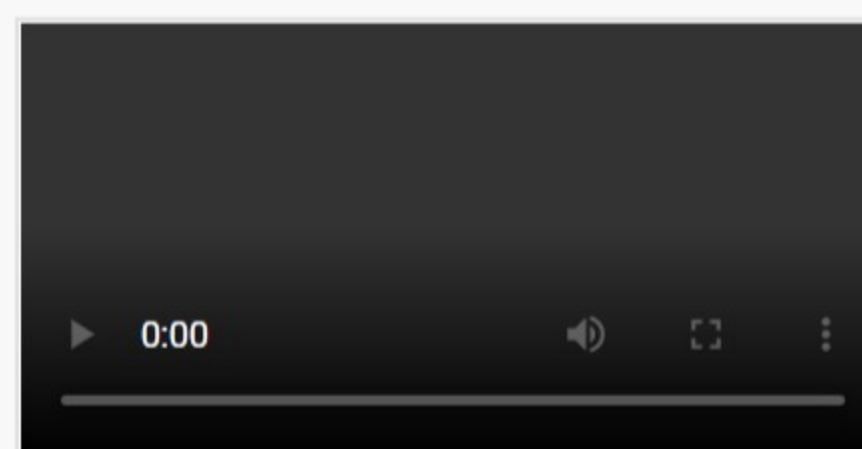


Coccidiosis

- Coccidiosis most commonly affects calves between 3 weeks and 6 months old, and lambs between four and eight weeks of age, so young lambs could be hit by nematodirus and coccidiosis at the same time. Infections are acquired by ingestion of oocysts from faecal material, so hygiene is a key factor in managing coccidiosis, and targeted group treatment is often required to control this disease at a farm level. Check www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk for more information.



[Register a case of blowfly strike now](#)



[How to apply the CLiK franchise](#)



[Is it Nematodirus? Click here for the facts on Nematodirus and treatment options](#)



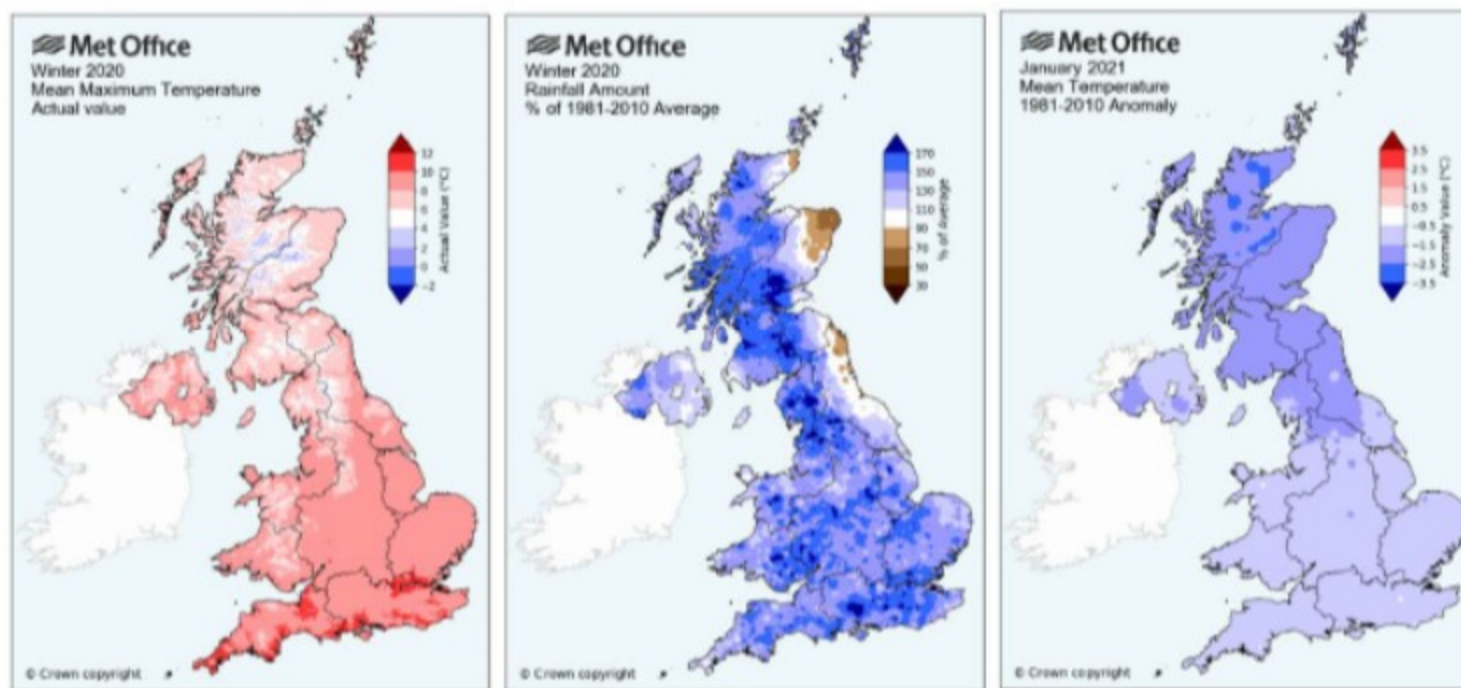
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Weather Charts January 2021

Courtesy of the Met Office



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Parasite Matters Archive

- [Parasite Matters Autumn 2020 \(published September 2020\)](#)
- [Parasite Matters Summer 2020 \(published June 2020\)](#)
- [Parasite Matters Spring 2020 \(published March 2020\)](#)

CLiK™ Pour-On for sheep contains 5% (w/v) dicyclanil and is indicated for the prevention of blowfly strike due to *Lucilia sericata* or *Wohlfahrtia magnifica* on sheep. Crovect™ Pour-On for sheep contains 1.25% (w/v) cypermethrin (cis:trans/80:20). Rycoben™ SC 2.5% w/v Oral Suspension for Sheep contains cobalt sulphate, ricobendazole and sodium selenate, and is indicated for the control of broad spectrum roundworms, tapeworms, lungworms and fluke in sheep. Legal category: POM-VPS. Advice should be sought from the medicine prescriber prior to use. Use medicines responsibly (www.noah.co.uk/responsible). Weather maps courtesy of the Met Office. For further information call Elanco Animal Health on +44 (0)1256 353131, or write to Elanco UK AH Limited, Form 2, Bartley Way, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, RG27 9XA. CLiK, Crovect, Rycoben, Elanco and the diagonal bar logo are trademarks of Elanco or its affiliates. © 2021 Elanco or its affiliates. PM-UK-21-0226