

SCRAPIE SURVEILLANCE

Help eradicate scrapie from Canada



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Canada



Scrapie is a fatal disease that affects the central nervous system of sheep and goats. It is what is known as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE). Other TSEs include bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle and chronic wasting disease in deer and elk.

Scrapie was first diagnosed in Canada in 1938 and became a reportable disease here in 1945. With the majority of countries worldwide working to eradicate TSEs from their national herds, the continued presence of scrapie in Canada is preventing access to international markets, including the United States. With your help, Canada can take action to eradicate scrapie.



The national scrapie surveillance program

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and several provincial agricultural ministries have launched a surveillance program to detect scrapie in the national sheep flock and goat herd. The goal is to identify every infected animal so that proper steps can be taken to completely eradicate the disease from our country.

The producer's role

The surveillance program needs your on-farm mature deadstock. Eradication will only be accomplished if every source of the disease is found. Samples representing the entire national sheep flock and goat herd need to be tested.

Report all sheep and goats aged 12 months and older that die on your farm or exhibit the following signs or symptoms:

- Unexplained weight loss
- Problems standing or walking
- Changes in behaviour



CALL THE CFIA AT 1 800 442-2342 OR YOUR LOCAL CFIA OFFICE TO REPORT AN ANIMAL AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE A SAMPLE TAKEN FOR TESTING.

Compensation

Compensation is available for any live animals ordered destroyed by the CFIA.

Keeping sheep and goats healthy

Manage the risk of scrapie showing up on your farm by either closing your female flock and testing all mature dead animals or by breeding for genetic resistance to scrapie. General biosecurity practices associated with farm visitors and animal husbandry (needles, taggers etc.) are also recommended.

For more information please visit scrapiecanada.ca or call the CFIA at 1 800 442-2342.



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