

# Johne's Disease

Endemic in the UK and responsible for significant financial losses to the livestock sector



## Disease prevention and control tips

- Agree an animal health plan and control strategy with your vet
- Maintain a closed herd/flock or minimise purchase of replacement stock
- Cull clinical cases and their offspring
- Avoid feeding pooled colostrum or waste milk
- Reduce environmental contamination by good hygiene in sheds and water troughs
- Do not co-graze sheep and cattle
- Vaccination can control clinical disease in sheep and goats

## Disease

- Caused by *Mycobacterium avium* subspecies *paratuberculosis* (Map)
- Clinical signs include progressive weight loss and diarrhoea
- Spread by ingestion of Map in faeces, colostrum, milk or across the placenta to unborn animals
- Has a long incubation period (2-4 years)

## Diagnosis

- No single diagnostic test can detect all stages of the disease
- Diagnosis is by antibody tests for blood or milk, or faecal culture