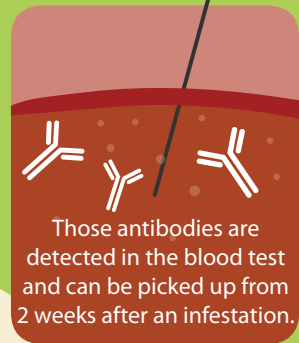
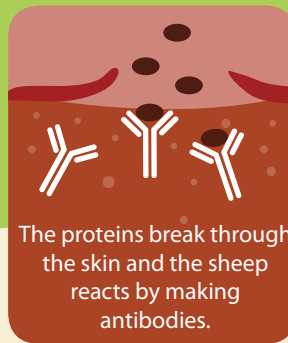


A TEST IS BEST!

What is the new sheep scab test and how does it work?

It's a blood test...

...which identifies antibodies produced in response to a protein in the sheep scab mite faeces.



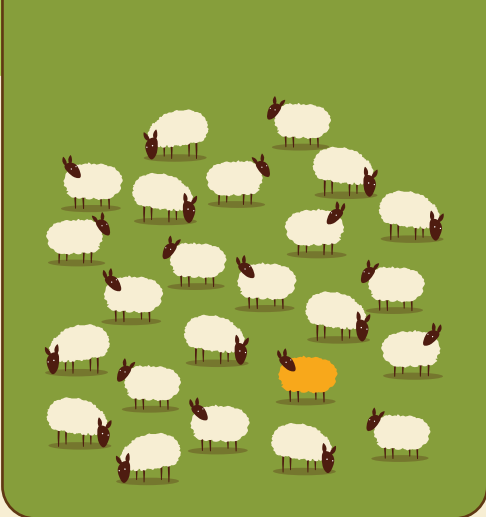
It detects sheep scab before any clinical signs appear.



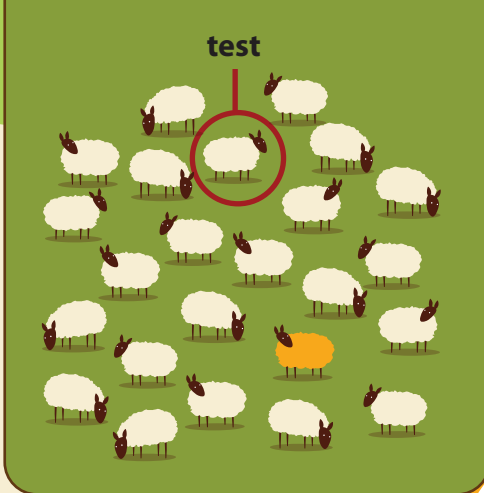
How many sheep do I need to test?

It's a flock level test and we've worked out that testing 12 sheep per management group gives us the best chance of finding scab if it's there. Testing 12 works with any size of group.

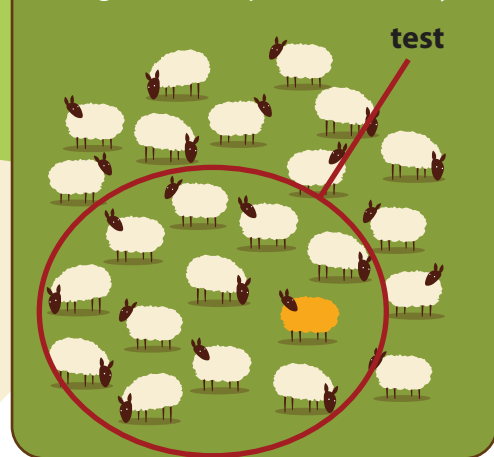
Initially, relatively few sheep will be affected following the infestation of a flock.



If we collect a sample from a single sheep, the test should detect the infestation but only if we are lucky and collect it from an infested animal.



The more animals we test, the more likely we are to find at least one infested animal, but we also need to balance that against the cost of testing more sheep than necessary.



Because it is very important to detect scab if it's present, we want to have a very high chance of finding it. Based on what we know about the test and the spread of mites in a flock, we've calculated it's best to test 12 animals.

Now I understand how the test works! 12 it is!

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