Definitions:

- MUST - There is strong evidence to support this recommendation and it is best practice
- SHOULD - There is strong evidence of moderate impact OR some evidence of strong impact
- COULD - Recommendation based on weak evidence or personal experience OR the results are mixed but it could be beneficial for control of lameness

The "Page number" on the left refers to the page in the booklet "Controlling lameness in your flock"

Identifying and treating lesions				
Page number	Activity	Must	Should	Could
8	Treat all sheep within 3 days of onset of lameness. If this is not possible, treat within 1 week of onset of lameness			
9	Identify the exact cause of lameness and treat correctly. Do NOT trim to make a diagnosis, use your eyes and look for heat or smell			
17	Treat all cases of CODD, footrot and scald in ewes and CODD and footrot in lambs with long-acting injectable antibiotic and antibiotic spray on all FOUR feet, do NOT trim feet			
17, 38	Treat all cases of scald in lambs with antibiotic spray on all FOUR feet, or footbath the group, ewes and lambs			
25	Treat even heavily pregnant ewes; lameness is stressful and treatment is essential for good welfare			
36	Separate lame sheep from the rest of the flock until lesions are fully resolved			
14	Mark and record all sheep treated for lameness			

Action plan to recognise lesions and prompt and appropriate treatment:

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Getting on top of high levels of lameness				
Page number	Activity	Must	Should	Could
13	Do NOT routinely foot trim sheep			
14	Use records of sheep treated for lameness to make decisions on culling and selecting breeding replacements			
5	Select a target lameness level to reach each year based on regional and national guidelines			
31	Cull sheep that have been lame with CODD or footrot twice or more in a year and those with granulomas or badly misshapen feet			
32	Do not select breeding replacements from ewes or rams that have misshapen feet or have been repeatedly lame			
38	Footbath healthy sheep at housing, turn out and weaning			
41	Separate lame sheep at housing, turnout and weaning before footbathing healthy sheep: only return them to the flock when they have no visible signs of disease			
38	Footbath after sheep have been gathered for routine treatments (vaccines, worming, etc.) – but DO NOT gather the sheep for the sole purpose of footbathing			
28	Vaccinate all sheep against footrot 4-6 weeks before a risk period a maximum of twice per year			

Action Plan:

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External biosecurity				
Page number	Activity	Must	Should	Could
34	Ensure all internal and external fences are secure and stock-proof, especially where there are neighbouring livestock			
34	Quarantine all new and returning sheep for at least 28 days			
34	Inspect and treat quarantined sheep for lameness			
35	Inspect all new sheep before purchase, do not purchase any sheep with visible lameness or lesions			
35	Inspect sheep for purchase on the seller's farm. Establish which diseases are present on their farm and what control protocols the farmer has in place to control lameness			
38	Footbath all new and returning sheep coming on to the farm			

Action Plan:

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Internal biosecurity				
Page number	Activity	Must	Should	Could
41	Provide a separate pen or field for lame ewes at all times			
41	Keep a dry environment under-foot during housing			
42	Rest all fields for at least 14 days between batches of sheep			
38	Use separate clothing and boots when in quarantine areas OR walk through a footbath before entering and upon leaving these areas			
42	Spread lime around water troughs and any other high traffic areas that accumulate moisture			
42	Move feed troughs, creep feeders and forage racks regularly to avoid poaching and faecal contamination			

Action Plan:

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