

- m. **Qualifying of sheep to enter the flock from the isolation facility:** (Appendix 4)
- i. Sheep enter isolation for the following reasons:
 - (1) New purchase from a flock not “A” status.
 - (2) Return from outside flock (e.g. show, demonstration) where there was exposure to sheep or goats of unknown or lower MV status.
 - (3) “Suspect” or “non-specific” MV test result. It is *strongly recommended* that this group be kept separate from new or returning entries as they may only need one test to return to the flock. Otherwise, they will require 2 negative tests to return to the flock.
 - ii. It is *strongly recommended* that animals enter the group at one time and that no new animals be added to the group. To do so may jeopardize the status of the group.
 - iii. All sheep entering isolation from outside the flock *must* undergo a MV test at entry.
 - (1) Unless arriving directly from an “A” status flock with no contact of non- “A” status animals.
 - iv. All sheep in isolation are treated as a group. The status of the isolation group is the same as status of the lowest status animal in the group.
 - v. An isolation group test *must* include all sheep in isolation that are ≥ 180 days of age.
 - vi. If the Isolation Group contains new entries to the flock (i.e. one or more of the animals in the group are new entries) and the Isolation Group Test is negative,
 - (1) Then the group remains in isolation and *must* undergo a second group test in 8 to 12 weeks after the initial entry test. Do not add any animals to the group during this time.
 - (2) If this second isolation group test is negative, there have been no animals added to the Isolation group, then the group is eligible to enter the main flock.
 - vii. If the Isolation Group is comprised only of animals that originated in the flock and are in isolation because of a previous “suspect” or “non-specific” test and the Isolation Group Test is “negative” then the group may return to the flock after only one group test.
 - viii. If one or more sheep are found to be positive at any test,
 - (1) the positive sheep *must* be removed and their lambs < 180 days of age.
 - (2) the entire remainder of the group *must* remain in isolation and be re-tested in 8 to 12 weeks.
 - (3) If the entire isolation group is then found to be negative on this subsequent test, the group may enter the flock.

- (4) If the flock's next test is a random sample (e.g. "A" status or "Monitored-Low Risk"), these sheep *must* be sampled as well as the random sample.
 - (a) If one or more animals are found to be positive, then the whole flock *must* be re-sampled in order to be able to achieve "A" status again.
- ix. If one or more sheep are found to be "suspect" or "non-specific" on any test and
 - (1) no other sheep in the isolation group test positive and
 - (2) upon retest, all suspect and non-specific sheep, test negative then
 - (3) the group test will be considered a negative test.
- x. Sheep that have entered "A" Status Flocks or "Monitored-Low Risk" flocks at subsequent flock tests:
 - (1) At the time of the next annual random flock test, all sheep which have entered the flock from isolation since the last random test, *must* be sampled in addition to the randomly selected sheep, regardless of the number of negative tests those former isolation sheep have received.
- xi. If lambs are born while the dam is in isolation,
 - (1) the lamb *must* be tested and removed as per the protocol set out for the main flock, i.e.
 - (a) lambs < 180 days of age will not be tested;
 - (b) lambs born to positive ewes *must* be removed from the isolation group;
 - (c) lambs \geq 180 days *must* be tested as part of the isolation group.
 - (2) An exception to this is if a lamb was born to a ewe which tests negative will in isolation. The lamb may be tested as young as 150 days of age for its first test
- xii. If all sheep are in isolation as a result of a "suspect" or "non-specific" test, i.e. no positive test results and
 - (1) The test was a Whole Flock test and
 - (2) A sheep receives a subsequent "negative" test on the retest within 30 days of the flock test,
 - (3) That sheep can return to the flock immediately upon receipt of the test.
- xiii. Embryo Status: All embryos being implanted in recipients located in the enrolled flock *must* have either originated from donors located in a Status "A" flock or were handled in accordance with the protocol set out by the International Embryo Transfer Society for the sanitary handling of embryos.
- xiv. Semen Status: All semen (fresh or frozen) being used in artificial insemination programs within the flock *must* have originated from rams located in Status "A" flocks, from countries declared free of Maedi Visna virus infection, or from rams collected in a federally accredited AI Centre (ensuring that they have had at least one negative MV test prior to semen collection).