



On target :

Sheep

NFU Scotland – fighting for your Interests

- **Sheep tags – funding for Electronic Identification (EID)**

NFUS was instrumental in gaining the best possible outcome for the implementation of the controversial Regulation 21/2004. As a result of NFUS negotiations, the Scottish Government subsequently agreed to provide funding for the extra cost of EID – this amounts to £0.40 per electronic tag. NFUS will continue its efforts in making this regulation more workable and will be pushing that a review takes place as soon as possible.

- **Scottish Sheep Scab Initiative**

NFUS has been instrumental in coordinating the Scottish Sheep Scab Initiative which is aimed at reducing the incidence of sheep scab by promoting and supporting best practice, minimising the impacts of outbreaks and maximising the effects of preventative action. Sheep Scab Industry Group discussions have led to plans that an advisory treatment period in the Autumn will be introduced. It is also likely that the Sheep Scab order will be updated and it is hoped that sheep scab will become a reportable disease by means of voluntary notification and enforced by trading standards.

- **Fallen Stock**

NFUS played a key part in securing a voluntary, subsidised collection and disposal service for fallen stock. Costs to farmers were subject to a 30 per cent discount as a result of £10 million in government funding. We have successfully maintained the derogated area status for parts of Scotland until a comprehensive affordable collection service is available in the area.

- **Winter Losses Survey**

With the recent winter weather making lambing conditions more difficult than they have been for many years, NFUS produced a survey which asks for a summary and feedback on losses and costs incurred as a result of the conditions. This information will help NFUS get a picture of the scale of damage and will strengthen our armoury in discussions with Europe and the Scottish Government as we emphasise the importance of support for agriculture.

- **Emergency Aid for the Sheep Sector**

NFUS was active in placing pressure on the Scottish Government requesting that they provide emergency aid to those farmers that have suffered losses and extra costs as a result of the winter weather. As a result of NFUS and MEP negotiations, the Scottish Government will provide £200,000 to the National Fallen Stock Company to help alleviate some of the additional costs our members have faced.

- **Cypermethrin Suspension**

NFUS has been pressing for the re-instatement of the marketing authorisation for cypermethrin based sheep dips. To persuade the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) that well managed dipping with cypermethrin dips does not pose a threat to the environment we have been recruiting a small sample of farmers who will allow SEPA to monitor their use of cypermethrin.

- **FMD Compensation**

NFUS convinced the Scottish Government to pay compensation to sheep farmers for some of the financial loss they experienced as a result of the 2007 FMD outbreak at Pirbright. This compensation package equated to £6 per eligible ewe and an overall spend of £19 million.

Summer 2010