

# Bluetongue disease

**Bluetongue is an insect-borne, viral disease that primarily affects sheep, occasionally goats and deer and, very rarely, cattle. It is non-contagious and is only transmitted by insect vectors. The disease is caused by a virus belonging to the family Reoviridae.**

## Which animals get bluetongue?

It is primarily a disease of sheep, but other species such as goats, cattle, buffaloes, camels, antelopes and deer can be infected. Humans are not infected.

## Where does it occur?

The virus is present in most countries of Africa, is seasonal and occurs from mid-summer to autumn, until the first frost.

## What are the symptoms?

The disease is characterised by fever, widespread haemorrhages of the oral and nasal tissue, excessive salivation and nasal discharge. In acute cases the lips and tongue become swollen and this swelling may extend below the lower jaw. Lameness, due to swelling of the cuticle above the hoofs and emaciation, due to reduced feed consumption because of painful inflamed mouths, may also be symptoms of this disease. The blue tongue that gives the disease its name occurs only in a small number of cases. Convalescence of surviving sheep is slow. The high fever in sheep results in wool breaks, which adds to production losses.

## How does it spread?

The virus cannot be transmitted between susceptible animals without the presence of insect carriers. The incidence and geographical distribution of bluetongue depends on seasonal conditions, the presence of insect vectors and the availability of the susceptible species of animals. The insect carriers, biting midges, prefer warm, moist conditions and are in their greatest numbers and most active after it rains.

Bluetongue virus does not survive outside the insect vectors or susceptible hosts. Animal carcasses and products such as meat and wool are not a method of spread. Survival of the virus within a location is dependent on whether the vector can overwinter in that area.

## How is it treated?

A veterinarian should be consulted immediately, so that affected animals receive the correct treatment. Keep affected animals in a small pen where shade, green feed and water are close by. They must be handled as little as possible. Antipyretic substances and painkillers may also be administered.

## Fertility is Fragile - Don't let infection compromise it

Overcome:

- Clinical Metritis
- Respiratory Disease
- Foot Rot



**FIGHT INFECTION TO PROTECT FERTILITY**

SPEAK TO YOUR VETERINARIAN

Pfizer Laboratories (Pty) Ltd, (Reg. No.: 1954/000781/07),  
P O Box 783720, Sandton, 2146, South Africa.



# Sheep diseases: Bluetongue

**Symptoms:** Fever, listlessness, lacks appetite and breathes rapidly. Swollen eyes, nose and mouth. The mouth and tongue become blue-red.

**Treatment:** Consult a veterinarian. Give antibiotics and keep the sheep in the shade.

**Prevention:** Immunise. Keep sheep in a barn at night.



**MID-SUMMER - AUTUMN**

## Bloutong

**Simptome:** Koors, lusteloosheid, swak aptyt, vinnige asemhaling.

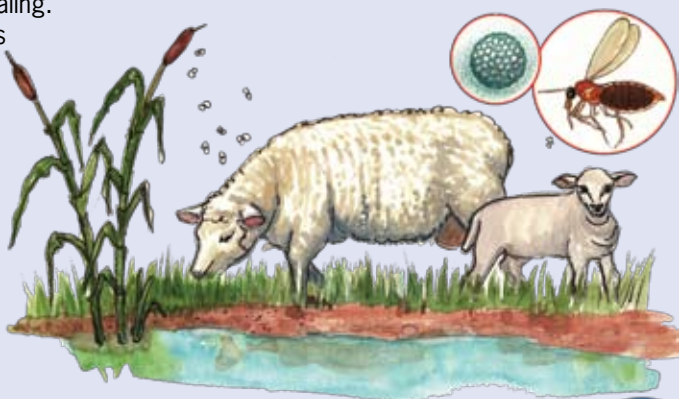
Opgeswelde oë, neus en mond. Die mond en tong kry blou en rooi vlekke.

**Behandeling:**

Nader 'n veearts. Gee antibiotika en hou die skape in die koelte.

**Voorkoming:**

Immuniseer. Hou die skape snags in 'n skuur aan.



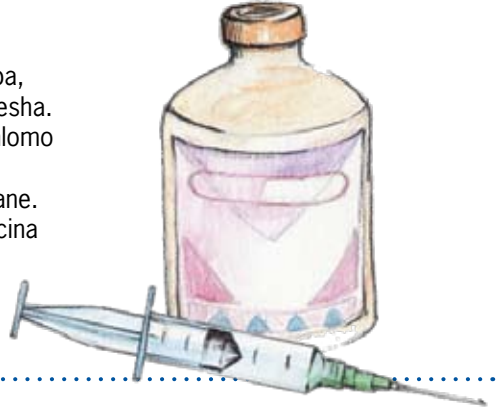
**pfizer**

## Bluetongue

**Izimpawu zesifo:** Imfiva, iyisinambanamba, ayithandi ukudla futhi iphefumula ngokushesha. Amehlo, ikhala nomlomo okuvuvukele. Umlomo nolimi kuba bomvu ngokuluhlaza.

**Ukwelashwa:** Bonana nodokotela wezilwane. Nikeza ama-antibhayothiki bese imvu uyigcina emthunzini.

**Ukuvimbela:** Goma. Izimvu zigcine endlini yokuzigcina ebusuku.



## Bolwetse bo bitswang Bluetongue

**Matshwao a bolwetse:** Feberu, ho fellwa ke matla, ho fellwa ke takatso ya dijo le ho hema kapele. Ho ruruha ha mahlo, dinku le molomo. Molomo le leleme le ba le mmala o blou le o mofubedu.

**Kalafo:** Iteanye le ngaka ya mafu a diphoofolo. Nwesa dinku meriana e lwantshang mahloko le ho boloka dinku moriting.

**Thibelo:** Enta dinku. Boloka dinku lesakeng bosiu.

## Isifo solwimi olublou (i-Bluetongue)

**Imiqondiso:** Ifiva (umkhuhlane), ukudangala, ukungacaceli ukutya nokuphefumla ngokukhawuleza. Amehlo, impumlo nomlomo odumbuleyo. Umlomo nolwimi ziba bubublou obubomvu.

**Unyango:** Cebisana nogqirha wezilwanyana. Nika izibulala-ntsholongwane yaye ugcine iigusha emthunzini.

**Uthintelo:** Gonya. Gcina iigusha ebuhlanti (kwishedi) ebusuku. 