

TACTICS ON HOW TO PREVENT SMALL RUMIANT FOOTROT

UF/IFAS Extension

Signs of Footrot



- Lameness
- Pain & Discomfort in the hoof area
- Reddened or inflamed tissue between toes
- Foul smell around hoof area
- Goat or Sheep grazing on Knees
- Lying down for extended amount of time

Treatment

- Call your local veterinarian to see what type of antibiotics they would recommend
- Footbathing (Zinc/Sulfate solution) for up to 15 minutes to dry hoof tissue
- Separate the animals that are infected from the rest of the herd/flock



What causes it?

- A bacteria that is commonly found in wet soil conditions when mud & manure have been allowed to accumulate
- Highly contagious in wet/moist areas where animals congregate
- Infected animal spreading it to the herd/flock



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Prevention

- Provide good drainage of water in pastures and paddocks
- Pasture rotation
- Practice regular hoof trimming
- Quarantine new animals who might carry the bacteria
- Buy animals from reputable breeder

Eradication

- Keep areas where livestock congregate high and dry
- Remove animals with signs of footrot away from other livestock
- Enforce a strict biosecurity protocol which includes not introducing livestock with disease



Surveillance

- Keep a close observation of your livestock during the wet seasons
- Do not buy any sheep or goats with footrot
- Quarantine new livestock for at least 30 days
- Hoofs should be trimmed 1 to 2 times a year
- Talk with your veterinarian if you see signs of footrot



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