

LIVE STOCK
(Sheep)
No. 769/22

1922

C.S.

Governor

SUBJECT.

1922

Requests information from Australia and New Zealand as to Lice in sheep.

6th November

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

Minutes

*Minute by H. S. The Governor of 6th November 1922 — Encl ①
Letter to Ministers of Agriculture in Australia & New Zealand
of 9th Nov. 1922. — Encl. ②
Letter from Minister of Agriculture New Zealand
of 7th March 1923 — Encl ③*

*Y.E.
Submitted
G.R.H.B.
O.J.C.S.O.
10 April 1923*

O.J.C.S.O.

*Will you please send attached note to
W. G. J. Feller with copies of ② + ③*

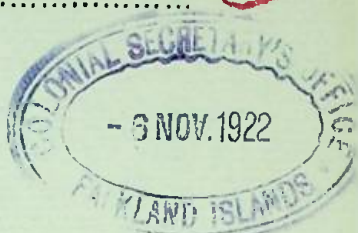
*W.G.J.
12 April 1923*

*Letter +
enclosures sent
13 April 1923
W.G.J.*

Subsequent Paper.

*Letter from Dept of Agriculture, Victoria
of 27 June 1923 — Encl ④*

DATE.....

From Governor to Colonial Secretary.

Mr. J. J. Gilman has asked that Governments of New Zealand & Australia should be requested to furnish such information as may be available on the following points.

- (1) How far the measures taken by G.O.T. to prevent the spread of lice in sheep have proved effective & whether it has been possible entirely to get rid of lice.
 - (2) Whether experiments have been carried out under G.O.T. supervision with regard to the efficiency of (a) Soluble & (b) Insoluble Shop Dip and ^{if so} what is the maximum number of sheep for which the same mixture of Soluble dip is considered to remain efficient.
2. New Zealand is more likely to be able to furnish information than Australia. Chief Inspector of Stock informs that lice are more prevalent in Romney & other breeds in New Zealand than in Merinos in Australia. However all sheep are infested with lice & both countries.

769/22.

9th November, 22.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor of the Falkland Islands to ask you to be good enough to furnish me with such information as may be available on the following points :

- (1) How far the measures taken by the Government of New Zealand to prevent the spread of lice in sheep have proved effective and whether it has been possible entirely to get rid of lice.
- (2) Whether experiments have been carried out under Government supervision with regard to the efficiency of (a) soluble and (b) insoluble sheep dips and if so what is the maximum number of sheep for which the same mixture of insoluble dip is considered to remain efficient.

2. These points are of considerable importance to the industry of this Colony and I would be very grateful for any information you may be able to give me in this matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

The Minister of Agriculture,
New Zealand.

Australia.

H. Henniker-Heaton.
Colonial Secretary.



DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND



Office of Minister of Agriculture,

WELLINGTON.

MAR 7 1923

The Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
PALMISTON ISLANDS.

Dear Sir,-

With reference to your letter of the 9th November last in which you seek certain information regarding measures taken by the New Zealand Government to prevent the spread of lice in sheep, and enquiring whether experiments have been undertaken with regard to the efficiency of soluble and insoluble sheep dips, I now have pleasure in advising as follows:-

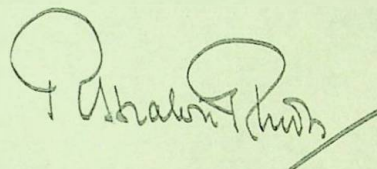
- (1) Up to the present it has not been found possible to rid the country entirely of lice on sheep. Regular dipping, at least once a year, is, however, now a part of the ^{ordinary} ~~regular~~ farming practice in this Dominion, as it is realised that by keeping parasites in check better fleeces and better carcasses are produced. The attached bulletin (No. 7) sets out the provisions of the Stock Act relating to the dipping of sheep.
- (2) This Department has not carried out any experiments to test the relative efficacy of soluble and insoluble dips. Practically the whole of the mixtures used in this country are proprietary preparations. All the leading brands are regarded as thoroughly efficient when used exactly according to the makers' directions. Some of these manufacturers (notably Wm. Cooper & Nephews Ltd.) have carried out a great amount of research work in this direction and as their products are satisfactory no Government experiments have been found necessary. Insoluble dips composed of tobacco, lime, etc. are not used to any extent in this country. As ^{to} the maximum number of sheep for which the same mixture of insoluble dip will remain efficient, this enquiry no doubt refers to the ordinary dips in use in New Zealand, in which (both poisonous and non-poisonous) there is a certain amount of insoluble matter which requires to be kept in suspension. I enclose herewith notebooks issued by the makers of Cooper's and Quibell's Dips (two well-known English brands) which give the exact information desired so

far as these two particular dips are concerned. Without knowing what dip is used at the Falkland Islands it is impossible to advise on this point in general terms.

A copy of the "Journal of Agriculture" of January, 1921, is also enclosed. This contains a useful article on sheep-dipping by Mr. F. Mackenzie.

Your attention is directed to the statement made by Mr. Mackenzie regarding the necessity for a second dipping in regard to sheep affected with lice.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Abrahamson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

for Minister of Agriculture.

Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

L

Melbourne, 27th. June

1923.

The Colonial Secretary,

S T A N L E Y, FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Sir,

I very much regret the delay which has occurred in replying to your communication (No. 769/22) of 9th. November last and now have pleasure in furnishing the information asked for:-

1. The measures taken to prevent the spread of lice in sheep have been effective to a considerable extent but it has not yet been proved that it is possible to entirely eradicate the pest.
2. No extensive experiments have yet been carried out by the Government Department in Victoria but it is proposed to establish a set of experiments on Dipping during the forthcoming season, at the Departmental Research Farm and keep accurate records of the results of using various soluble and insoluble dips, and information thereon will be supplied you later if desired.

In the meantime I may state that a majority of the more careful sheep-owners use one of the poisonous (powder) dipping preparations compounded on an arsenical base; these may be called insoluble though it is claimed by the manufacturers that, granted careful and proper mixing as directed and frequent stirring the wash in bath with a "plunger" whilst dipping is in progress, only a very small percentage of the arsenic is not in solution as the sheep go through.

The general experience of Officers of this Department and also information given by sheep-owners on the subject, goes to show that the results obtained from the use of the poisonous dipping mixtures are, by far, the most satisfactory, being so much more permanent in their effects than the liquid non-poisonous mixtures.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. S. Cameron".

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

Handwritten initials "J.C.A." in cursive script, positioned below the printed name.