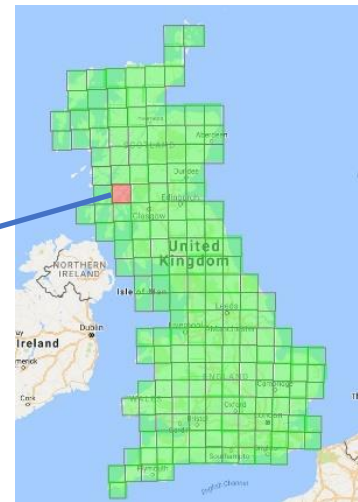
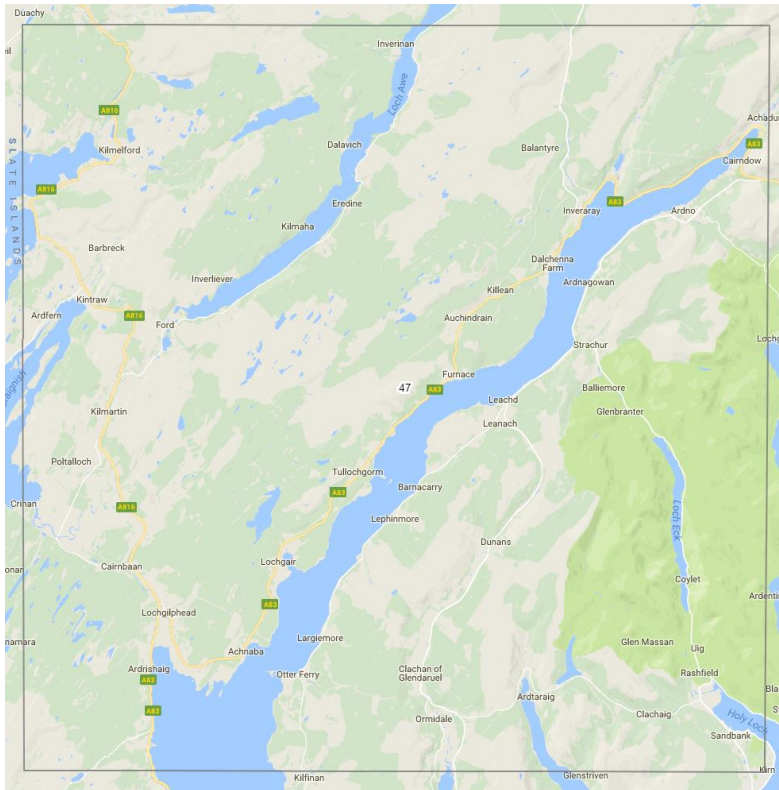


Fluke Forecast – HIGH RISK (Grid 47)

In view of the increasing number of cases of liver fluke seen in the practice, we are sending you the local fluke forecast from NADIS. The best way of preventing parasite disease is to have a parasite control plan for your farm. If you would like further information about a parasite control plan to prevent disease call John Smith



A new NADIS fluke-risk forecasting system based on local weather data is now available. Outputting to a grid mapping system for GB, high fluke-risk areas appear **red**; medium-risk **amber**; and low-risk **green**. Each grid area covers a 40km² square.

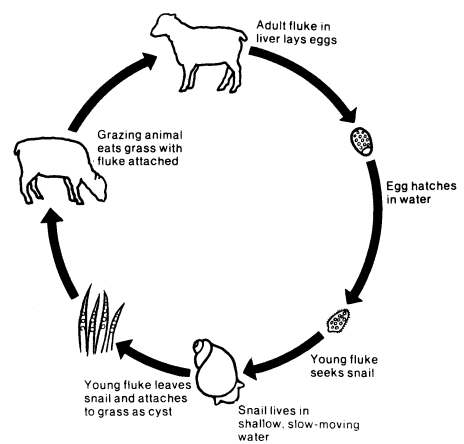
Local Weather – how it affects liver fluke

High summer rainfall and temperatures above 10°C are required for the fluke life cycle to take place and snail host populations to rapidly increase, leading to a build-up of infective fluke stages. The risk of fluke infection is generally worse in wet years although individual farm circumstances will also significantly affect risk so it is important to discuss this with your vet.

Fluke Risk

The NADIS fluke forecast based on a summer rainfall model indicates a **HIGH**-risk of liver fluke disease for your area this year.

There is also a **HIGH**-risk of acute fluke based on a cumulative autumn-spring model.



Signs to watch out for

With acute fluke, affected sheep die suddenly from haemorrhage and liver damage with the first evidence of a problem being sudden deaths in previously healthy sheep from August to October. Inspection of others in the group reveals lethargy and reduced grazing activity. Gathering may prove difficult because sheep are reluctant to run caused by abdominal pain. Sudden deaths may affect up to 10 per cent of sheep at-risk causing grave financial loss.



Sheep with acute fluke die suddenly from haemorrhage and liver damage with the first evidence of a problem being sudden death

Fluke Control Measures

The effects of liver fluke can largely be controlled using effective flukicides administered at the correct time, so consult your vet.

The following risk factors will significantly increase the risk of acute fluke disease in sheep and the need to treat:

- a. Is there a history of fluke on the farm? [Yes](#) [No](#)
- b. Have sheep been grazing wet areas, ditches, ponds? [Yes](#) [No](#)
- c. Does the farm have a veterinary parasite control plan? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Avoid risk of fluke by not grazing potentially contaminated, poorly-drained areas from late summer onwards.

As local conditions and the presence of fluke habitats can vary considerably, why not call the practice and discuss fluke control measures and fluke treatments that will need to be applied?

The most effective way to control fluke is as part of a veterinary parasite control plan so contact the practice for further details

CONTACT

Call or email info@elmvets.co.uk