



# SHEEP POX



Sheep pox is an economically important and most serious vesicular disease in sheep, caused by Capri pox virus. It is characterized by acute febrile condition and generalized pock lesions. The lesions first appear as vesicles, later turn to pustules on the exposed parts of the body. It leads to high mortality in lambs and exotic breeds are more prone than indigenous breeds. Sheep are naturally susceptible to the disease.

## TRANSMISSION:

- ❖ Direct contact
- ❖ Droplet infection

## CLINICAL SIGNS:

- ❖ Pock lesions on eyelids, lips, nostril, ears, cheeks, inner side of fore leg & thigh, scrotum, prepuce, vulva, under tail, chest regions
- ❖ Appearance of macules, followed by papules, large vesicles and scab formation
- ❖ Abortion in ewes and pock lesions in foetus



## DIAGNOSIS:

- ❖ Characteristic vesicles and pock lesions on skin
- ❖ Intracytoplasmic inclusion bodies in the epithelial cells of skin
- ❖ Counter immunoelectrophoresis, complement fixation test, animal inoculation test
- ❖ Molecular techniques like PCR, Real time PCR



## PREVENTION AND CONTROL:

- ❖ Hygienic management of sheep farms
- ❖ Vaccination with attenuated or killed or freeze dried live sheep pox vaccine
- ❖ Goat pox vaccine protects sheep against sheep pox

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