BATTLE BLUETONGUE

Virus Comparison Table, *launched 17.11.26,* *This table is a summary, see the GOV.UK website and RH&W Bluetongue Hub for more information*

	Bluetongue (BTV)	Foot & Mouth (FMD)	Schmallenberg (SBV)	Shamonda (SHAV)
Genus	Orbivirus	Aphthovirus	Orthobunyavirus	Orthobunyavirus
Is it notifiable?	Yes. Report suspicion immediately by calling: England: 03000 200 301 Wales: 03003 038 268 Scotland: 03000 600 704	Yes. Report suspicion immediately by calling: England: 03000 200 301 Wales: 03003 038 268 Scotland: 03000 600 704	No	No
Species affected	Cattle, sheep, deer, goats, llamas and alpacas. Rarely BTV can affect dogs and other carnivores if infected material is eaten	Cloven-hoofed animals including cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, camelids and deer	Cattle, sheep, goats, deer, alpacas and llamas	Cattle, sheep, goats, deer, alpacas, llamas and horses may become infected. One human case has been documented in a severely immunocompromised individual
Is there a vaccine available in the UK?	Yes, for BTV-3 there are vaccines in the UK. Note there is no cross protection for BTV-3 vaccines and other BTV serotypes, however vaccines for BTV-1, 4 and 8 are widely available in Europe	Routine, preventative vaccination is banned in GB to maintain the highest FMD status under international trade rules of 'countries free from foot-and-mouth disease without vaccination'. Vaccination would be considered in a FMD outbreak	No	No
What can be done?	Vaccination is the only effective prevention but is strain specific. For affected adult animals', early treatment with anti-inflammatories, good nursing care and antibiotics for secondary pneumonia improves outcome. Breeding males should undergo a fertility check before use	Relevant biosecurity measures should be practised as a matter of routine along with remaining vigilant and reporting suspicion of disease immediately to the APHA	Contact your nearest APHA VIC to discuss testing (need to be distinguished from other diseases like BVDV/BD or BTV). Early lambing/calving flocks are often worse impacted (discuss management of timing of mating). Affected lambs or calves are unlikely to recover	Contact your nearest APHA VIC to discuss testing (need to be distinguished from other diseases like BVDV/BD or BTV). Early treatment of acute cases with anti-inflammatories appear to improve recovery. Early lambing/calving flocks are often worse impacted (discuss management of timing of mating). Affected lambs or calves are unlikely to recover
How is it spread?	*Culicoides* biting midges, movement of infected animal's or animal products and vertical transmission	Direct animal contact or contaminated surfaces/objects. Airborne spread of the virus can also occur	*Culicoides* biting midges, movement of infected animal's or animal products and vertical transmission	*Culicoides* biting midges, movement of infected animal's or animal products and vertical transmission
Clinical signs in cattle	Lethargy, crusty erosions around the nostrils and muzzle, lameness, redness of the mouth, eyes, nose, reddening of the skin above the hoof,	Sores and blisters (vesicles) on the feet – between the toes and on the upper edge of the hoof where the skin and horn meet or in the mouth or on	Fever, diarrhoea, lethargy, inappetence, milk drop, abortions and increased returns to service	Fever, diarrhoea, lethargy, inappetence, anorexia, sudden milk drop, abortions, increased returns to service, increased

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	nasal discharge, reddening and erosions on the teats, fever, milk drop, not eating, abortion, foetal deformities and stillbirths	the tongue. Other signs include fever, reluctance to feed, shivering, lameness, drooling and smacking lips, producing less milk		rates of retained fetal membranes, metritis, endometritis
Clinical signs in sheep	Ulcers or sores in the mouth and nose, discharge from the eyes or nose and drooling from mouth, swelling of the lips, tongue, head and neck and the coronary band, red skin as a result of blood collecting beneath the surface, fever, lameness, breathing problems, abortion, foetal deformities and stillbirths, death	Severe lameness, which may develop suddenly, lying down more than usual, unwillingness to move when made to stand, high numbers of abortions, stillbirths and lambs dying soon after birth, young lambs quiet and lying down more often, ewes unwilling to allow lambs to suck, blisters on the hooves or, rarely, in the mouth	Clinical signs in adult animals may not be apparent	Clinical signs in adult animals may not be apparent
Clinical signs in lambs and calves	Calves and lambs can become infected before birth if the mother is infected while pregnant. Abortions and deformities are common. Typical deformities include a lack of brain development resulting in “dummy” lambs and calves unable to stand and suck, blindness or stargazing may be seen, or death of lambs and calves within a few days of birth	Similar to clinical signs of adults. Young animals may have a higher fatality rate	Calves and lambs can become infected before birth if the mother is infected while pregnant. Abortions and deformities are common. Typical deformities include fused limbs, parrot mouth, lack of brain development. “Dummy” lambs and calves unable to stand and suck, blindness or stargazing may be seen	Calves and lambs can become infected before birth if the mother is infected while pregnant. Abortions and deformities are common. Typical deformities include fused limbs, parrot mouth, lack of brain development. “Dummy” lambs and calves unable to stand and suck, blindness or stargazing may be seen
Movement restrictions	England, Wales and Scotland are country wide BTV-3 restricted zones and animals may move freely within, and between. This does not apply to other strains of BTV for which other controls may be put in place. For Northern Ireland, please check DAERA website	There are restrictions on commercially importing hay, straw and live animals belonging to an FMD-susceptible species. Also restrictions from FMD-susceptible animals including germplasm, fresh meat, meat/milk/ dairy products unless suitably treated, animal by-products and casings	None in GB or Europe, but requirements for import and export are country specific and should be checked with an official vet before starting the import or export process	None in GB or Europe, but requirements for import and export are country specific and should be checked with an official vet before starting the import or export process
Further information	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bluetongue-latest-situation	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/foot-and-mouth-disease	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schmallenberg-virus/schmallenberg-virus	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/shamonda-virus-detected-in-livestock-in-great-britain-for-first-time

Notes: *- Horses infected with Shamonda can show seizures/neurological signs that can be confused with West Nile virus (**notifiable**) or equine herpesviruses.*
Information on Shamonda virus (SHAV) is evolving and when new evidence develops this resource will be updated accordingly.