CONTACT

Additional copies of this Code and further information are available from:

Water Environment Unit
Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department
Area 1-H
Victoria Quay
EDINBURGH
EH6 6QQ

Email: waterenvironment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Tel.: 0131 244 0205

The Code is also available on the Scottish Executive’s website at:
www.scotland.gov.uk/publications

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SHEEP DIPPING
CODE OF PRACTICE FOR SCOTTISH FARMERS, CROFTERS AND CONTRACTORS

Groundwater Regulations 1998

March 2003
Paper 2003/7

www.scotland.gov.uk
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SECTION 1  SUMMARY OF APPROVED PRACTICE

You should alert SEPA immediately regarding any pollution incident involving sheep dip by telephoning 0800 80 70 60.

BEFORE YOU START DIPPING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DO</th>
<th>DO NOT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Record all dip treatments used ((4.1.1))</td>
<td>• Transport the dip concentrate in an insecure manner ((4.1.2)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have staff trained in the correct use of dips and dipping practice ((4.1.2)).</td>
<td>• Place the dip concentrate in an unmarked container or in unsecured storage ((4.1.2)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Carefully select sites for mobile dippers to prevent losses of sheep dip ((4.1.4)).</td>
<td>• Site a dipper within 10 metres of a watercourse or within 50 metres of water supplies ((4.1.3)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Routinely inspect the dip bath and other areas for signs of cracking, wear, damage or corrosion and assess the need for repair or replacement ((4.1.5)).</td>
<td>• Fill the dip bath without first checking that it is leak proof ((4.1.5)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have contingency measures in the event of spillage of dip concentrate or contamination of groundwater supplies or watercourses ((4.1.7)).</td>
<td>• Use soakaways for disposing of spent sheep dip ((4.1.8)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plan your waste dip disposal by either obtaining an Authorisation from SEPA or confirming an alternative disposal route with an approved waste contractor ((4.1.8)).</td>
<td>• Leave a full dip bath uncovered or unattended ((4.1.9)).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
DURING DIPPING OPERATIONS

**DO**

- Work carefully when dipping to prevent excessive splashing (4.2.2).
- Check that drip pens and silt traps are preventing leakage or overflow and ensuring operator safety (4.2.2).
- Offer clean, empty dip concentrate containers back to the supplier or prevent their re-use by crushing, puncturing or flattening (4.2.3).
- Monitor weather conditions and routinely check the dip bath level to prevent overflow (4.1.10).

**DO NOT**

- Let the dip bath overflow (4.2.1).
- Store or accumulate part-used or empty dip concentrate containers at the dipper (4.2.3).
- Dispose of dip concentrate containers without first rinsing them thoroughly (4.2.3).

ONCE DIPPING HAS FINISHED

**DO**

- Hold dipped sheep in drip pens for a minimum period of 10 minutes (4.3.1).
- Dilute waste dip with a minimum of 1 part waste dip solution to 3 parts water and/or slurry as soon as possible after dipping unless detoxification is being undertaken, when such dilution should be carried out after detoxification (4.3.3).
- Comply with the conditions in the Authorisation issued by SEPA with respect to disposal of waste sheep dip (4.3.5).
- Use only those areas Authorised by SEPA for waste dip disposal, or else use an approved contractor, for the disposal of waste dip (4.3.5).

**DO NOT**

- Let newly dipped sheep return to grazing using a route that allows them contact with springs, wells, boreholes, ditches, ponds, burns or rivers (4.3.1).
- Leave a water hose running to the dip bath unattended (4.3.2).
- Stockpile used dip solution, whether treated or untreated (4.3.4).
- Use a by-pass or valve on silt traps to a drain or watercourse (4.3.5).
- Delay emptying the dip bath unless weather conditions do not permit safe disposal (4.3.5).

You should alert SEPA immediately regarding any pollution incident involving sheep dip by telephoning 0800 80 70 60.
SECTION 2  INTRODUCTION

2.1 The Importance of Sheep Dipping and Groundwater

Sheep dipping can play an important part in the maintenance of good animal welfare. The treatment chemicals used are effective against parasites, but can also be hazardous to the aquatic environment if not used carefully. Using best practice and careful planning can help to reduce the amount of chemicals used, thus lowering farmer costs and reducing the risks to groundwater. Groundwater and surface waters are interlinked and therefore pollution of one can seriously affect the quality of the other. Groundwater is an important source of drinking water in rural areas and is essential to the maintenance of wetlands and the wider aquatic environment. Groundwater moves into watercourses and helps to maintain river flow in periods of dry weather. For the purposes of this Code, and as defined by the Groundwater Regulations 1998, groundwater is defined as all water which is below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone in direct contact with the ground or subsoil. This Sheep Dipping Code of Practice is made under these Regulations and approved to ensure best environmental practice; the aim is to safeguard the quality of groundwater and of watercourses, by preventing the entry of sheep dip chemicals into either.

2.2 The Groundwater Regulations 1998

These Regulations have been produced to ensure that certain listed substances either do not enter, or do not cause pollution of, groundwater. These listed substances include chemicals used to control ectoparasites on sheep (i.e. sheep dips and pour-on products) and certain cosmetic dip products (e.g. bloom dips). It is the role of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) to ensure that these Regulations, brought in by the UK Government to implement the EC Groundwater Directive, are followed. SEPA contact details, including the addresses of local offices, are given in SECTION 7. If you are farming near the border with England, and your sheep dipping operation is located there, you should be aware that a separate Code of Practice for the use of sheep dip exists for England and Wales. The Environment Agency enforces the Groundwater Regulations 1998 in England and Wales (contact details are also given in SECTION 7).

The Regulations give SEPA powers to issue a Notice on persons involved in any activity where there is a risk of an indirect discharge of such substances to groundwater. An indirect discharge is one that filters through the soil and subsoil to the groundwater. The Regulations do not permit these substances to be discharged direct to groundwater. Therefore in cases where dip baths are below the ground extreme care must be taken to prevent leakage or loss of sheep dip chemicals from such structures that would lead to their direct entry to groundwater.

A Notice issued by SEPA may either prohibit a person from carrying out an activity or authorise the person to carry out that activity, subject to conditions necessary to protect groundwater and ensure compliance with the Regulations.
2.3 Purpose of the Code

The purpose of this Code is to provide practical guidance to farmers, crofters and contractors regarding the steps to take before, during and after dipping so as to prevent adverse impacts on groundwater. This Code extends to conventional or mobile dip baths as well as other forms of treatment (e.g. showering, jetting or the use of pour-ons). The activities covered include all aspects of handling, transport and use of the dip from supply through to (but not including) the point at which the waste dip is disposed of, in accordance with an Authorisation issued by SEPA. Contact SEPA for details on the disposal of waste dip Authorisation process and how you should apply for one.

IMPORTANT: If you or your contractor intend to dispose of waste dip to land, you must seek prior Authorisation from SEPA to do so.

By following the guidance in this Code, you should:

- achieve more effective treatment of sheep for ectoparasites, thereby saving money;
- ensure the protection of groundwater and watercourses from pollution, including your own, or your neighbours drinking water supplies;
- reduce the likelihood of regulatory action being taken by SEPA.

In deciding whether or not to issue a Notice under the Regulations, SEPA will consider whether or not guidance contained in this approved Code of Practice has been, or is likely to be, followed.

2.4 Relationship to Existing Guidance

A range of other literature exists that provides guidance on issues related to sheep dipping e.g. obtaining Certificates of Competence, animal welfare concerns and the protection of human health. This code is specifically approved for the purpose of the Groundwater Regulations 1998. A full list of references is provided in SECTION 6 of this Code. These are referred to at various points in this Code, and should continue to be used as appropriate.

2.5 Other Legislation

Animal movement regulations no longer require sheep dipping to be licensed. However, if sheep are to be moved to another farm for dipping (except on common grazing or within crofting townships) further movement of the sheep would be caught by the 20 day standstill requirements. Further advice on whether your dipping procedures come within the scope of this requirement can be sought from your local Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department office (see SECTION 8).
SECTION 3 RESPONSIBLE USE OF SHEEP DIP

3.1 Environmental Hazards Associated with Sheep Dips

All sheep dip products, including cosmetic dips and pour-ons, contain chemicals that are potentially very harmful if used incorrectly. Significant harm to the aquatic environment, wildlife and humans can occur if such chemicals are not stored, handled, used and disposed of safely and responsibly.

3.2 Possible Routes of Contamination

Treatments containing organophosphates (OPs) and synthetic pyrethroids (SPs) are extremely toxic even at very low concentrations. Their improper use and their disposal pose a significant risk of contaminating drinking water supplies taken from groundwater (e.g. from springs, wells or boreholes) and, if allowed to enter a watercourse, these chemicals can cause significant damage to aquatic life over a very wide area. Contamination of groundwater may occur via the following routes:

- Spillage of sheep dip concentrate or pour-ons while handling containers.
- Drips from freshly treated stock.
- Leakage and loss from a dip bath sited below the ground, especially at locations with permeable soil and subsoil.
- Overflow of working strength sheep dip solution from a dip bath to adjacent ground both during and after use.
- Drainage from drip pens which are no longer impermeable and/or which do not drain effectively back to the dip bath.
- Losses of sheep dip concentrate from part-used or empty dip containers that have not been adequately rinsed out.
SECTION 4  GOOD PRACTICE FOR THE SAFE USE OF SHEEP DIP

4.1 Good Practice – Before Dipping

4.1.1 Treatment Selection

Careful planning of treatment and the use of appropriate ectoparasite control methods helps reduce the total amount of dip concentrate used. This reduces farmers’ costs and helps reduce the risk to groundwater. Sheep farmers and crofters should discuss plans for treatment with their veterinary surgeon who will be aware of the animal health issues associated with the unit and of the neighbouring area. Pour-ons, showers and jetters are not effective for the control or treatment of scab. For treatment selection, refer to SAC Technical Note T478: Control of Sheep Scab and Other Ectoparasites of Sheep (1999). A record of sheep dip treatment used should be kept.

4.1.2 Purchase, Transport and Storage of Dip Concentrate

The purchaser of any sheep dip product must hold a Certificate of Competence in the Safe Use of Sheep Dips to demonstrate that they will use dips responsibly. The procedure for attaining this certificate is given in the National Proficiency Tests Council (NPTC) publication, Certificate of Competence in the Safe Use of Sheep Dips (1998).

Limiting the purchase of dip concentrate to the minimum quantity necessary to meet the manufacturers dipping instructions is both cost effective and reduces risks associated with retaining surplus concentrated dip, or of having to dispose of excess amounts of diluted waste dip. Care is required when transporting dip concentrate from the supplier to the farm store or from farm store to the dipper. **The preferred method of transport is in a lockable secure chemical cabinet** on a trailer, or in a vehicle with a floor to ceiling bulkhead between the driver/passenger compartment and the load area. Keep the dip concentrate in this secure area when it is not required for filling or replenishing the dip bath.

On arrival at the farm, dip concentrate must be stored either in the pesticide or medicine store, securely locked and clearly identified, as described in HSE Information Sheet 16: Guidance on Storing Pesticides for Farmers and Other Professional Users (1997).

4.1.3 Siting and Design of Dippers

The siting and design of dippers should be such that the risk of polluting groundwater and any watercourse is reduced to a minimum. To safeguard drinking water sources, static or mobile dippers, spray races or showers should all be sited at least 50 metres away from springs, wells and boreholes. In addition, to protect surface waters, it is strongly recommended that a minimum distance of at least 10 metres is maintained between any type of dipper/shower and surface watercourses and drains.
Dip baths that are sited below ground level must be constructed in such a way as to prevent entry of water from surrounding land, and to ensure no loss or leakage from the dip bath occurs above or below ground. The dip bath must be designed to contain the dip solution and to enable gravity flow back to the dipper from the drip pens and any other area contaminated by drippings from the fleeces. The proximity of most dippers to watercourses is merely a reflection of past farming practices, and should not be continued. However, subject to provisions in section 2.4 farmers are encouraged to share facilities that meet the standards given in this Code so as to reduce the risk of pollution and optimise the effectiveness of treatment.

The size and type of dip bath and drip pens will be determined by flock size, site constraints, design for correct dipping procedures (i.e. immersion for 1 minute) and overall throughput. Allowance should be made for a minimum of two drip pens to allow for a minimum draining down period of 10 minutes, as recommended in the *Prevention of Environmental Pollution From Agricultural Activities (PEPFAA)* Code (1997/to be updated 2003) - or at least 5 minutes if this is not practicable.

Dip baths must be constructed as one-piece pre-fabricated units or one-piece in-situ concrete and the overall unit should have the following key design features:

- impermeable construction to ensure no loss or leakage occurs.
- no drain or outlet for below ground structures.
- impermeable drip pens draining or directing all drippings (i.e. excess dip solution from fleeces) back to the dip bath.
- kerbs and splashboards in place.
- suitable access for cleaning and emptying, preferably by a vacuum tanker.
- removable covers to prevent access or entry and to reduce rainfall on the dip bath.

Care in the construction and operation of the whole unit is important. The dipper should feature suitable kerbs and splashboards (sheeting or blockwork), well graded (1 in 30) impermeable floors and a silt trap. These features will retain the dip solution within the dipper, reducing the risk to operators, and prevent pollution of groundwater and any watercourses. **The silt trap should drain only to the dip bath.**

4.1.4 Use of Mobile Dipping, Showering, Jetting or Spraying Equipment

Reliance on mobile treatment units, often operated by contractors, has become more popular in recent years. For reasons of convenience and access the farm steading is used as the site for treatment instead of sheep dipping areas. However, in some cases, this has lead to increased risks of pollution due to the presence of farm drains, yards, roads and limited holding areas for sheep after treatment. Leaks or losses, drainage and drippings can more easily run off and enter drains or watercourses or be discharged onto or into land at farm steadings.

**Therefore, it is essential to carefully select suitable sites where treatment is to take place and for treated sheep to move onto.** Areas specifically designed and constructed for mobile treatment units are required in the longer term either in the
field or at the farm steading. In the meantime, all areas should be fully contained and assessed as being safe from the point of view of preventing pollution of groundwater or watercourses.

The following additional guidance should be followed to reduce the risks of pollution from mobile dippers:

- Prevent dip chemicals escaping into surrounding ground or into nearby drains. Sealed drainage systems and suitable collection facilities should be provided to contain any spillages, leaks or drainage from equipment or sheep immediately after treatment.

- Do not move or relocate any mobile treatment units containing fresh or used sheep dip solution or spray solution, unless it is specifically designed to do so.

- Ensure that any drainage or drippings from treated sheep is collected in a similar manner to that for static sheep dippers (i.e. via drip pens to a containment facility).

- Check the condition of the area of land onto which sheep disperse after treatment. Poaching or churning of the area may increase the risk of pollution due to ponding, run-off or by soaking into the ground. Move the animals via another suitable area of land if poaching has reduced the vegetative cover significantly. Using protective mats or absorbent material across exit ramps can reduce damage.

Certain field sites may be more suited to carrying out mobile treatments and should be investigated for their suitability. In particular, the site should be assessed to ensure that it is not located near to any spring, well or borehole or watercourse. Ideally, such mobile treatment sites should be flat, or gently sloping, with well established grass cover and be underlain by at least 150mm top soil, preferably to a depth of 600mm to rock. The area should be free from flooding, surface ponding or waterlogging and not be frozen or compacted.

If it is intended to use mobile treatment systems within a Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI), you should consult Scottish Natural Heritage (see SECTION 7). You may be statutorily obliged to obtain a Potentially Damaging Operations Consent from them to ensure that conservation interests are not harmed.

4.1.5 Inspection of Dippers

You should inspect the empty dipper before use to ensure that there are no cracks and worn or damaged areas. Before use, the dip bath should be filled with clean water and, after ensuring that no drainage or rainfall can enter, the level monitored. After a minimum waiting period of 24 hours, any leakage(s) that are detected must be rectified before dipping. If the problem cannot be rectified, the dip bath must not be used. Leaking dip baths are more likely to pollute groundwater and where this is found to be the case SEPA will serve a Notice prohibiting their use. Alternatively, if suitable precautions can be taken to prevent the escape of sheep dip chemicals, SEPA may issue a Conditional Prohibition Notice that authorises the person concerned to carry on the activity of sheep dipping. There is currently no charge for the issue of
such Notices by SEPA. If the conditions imposed by SEPA are considered to be unreasonable, there is a right of appeal to Scottish Ministers under the Groundwater Regulations 1998, and you will be advised of this by SEPA.

4.1.6 Briefing Operators and Checking Personal Protective Equipment

The operator responsible for dipping must have a Certificate of Competence in the Safe Use of Sheep Dips. All persons involved should read the instructions on the dip concentrate container label, should be familiar with a Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (CoSHH) Risk Assessment and be aware of proper dip concentrate handling procedures. Emphasis must be placed on risks to the environment, the safety of operators and welfare of the sheep. Minimum recommendations for handling dip concentrate and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are given in Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Publication AS29r: Sheep Dipping (1998).

4.1.7 Contingency Measures in the Event of Spillage

The farmer, crofter or contractor should contact SEPA immediately in the event of a spillage or incident that could cause a risk of pollution to either groundwater or any watercourse, on SEPA’s 24 hour Emergency Hotline number 0800 80 70 60.

It is important to be prepared for any spillage as swift action can prevent it from becoming a serious pollution incident. To ensure a prompt response to any incident, a list of Emergency Contacts [SECTION 5] should be displayed in the sheep dip store and should be drawn to the attention of all operators.

Any accidental spillage should be immediately washed into the dip bath. Dip concentrate containers should be opened only in the drip pen. If a container is damaged and/or spillage occurs away from the immediate vicinity of the dipper, first ensure appropriate PPE is being worn. After using absorbent material (e.g. sawdust, sand or proprietary product) to contain the spillage, collect and transfer all contaminated material, including soil, to a clearly labelled sealed container for collection by a licensed waste contractor. Any spillage of waste dip during dipping or emptying should be drained back into the dip bath.

Examples of the type of operational failure that may require contingency measures include:

- Spillage to land or watercourses of dip concentrate, dip solution or diluted waste dip;
- Run-off from holding pens discharging onto land;
- Run-off from land into watercourses of diluted waste dip after spreading to a disposal area.
Advice on action to be taken in the event of suspected effects on human health arising from the use of sheep dips can be found in HSE Leaflet AS29r: Sheep Dipping (1998). If you think that people or animals have suffered an adverse reaction following exposure to sheep dip, you can report it by completing the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) form MLA252A. This form can be obtained from the VMD, veterinary practices, Veterinary Investigation Centres, Animal Health Offices and HSE Regional Offices [SECTION 7].

Prompt action can help to prevent an accident becoming a major pollution incident or health hazard.

4.1.8 Ensure an Authorised Disposal Route

Before dipping commences, ensure that the site for land disposal has been authorised by SEPA and is in a suitable condition to receive waste dip. Soakaways are not suitable as disposal route. If disposal of waste dip is to be off-site, confirm who is responsible for the transport and disposal to the authorised disposal area. When using mobile dipping contractors, it is essential to establish beforehand between the farmer/crofter and contractor who will take responsibility for the disposal of the waste dip.

If authorisation has not been granted by SEPA for a proposed disposal area (see 4.3.5 below), the farmer/crofter/contractor should contact the local SEPA office [SECTION 7] to discuss possible temporary storage of waste dip, before submitting an application for authorisation. The temporary storage tank must be secure, labelled, sealed and situated at least 10 metres away from surface watercourses and at least 50 metres away from any drinking water supplies taken from groundwater (i.e. spring, well or borehole). Disposal at a neighbouring authorised disposal site may be allowed only if SEPA is notified of this beforehand and agrees to vary the authorisation accordingly.

4.1.9 Filling the Dip Bath

Once filled, unless in use, a dip bath should not be left uncovered and never left unattended. Ensure an adequate supply of both water and sheep dip concentrate is available. Sheep dip concentrate containers should be opened only in the drip pen when filling or topping up the dip bath. Once all preparations have been completed and no rain is forecast, fill the dip bath according to the instructions on the product label. Never over-fill the dip bath, as any overflow could cause major contamination and pollution. To eliminate the risk of sheep dip solution back siphoning into the water supply system, ensure that the water hose is not placed directly in the dip bath but is filled by directing the hose over the drip pens. Hoses should not be connected to taps that do not have anti-siphon devices fitted.

4.1.10 Monitor Weather Conditions

Always ensure that the influence of weather conditions is taken account of by using local forecasts. Be prepared to postpone treatment or take additional precautions as conditions dictate. Heavy rainfall will increase the amount of water draining from the drip pens and adjoining areas and this can result in a greater risk of
the dip bath overflowing. Freezing conditions may also cause damage to the dipper and any chemical containers left at the dipper. Heavy rainfall following spreading of waste dip to land will increase the risk of contaminating groundwater and watercourses.

4.2 Good Practice – During Dipping

CORRECT OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES ARE DESIGNED TO PREVENT CONTAMINATION OF GROUNDWATER AND WATERCOURSES.

4.2.1 Replenishing the Dip Bath

Follow manufacturer’s instructions on the quantity of dip concentrate to be used for topping-up and the frequency with which it should be done. Mix the dip bath over its full length, taking care to minimise splashing, before recommencing dipping.

Skim any floating debris from the dip bath and place the scum at the side of the dip bath so that any drainage is returned to the dip bath. Do not position the scum where it may become a hazard to the operator or to the sheep. The scum may be spread on the site authorised by SEPA for waste dip disposal.

4.2.2 Correct Dipping Procedures to Avoid Spillage

Effective dipping should be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions on the product label. To reduce excess splashing and plunging, work to a routine, calmly, quietly and with control. An exit gate is required to retain sheep in the dip bath for the prescribed time. Screens guarding the dip bath should have a substantial top rail to provide stability to the operator dunking the sheep. As sheep exit the dip bath, shaking will produce a spray of droplets and a flow of excess dip. Both the spray and runoff from the drip pen must be contained and allowed to drain back into the dip bath through a silt trap.

SEPA HOTLINE 0800 60 70 60
4.2.3 Ensure Safe Rinsing and Disposal of Empty Dip Containers

Empty dip concentrate containers and measuring vessels must be thoroughly rinsed out following the manufacturer’s instructions and the rinse water returned to the dip bath. Empty the containers or decommission them by crushing, puncturing or flattening to prevent re-use. Try to keep the label legible in this process. The cleaned containers can be disposed of via either the Local Authority waste collection service (if available) or by a private registered waste disposal contractor. Used containers must never be reused or left lying about the fank, as they may prove to be a source of pollution due to the presence of chemical residues.

4.3 Good Practice – After Dipping

ONCE DIPPING IS OVER THERE IS STILL A RISK OF GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION.

4.3.1 Movement of Sheep

Two drip pens with the capacity to retain the sheep for a minimum period of 10 minutes are recommended, but if this not practicable the sheep should be retained in a drip pen for at least 5 minutes. However, even after a 10 minute dripping period there can still be residual dripping from the fleece. Therefore, holding areas for newly dipped sheep and their return route to grazing should be chosen with care to avoid contact with ditches, ponds, burns and rivers (i.e. areas with no, or limited, access to watercourses or within 50 metres of any spring, well or borehole used as a drinking water supply). Poached or waterlogged ground and hard surfaces, such as metalled roads, should also be avoided. While stock need drinking water, preventing access to surface watercourses for a period of two days after treatment will significantly reduce the risk of contamination.

4.3.2 Washing Equipment and Clothing

A low pressure hose connection to the water supply should be sufficient to wash down the drip pens, dipper area and associated equipment, including clothing. Washings should go into the dip bath. The only time the hose should be in the dip bath is during washing out, when it is under the direct control of the operator. Other precautions are given in 4.1.9 above.

4.3.3 Treatment/Detoxification of Dip

Sheep dip chemicals are known to break down in the presence of some common, readily available chemicals, for example, hydrated lime. It is important that any treatment employed for waste dip is one recommended for the dip type and formulation used. If using such a ‘detoxification’ method, you must:
• follow the manufacturer’s label instructions, if given, specific to the type and formulation of sheep dip used. Under no circumstances must sheep dip be treated using a method designed for another product.

• use strong and effective-leak proof covers over the dip bath while treatment is taking place.

Treatment methods can take up to a fortnight to work effectively. It is essential that environmental and safety precautions are taken into account for the period during which the waste dip is being treated.

• treat only in a well sealed, watertight dip bath or other suitable leak proof holding tank.

• avoid the risk of overflow by regularly checking the level of sheep dip solution in the bath whilst treatment is taking place, especially if wet weather is forecast.

• record the treatment method, the date employed and the date of final disposal.

• untreated and treated waste dip should be disposed of at an authorised site.

• adopt the same level of care when handling treated dip solution as is the case when handling untreated dip.

For further information, refer to the manufacturers instructions and SAC Technical Note T475: Waste Sheep Dip Treatment and Disposal (1998).

4.3.4 Emptying the Dip Bath

The storage of waste dip must be in a sound, secure and leak-proof container. The dip bath should be emptied as soon as possible after dipping and the dipper, drip pens and associated areas washed down with all drainage going to the dip bath for emptying. Delay in emptying can be justified only if treatment (or detoxification) of the waste dip is to take place or if the weather conditions make it unsuitable to arrange for immediate disposal to an authorised disposal area. Temporary covers or roofing of the drip pens and dip bath will help to minimise the volume of rainwater collected in the dip bath between treatments.

Provide suitable access to the dipper to allow the vacuum tanker suction hose to reach into the dip bath. Part fill the tanker with water and/or farm slurry to achieve a dilution of at least 1:3 (1 part waste dip solution to 3 parts water and/or slurry) of the waste dip before vacuuming the dip bath. If possible use a smaller (e.g. 50 mm diameter) pipe, to remove as much of the waste dip as possible and ensure that when coupling and de-coupling of suction hoses any drips or drainage from them returns to the dip bath. Where contractors are being used, it may be necessary to transfer the waste dip to a holding tank so that further dipping can proceed.
The storage of waste dip must be in a sound, secure and safely located container (i.e. more than 10 metres from any watercourse and 50 metres from any drinking water supply taken from groundwater) so as to minimise the risk of spillage and possible pollution. **Storage of waste dip is suitable only for a short period, prior to disposal. Do not store waste dip for re-use.**

4.3.5 **Disposal of Waste Dip to Land**

Never discharge waste dip, whether treated or untreated, to a watercourse.

The disposal of waste dip into or onto land must be authorised by SEPA under the **Groundwater Regulations 1998** so as to ensure certain precautions are followed. Scum and silt trap contents should also be disposed of to land authorised by SEPA. Before such an Authorisation can be issued, the proposed disposal area(s) must be assessed for suitability. This is to prevent disposal that may result in a risk to groundwater or any watercourses. An application pack for a Groundwater Regulations 1998 Authorisation is available from all SEPA Offices and includes:

- Guidance Notes that provide an overview of the requirements of the Regulations, as well as information on how to apply for an Authorisation (see **SECTION 6** below).

- An application form.

- A SEPA Prior Investigation Flowchart, which outlines the criteria for the selection of suitable land for disposal.

Further details can be obtained by contacting your local SEPA Office (see **SECTION 7** below).

4.3.6 **Disposal of Waste Dip via a Registered Contractor**

In certain situations, where an authorisation to dispose of waste dip to land is not held, it may be possible to dispose of such waste via other appropriately licensed routes. This type of disposal is likely to require a specific licence. **You should note that the handling of agricultural wastes in general, and liquid wastes in particular, is likely to be affected by new Regulations during the course of 2003.** You should contact your local SEPA office for advice on the current situation.
### SECTION 5  EMERGENCY CONTACT SHEET

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<td>Telephone</td>
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<td>Email address</td>
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### EMERGENCY CONTACTS

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<tr>
<th>EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME</th>
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<td>EMERGENCY TEL. NO.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOCTOR’S SURGERY</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPA HOTLINE TEL. NO.</td>
<td>0800 80 70 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPA LOCAL OFFICE TEL. NO.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEALTH &amp; SAFETY EXECUTIVE LOCAL OFFICE</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOCAL CONTRACTOR with VACUUM TANKER</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHEEP DIP SUPPLIER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL POISONS INFORMATION SERVICE</td>
<td>0131 536 2300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOTTISH WATER</td>
<td>0845 600 8855</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A copy of this list should be displayed in the sheep dip store and should be drawn to the attention of all operators (see section 4.1.7).
SECTION 6 REFERENCES

- SAC Technical Note T478: Control of Sheep Scab and Other Ectoparasites of Sheep (1999).


### SECTION 7  SEPA AND OTHER AGENCIES’ ADDRESSES

**Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)**  
**EMERGENCY HOTLINE 0800 80 70 60**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Fax Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CORPORATE OFFICE</strong> Erskine Court The Castle Business Park STIRLING FK9 4TR Tel: 01786 457700 Fax: 01786 446885</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fort William Office</strong> Carr’s Corner Lochybridge FORT WILLIAM PH33 6TL Tel: 01397 704426 Fax: 01397 705404</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fraserburgh Office</strong> Shaw House Mid Street FRASERBURGH AB43 9JN Tel: 01346 510502 Fax: 01346 515444</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Galashiels Office</strong> Burnbrae Mossilee Road GALASHIELS TD1 1NF Tel: 01896 754797 Fax: 01896 754412</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glenrothes Office</strong> Pentland Court The Saltire Centre GLENROTHES KY6 2DA Tel: 01592 776910 Fax: 01592 775923</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS &amp; GRAMPIAN OFFICES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aberdeen Office</strong> Greyhope House Greyhope Road ABERDEEN AB11 9RD Tel: 01224 248338 Fax: 01224 248591</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arbroath Office</strong> 62 High Street ARBROATH DD11 1AW Tel: 01241 874370 Fax: 01241 430695</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dingwall Office</strong> Graesser House Fodderty Way Dingwall Business Park DINGWALL IV15 9XB Tel: 01349 862021 Fax: 01349 863987</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Edinburgh Office</strong> Clearwater House Heriot Watt Research Park Avenue North Riccarton EDINBURGH EH14 4AP Tel: 0131 449 7296 Fax: 0131 449 7277</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dingwall Office</strong> Graesser House Fodderty Way Dingwall Business Park DINGWALL IV15 9XB Tel: 01349 862021 Fax: 01349 863987</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elgin Office</strong> 28 Perimeter Road Pinefield ELGIN IV30 6AF Tel: 01343 547663 Fax: 01343 540884</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elgin Office</strong> 28 Perimeter Road Pinefield ELGIN IV30 6AF Tel: 01343 547663 Fax: 01343 540884</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Western Isles Office</strong> 2 James Square James Street STORNOWAY ISLE OF LEWIS HS1 2QN Tel: 01851 706477 Fax: 01851 703510</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Heriot Office</strong> Burnbrae Mossilee Road GALASHIELS TD1 1NF Tel: 01896 754797 Fax: 01896 754412</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perth Office</strong> 7 Whitefriars Crescent PERTH PH2 0PA Tel: 01738 627989 Fax: 01738 630997</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shetland Office</strong> The Esplanade LERWICK SHETLAND ZE1 0LL Tel: 01595 696926 Fax: 01595 696946</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shetland Office</strong> The Esplanade LERWICK SHETLAND ZE1 0LL Tel: 01595 696926 Fax: 01595 696946</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stirling Office</strong> Bremner House The Castle Business Park STIRLING FK9 4TF Tel: 01786 461407 Fax: 01786 461425</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SOUTHWEST OFFICES

Ayr Office
31 Miller Road
AYR
KA7 2AX
Tel: 01292 294000
Fax: 01292 611130

East Kilbride Office
5 Redwood Crescent Peel Park
EAST KILBRIDE
GLASGOW
G74 5PP
Tel: 01355 574200
Fax: 01355 574688

Lochgilphead Office
2 Smithy Lane
LOCHGILPHEAD
PA31 8TA
Tel: 01546 602876
Fax: 01546 602337

Dumfries Office
Rivers House
Irongray Road
DUMFRIES
DG2 0JE
Tel: 01387 720502
Fax: 01387 721154

Glasgow Office
Law House
Todd Campus
West of Scotland Science Park
Acre Road
GLASGOW
G20 0XA
Tel: 0141 945 6350
Fax: 0141 948 0006

Newton Stewart Office
Penkiln Bridge Court
Minnigaff
NEWTON STEWART
DG8 6A
Tel: 01671 402618
Fax: 01671 404121

Environment Agency of England and Wales
EMERGENCY HOTLINE 0800 80 70 60

North East Region
Northumbria Area Office
Tyneside House
Skinnerburn Road
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
NE4 7AR
Tel: 0191 2034000
Fax: 0191 2034004

North West Region
Northern Area Office
Ghyll Mount
Gillan Way
Junction 40 Business Park
PENRITH
CA11 9BP
Tel: 01768 866666
Fax: 01768 865606

Scottish Natural Heritage
12 Hope Terrace
EDINBURGH
EH9 2AS
Tel: 0131 4474784
Fax: 0131 4462277

Health and Safety Executive in Scotland
59 Belford Road
EDINBURGH
EH4 3UE
Tel: 0131 247 2000
Fax: 0131 247 2121

375 West George Street
GLASGOW
G2 4LW
Tel: 0141 275 3000
Fax: 0141 275 3100
SECTION 8 SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE ADDRESSES

Scottish Executive
Water Environment Unit
Environment and Rural Affairs Department
Victoria Quay
EDINBURGH
EH6 6QQ
Tel: 0131 2447844
Fax: 0131 2440245
Email: waterenvironment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department Local (in capitals) and Sub Offices

AYR SEERAD Office
Russell House
King Street,
AYR
KA8 0BE
Tel: 01292 610188

Hamilton SEERAD Office
Cadzow Court
3 Wellhall Road
HAMILTON
ML3 9BG
Tel: 01698 281166

DUMFRIES SEERAD Office
161 Brooms Road
DUMFRIES
DG1 3ES
Tel: 01387 255292

GALASHIELS SEERAD Office
Cotgreen Road
Tweedbank,
GALASHIELS
TD1 3SG
Tel: 01896 758333

INVERNESS SEERAD Office
Longman House
28 Longman Road
INVERNESS
IV1 1SF
Tel: 01463 234141

Portree SEERAD Office
Estates Office
PORTREE
Isle of Skye
IV51 9DH
Tel: 01478 612516

INVERURIE SEERAD Office
Thainstone Court
By Inverurie,
Aberdeenshire
AB51 5YA
Tel: 01467 626222

Elgin SEERAD Office
32 Reidhaven Street
ELGIN
IV30 1QH
Tel: 01343 547514

KIRKWALL SEERAD Office
Tankerness Lane
KIRKWALL
Orkney
KW15 1AQ
Tel: 01856 875444

Lerwick SEERAD Office
Charlotte House
Commercial Road
LERWICK
Shetland
ZE1 0HZ
Tel: 01595 695054
### SECTION 9  Glossary of Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dip concentrate</td>
<td>Undiluted dip solution as purchased from suppliers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dip solution</td>
<td>Sheep dip that has been initially diluted (and where relevant, replenished) for use as an approved treatment for ectoparasites or cosmetic formulation in sheep (<em>i.e.</em> working strength dip solution).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dipper</td>
<td>The entire dipping area, including collection areas, drip pens, and dip bath.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dip bath</td>
<td>Tank in which sheep are immersed for treatment and which may be above or below ground, depending on the nature of the dipper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drip pens</td>
<td>Impermeable areas draining back to the dip bath where newly dipped sheep are held to allow dripping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste dip</td>
<td>A mixture of working strength dip solution, washings, detoxified/treated or untreated dip solution and solid matter from the dipping process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct discharge</td>
<td>The introduction into groundwater of any listed treatment chemical (or substance) without percolation through the ground or subsoil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect discharge</td>
<td>The introduction into groundwater of any listed treatment chemical (or substance) after percolation through the ground or subsoil.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notice</td>
<td>A legal instrument available to SEPA under the Groundwater Regulations 1998 for prohibiting or regulating activities in or on land which pose an indirect threat to groundwater by certain substances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorisation</td>
<td>A licence issued by SEPA which subjects the disposal, or tipping for the purposes of disposal, of certain substances into or onto land to legally binding conditions so as to protect groundwater.</td>
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</table>
Small changes in the way we perform everyday tasks can have huge impacts on Scotland’s environment.

Walking short distances rather than using the car, or being careful not to overfill the kettle are just two positive steps we can all take.

This butterfly represents the beauty and fragility of Scotland’s environment. The motif will be utilised extensively by the Scottish Executive and its partners in their efforts to persuade people they can do a little to change a lot.