



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Foot and mouth disease

Know the signs

In sheep and goats

Clinical signs in sheep and goats are often mild and can be hard to spot. Lameness is the main sign of the disease.

Signs of foot and mouth disease in sheep and goats include:

- lameness, which may develop suddenly and spread quickly among the flock
- fever
- depression
- lying down more than usual (including young lambs)
- unwillingness to move when made to stand
- high numbers of abortions, stillbirths and lambs dying soon after birth
- ewes unwilling to allow lambs to suckle
- blisters that progress to erosive sores on the feet (mainly at the side of the hooves) or in the mouth that may be small and hard to spot. May need to examine multiple animals to find lesions
- reduction in milk yield in milking sheep and goats

Report it

If you suspect foot and mouth disease in your animals, you must report it immediately by calling:

- 03000 200 301 in England
- 0300 303 8268 in Wales
- your local Field Services Office in Scotland



Mouth lesion



Gum lesion



Hoof lesion

Foot and mouth disease is a notifiable animal disease. If you don't report it, you're breaking the law.



Find out more information and how to report foot and mouth disease by visiting:

www.gov.uk/guidance/foot-and-mouth-disease