



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Bluetongue

Stay Vigilant!

If you suspect bluetongue in your animals, you must report it to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)

Bluetongue is a viral disease spread by biting midges which affects ruminants such as cattle, sheep, deer and goats and camelids like alpacas and llamas. There are many strains of the bluetongue virus, with BTV-3 and BTV-8 being confirmed in the United Kingdom. The virus can also be spread through germinal products (semen, ova, and embryos) as well as transmitted maternally from mother to unborn offspring.

Clinical signs when present, can include: fever, crusting and ulcers around the muzzle area, swollen head, salivating and lameness. You may also see other signs including reduced milk yield, abortions and malaise.

Bluetongue does not affect people or food safety.

Three BTV-3 vaccines are available for use in England, Scotland and Wales, subject to licence. Two of these have been granted UK marketing authorisation by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate.

Species
affected

Alpacas

Llamas

Deer

Goats

Sheep

Cattle

England

03000 200 301

Wales

03003 038 268

Scotland

Ayr: 03000 600703

Galashiels: 03000 600711

Perth: 03000 600704

Inverness: 03000 600709

Inverurie: 03000 600708

To find out more about
bluetongue virus and the
latest situation visit
www.gov.uk/bluetongue
or follow the QR code

