



## Getting a M. ovi~positive Goat or Sheep from the Yukon What you need to know!



### M. ovi what is it?

M. ovi or *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* is a bacteria that may invade the respiratory tract of sheep and goats. It can cause lung infections (pneumonia). The severity of the disease is far higher in a wild herd compared to a domestic herd/flock.

### What could happen if you bring a M. ovi positive animal into your herd/flock?

Signs of introduced M. ovi infection in a domestic herd/flock can range from nothing to mild or severe. Young animals may have runny noses, coughing, and reduced weight gains. Rarely, especially if never exposed before, any age animal can have severe pneumonia which could be fatal.

### M. ovi and Wild Sheep and Goats

M. ovi can be transferred between domestic and wild sheep or goats if there is close contact or shared feed or water. There are no vaccines.

### Why is this a threat to Wild sheep and goats?

M. ovi can cause severe pneumonia in all ages of wild sheep and goats in initial exposures, resulting in a **high death rate**. Recurrent **fatal** lamb/kid pneumonia in subsequent years is common. **There is potential for M. ovi to wipe out entire wild sheep or goat herds.**

### How to determine if you should bring a M. ovi positive sheep or goat onto your farm:

If wild sheep or goats live within a 50 km radius of your farm this is **HIGH RISK**. **Do not** bring a known M. ovi positive domestic sheep or goat into this area

If there are no known wild sheep or goats in your area this is a **LOW RISK** area.

### Not sure if your farm is in a High Risk area?

Contact the BC Ministry of Agriculture Plant and Animal Health Branch. They can help determine if you are in a High Risk area. They can also provide information on how to mitigate spreading of M. ovi to wild sheep and goats.

**For more information on M. ovi in domestic animals including testing contact the BC Ministry of Agriculture Plant and Animal Health Branch ([PAHB@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PAHB@gov.bc.ca) or 604-556-3003).**