

Appendix EC.13 (a)

Guidance on disposal of Sheep Dip

Sheep dip can cause serious pollution of groundwater and must be disposed of carefully. The following notes are a guide to best practice.

Before you dip

1. Consider whether dipping is really necessary

consult your veterinary surgeon for a correct diagnosis of the problem and use the most appropriate treatment

2. Read and understand relevant codes and guidance listed in the 'Groundwater Protection Code: Use and disposal of sheep dip compounds',

a copy of which can be obtained from Defra Free Literature on 0870 1226 236 or the Defra website:
www.defra.gov.uk

3. Carry out training

you need a National Proficiency Test Council Certificate of Competence in the safe use of sheep dips in order to purchase dip

4. Obtain a Groundwater Regulations authorisation from the Environment Agency to dispose of used dip to land

5. Ensure dip baths and drain pens are properly sited, constructed and maintained and equipment is in good working order

you must not site baths and drain pens within 10 metres of watercourses, or 50 metres of wells, springs or boreholes

6. Take care to select sites for mobile dips, showers and jettors

choose a flat site and do not let dip run into surface water drains, ditches, streams and other watercourses, or soak into land

7. Ensure that dip concentrate can be stored and transported safely

8. Put procedures in place to deal effectively with any emergency, for example:

spillage/leakage of dip concentrate in transit or during mixing/dipping operations sheep escaping from containment areas and getting into a wetland/watercourse

The Environment Agency emergency telephone number is 0800 80 70 60

9. Check weather forecasts and do not dip if rain is likely within 24 hours

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When you dip

- 10. Follow mixing instructions on the dip concentrate label**
be careful when washing out measuring jugs and containers not to spill dip to the environment
- 11. Organise sheep handling to minimise splashing**
- 12. Be careful not to transport dip from the dip pen area on equipment or clothing**
- 13. Keep sheep in the drain pen until there are no signs of dripping from the fleece**

After you dip

- 14. Wherever possible keep sheep out of watercourses for at least two weeks**
consult the code for detailed guidance
- 15. Empty the dip bath as soon as possible after dipping**
- 16. Wash equipment, including the drain pen and contain all washings for disposal**
- 17. Cover the dip bath when not in use**
- 18. If used dip cannot be disposed of immediately, store used dip carefully in impermeable containers suitable for toxic materials**
- 19. Record when, where, how many sheep and which product is used for dipping**
- 20. If you are disposing of used dip to land do so in accordance with an authorisation or ensure that your contractor does so**