Strategic fly control

Don’t risk it. Trust CLiK.
- Season-long protection against flystrike (18–24 weeks)
- Rain Lock® formulation technology helps to resist ‘washing out’
- Apply to sheep off-shears or with any length wool
- Protects mulesing and marking wounds
- Sheep can be rehandled once dry following treatment

Extra strong. Extra long.
- EXTRA 30% active ingredient compared to CLiK™
- EXTRA protection against flystrike (up to 5 weeks longer than CLiK™)
- EXTRA protection against breech strike
- EXTRA protection against development of resistance
- EXTRA peace of mind

For full product details, contact Elanco Customer Service on 1800 226 324
8 am – 5 pm EST Monday to Friday.

References:

To learn more about flystrike, visit a health advisor or call Elanco Customer Service on 1800 226 324.

In some ways, early and late season treatments for fly prevention provide long-term benefits in the same way that summer drenching can provide long-term benefits for worm control. Both strategies exploit a weak point in the natural life cycle of the parasite and take advantage of environmental conditions at those times.

As highly effective products that provide long lasting protection from flystrike, CLiK™ and CLiK Extra make strategic fly control possible. Having confidence that the product applied will work and that prevention will be maintained throughout the fly season is critical – making CLiK and CLiK Extra logical choices for strategic fly control.

Fly biology
The Australian sheep blowfly Lucilia cuprina is the primary fly species responsible for initiating flystrike in sheep in Australia, and this species is largely dependent on sheep as a breeding resource – with female flies laying eggs in moist wool subsequent to a protein meal and mating. After hatching, fly larvae then moult laying eggs in moist wool subsequent to a protein meal and mating. After hatching, fly larvae then moult up very rapidly under suitable environmental conditions, affecting the incidence of flystrike in sheep – a description and analysis of data from three separate sites in eastern Australia. The seasonal nature of fly activity provides unique opportunities for strategic fly control. Strategic fly control provides long-term benefits in the same way that early drenching can provide long-term benefits for worm control. Both strategies exploit a weak point in the life cycle of the parasite and take advantage of environmental conditions at those times.

As highly effective products that provide long lasting protection from flystrike, ELIC™ and CLiK Extra make strategic fly control possible. Having confidence that the product applied will work and that prevention will be maintained throughout the fly season is critical – making CLiK and CLiK Extra logical choices for strategic fly control.
Early season treatment
If chemical treatment is applied to sheep before flies emerge at the start of the fly season, sheep are essentially removed as a resource for the propagation of the fly population when the first generation appears. As emergence is relatively synchronous and the first generation is typically small, this can have a significant effect in reducing fly numbers and the risk of flystrike for the rest of the fly season.

This strategy has been demonstrated to work very effectively on commercial sheep farms in different regions and over a number of years with varying seasonal conditions – and clearly reduces the risk of flystrike as demonstrated in Figure 2 below.

Flies are not capable of moving long distances, so the success of early season treatment can be even further enhanced if all sheep on a farm are treated, if neighbours treat as well and/or if flocks are physically isolated.

Late season treatment
If chemical treatment is applied (or still active) on sheep in late summer and autumn, sheep are again removed as a breeding resource for the fly population. At this time, this has the effect of reducing the number of larvae that enter arrested development and directly reduces the size of the spring generation of flies in the following fly season.

Optimum fly control will also depend on farm management practices. Integrating early or late season treatment with shearing and crutching of sheep during spring, early summer and autumn will further reduce susceptibility to flystrike and contribute to reducing fly numbers.

Depending on the length of the fly season and the product used, a single treatment may provide both early and late season strategic fly control. In areas with a longer fly season, one or the other may be preferable depending on time of shearing – remembering to be conscious of wool withholding periods.

CLiK Spray-On
CLiK contains dicyclanil, a potent insect growth regulator (IGR) that works by stopping larval development between the 1st and 2nd larval stages, before the larvae have developed damaging mouthparts. CLiK provides highly effective protection from flystrike and breaks the lifecycle – so is ideal for strategic control.

On-farm research into early season treatment identified that chemicals used for this purpose have to be relatively long-acting to suitably cover the full period of spring emergence. The availability and ease of application of insect growth regulators to protect sheep for extended periods makes them ideal for this purpose. CLiK has a registered protection period of 18–24 weeks, easily covering this period and providing cover in excess of the length of the average fly season.

CLiK Spray-on
Figure 2: Comparison of observed strike rate ratios between normal reactive fly treatment and early season preventative treatment.

Summary
The good news for farmers is that strategic fly control does work, as supported by rigorous field research.

- Early season treatment prevents propagation of fly numbers at the start of the fly season and reduces the prevalence of flystrike throughout the fly season.
- Late season treatment reduces the number of fly larvae going into arrested development and reduces the size of the fly population in the next fly season.
- Early and late season treatment options can be integrated with farm management, as carefully timed shearing and crutching enhances effective fly control.

CLiK and CLiK Extra make strategic fly control possible and highly effective – with CLiK a proven strategic treatment option under all sorts of conditions for nearly 20 years – and CLiK Extra providing even more coverage than ever before.