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Hogget Ill-thrift

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SUMMARY.

1. Loss of weight on autumn pasture is not confined to the hogget, but has been demonstrated in older sheep also. In the young and growing hogget, however, this loss of weight manifests itself strikingly in the condition termed "hogget ill-thrift."
2. Its manifestations are confined to the autumn period.
3. It occurs in the presence of an apparent abundance of feed.
4. Its onset is concurrent with the production of fresh growth of pasture.
5. It is not caused by any known infections, either parasitic or bacterial, nor by deficiencies of minerals or vitamins such as are at present known.
6. Infections, including parasitism, manifest themselves when the resistance of the animal has been lowered by "ill-thrift" and lead to a complex of symptoms which in the past have confused the picture.
7. Mortalities from parasitism may be reduced by the use of Phenothiazine, in controlling secondary parasitism in "tail-enders" and eradicating Haemonchosis from the whole flock.
8. Its incidence may be reduced by providing hoggets with mature pasture containing, where possible, a high proportion of white-clover.
9. An intake of nutrients lowered to a maintenance or sub-maintenance level is associated with, if not the actual cause of this disease.