



Sheep Dipping - Know the Rules

Dipper and drip pens must be maintained in good condition, without leaks or cracks.

All mobile units and any permanent dippers built after 1st April 2008, must be sited at least 50m away from any ditch, burn, river, loch, wetland, coastal water, well, spring or borehole.

Those dipping sheep must hold or be under supervision of a holder of a **Certificate of Competence in Safe Use of Sheep Dip** (contact *Scottish Skills Testing Service (SSTS)* or *National Proficiency Tests Council (NPTC)*).

When filling the dipper ensure that:

- dip cannot back-siphon; or
- the water is first placed in an intermediate container.

Make sure that all splashes and spills are contained within the sheep dipping facilities.

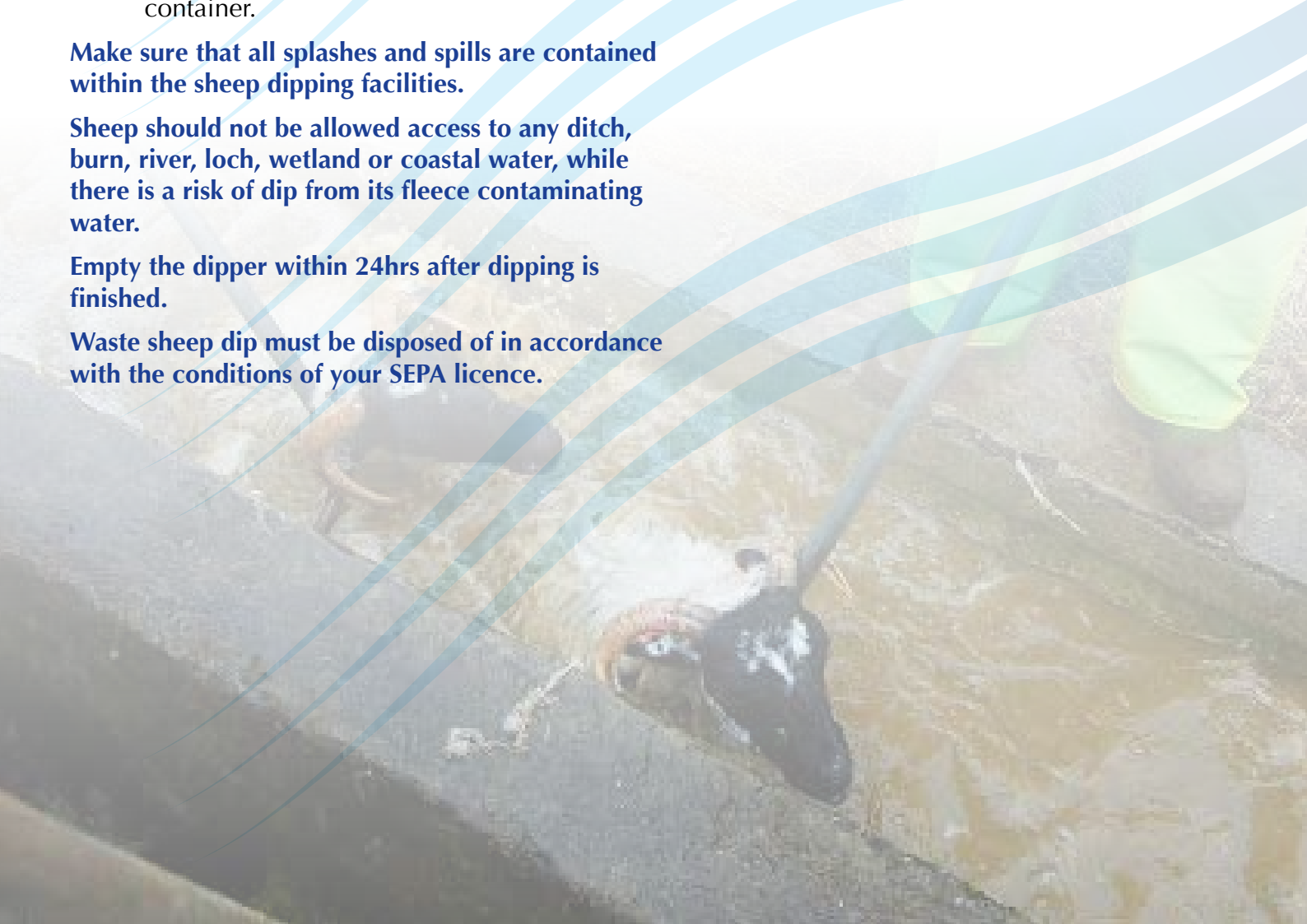
Sheep should not be allowed access to any ditch, burn, river, loch, wetland or coastal water, while there is a risk of dip from its fleece contaminating water.

Empty the dipper within 24hrs after dipping is finished.

Waste sheep dip must be disposed of in accordance with the conditions of your SEPA licence.



Make sure all splashes and spills are contained within the sheep dipping facilities.



Sheep Dip

Sheep dipping plays an important role in animal welfare and sheep productivity. However, dips can cause significant and long lasting damage to a ditch, burn, river, loch, wetland, coastal water or groundwater.

Good practice to protect water quality

- Check the forecast; avoid dipping when heavy rain is expected.
- All drainage from dip pens should flow back to the dipper.
- Keep the dipped sheep in a holding paddock away from any ditch, burn, river, loch, wetland or coastal water for as long as possible after dipping.
- Plan the return route to the holding paddock so that dipped sheep avoid crossing any ditch, burn, river, loch, wetland, coastal water or hard standings and drains.
- Wash out protective clothing and containers in the dip pens after use.
- Ensure dip concentrate, empty containers and any ancillary equipment such as protective clothing etc. is safely stored to prevent contaminating drains or any ditch, burn, river, loch, wetland or coastal water.

How can you benefit from these rules?

Following the rules on sheep dipping can:

- Keep you on the right side of the regulations and help to protect your farm payment.
- Minimise the risk of local water supplies becoming contaminated.
- Protect water quality for fish, wildlife and amenity use.

Need more information?

For additional information about reducing pollution risks and benefitting the farm business, see www.farmingandwaterscotland.org Alternatively speak to your local agricultural consultant.



This fact sheet is intended to act as a reminder of the rules. To see the rules in more detail, see www.farmingandwaterscotland.org