



SHEEP “MEASLES”

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Sheep Tapeworm: *Taenia ovis*

- ▶ Sheep are intermediate hosts....tapeworm cysts end up in the meat
- ▶ Dogs are the final hosts...pass tapeworms through their feces into pasture
- ▶ Called "measles" due to appearance of meat at slaughter-condemned
- ▶ No pre-slaughter signs in sheep- they look and act normally most of the time
- ▶ Dogs maybe will have diarrhea-usually no signs, either!
- ▶ Cysts in dog feces may survive on pasture for up to six months



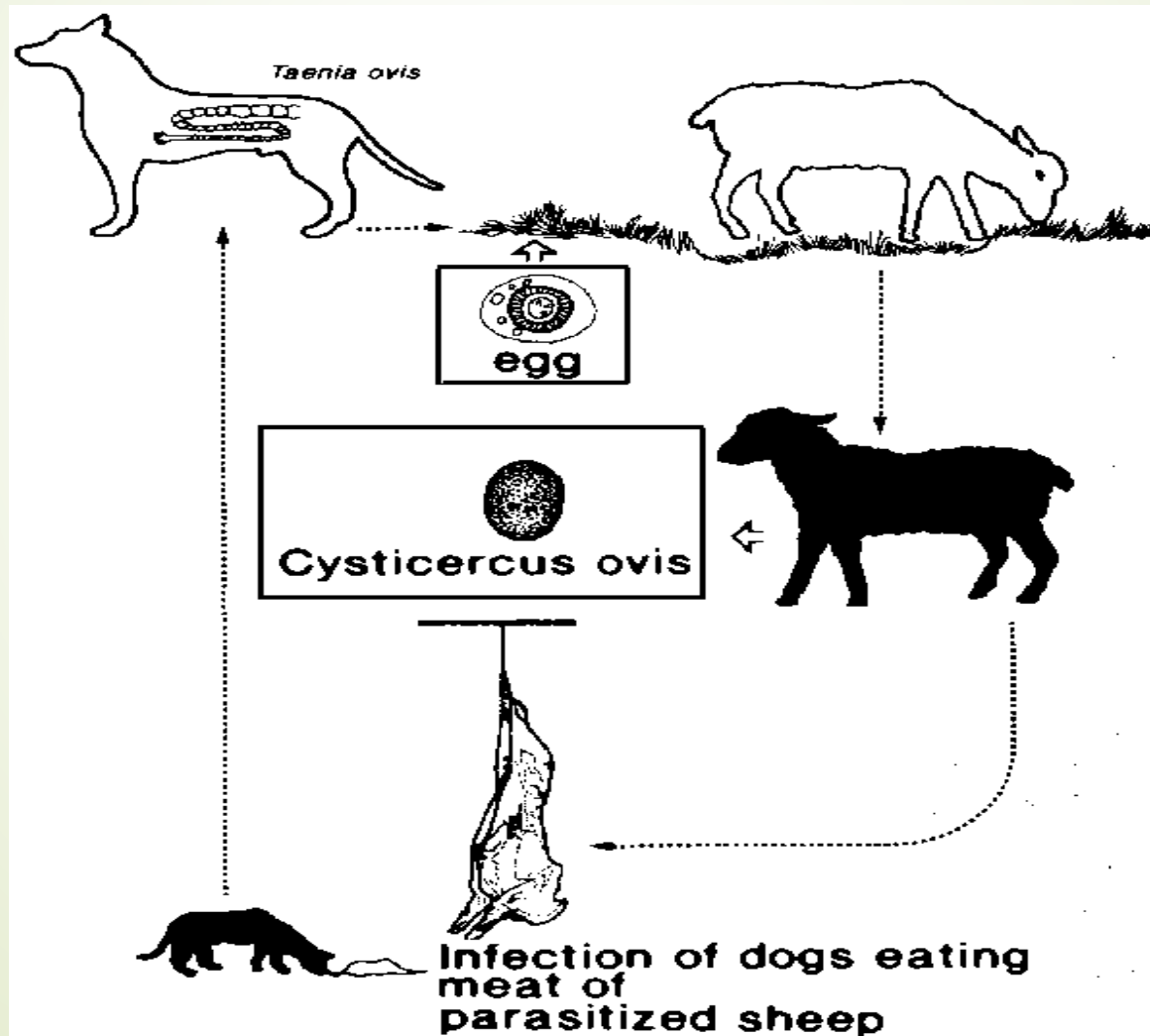
Who gets Sheep Measles?

- Dogs, coyotes, wolves, foxes, rarely cats, and sheep
- Occurs all over the world, highest risk in large flocks of sheep
- Recently found in Kern County sheep at slaughter house

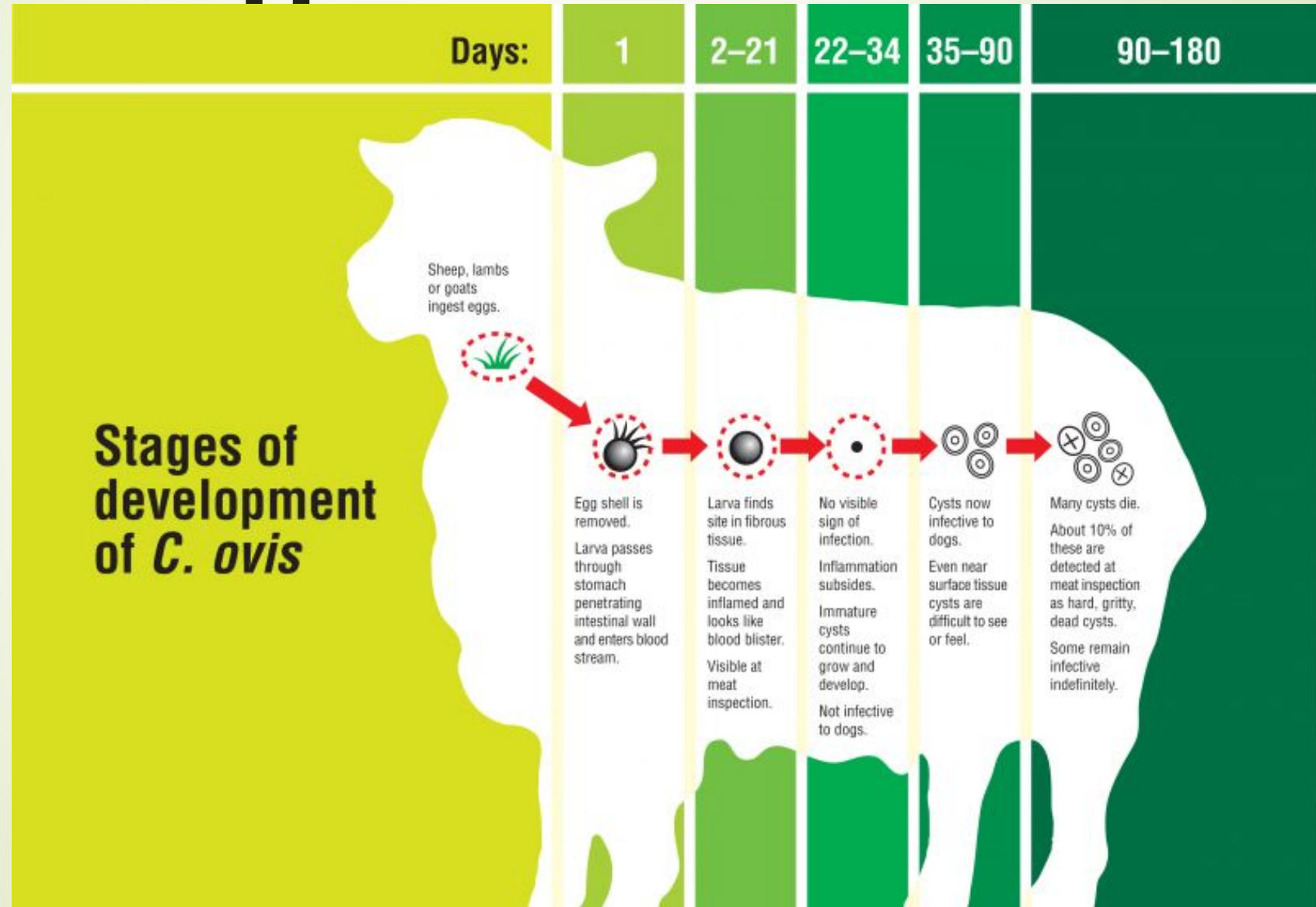


Tapeworm of Sheep and Goats

-end of life cycle is in **DOGS**



Sheep measles timeline-from eating cysts to appearance in meat



Tapeworm Control: treatment for worms available

- ▶ City dog owners
- ▶ Sheep Measles occurs when dogs have access to raw or untreated sheep or goat meat.
- ▶ If taking a dog near sheep pasture the best method to ensure it is free of Sheep Measles to treat with praziquantel drugs within one month or at least 48 hours prior to going onto farm land
- ▶ Working dogs
- ▶ Treat every four months for tapeworms
- ▶ Don't feed offal or sheep/goat meat to dogs



Questions?

Tulare District Office 559-685-3500

