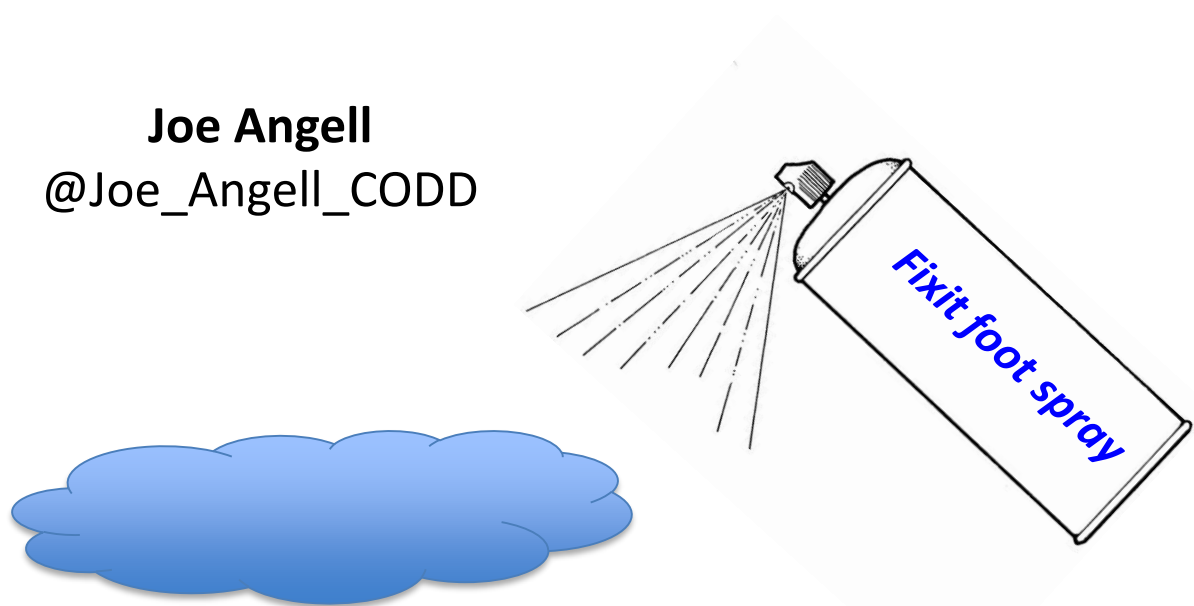


Dealing with contagious ovine digital dermatitis (CODD) in sheep – surely it's just blue spray?

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Background

- Four year project building on previous work at The University of Liverpool on CODD
- Looking at the extent of the problem in the UK, risk factors or disease and control strategies
- Large multidisciplinary team, including vets, scientists, farmers and students

What is CODD?

Footrot (& Scald)

- *Dichelobacter nodosus*

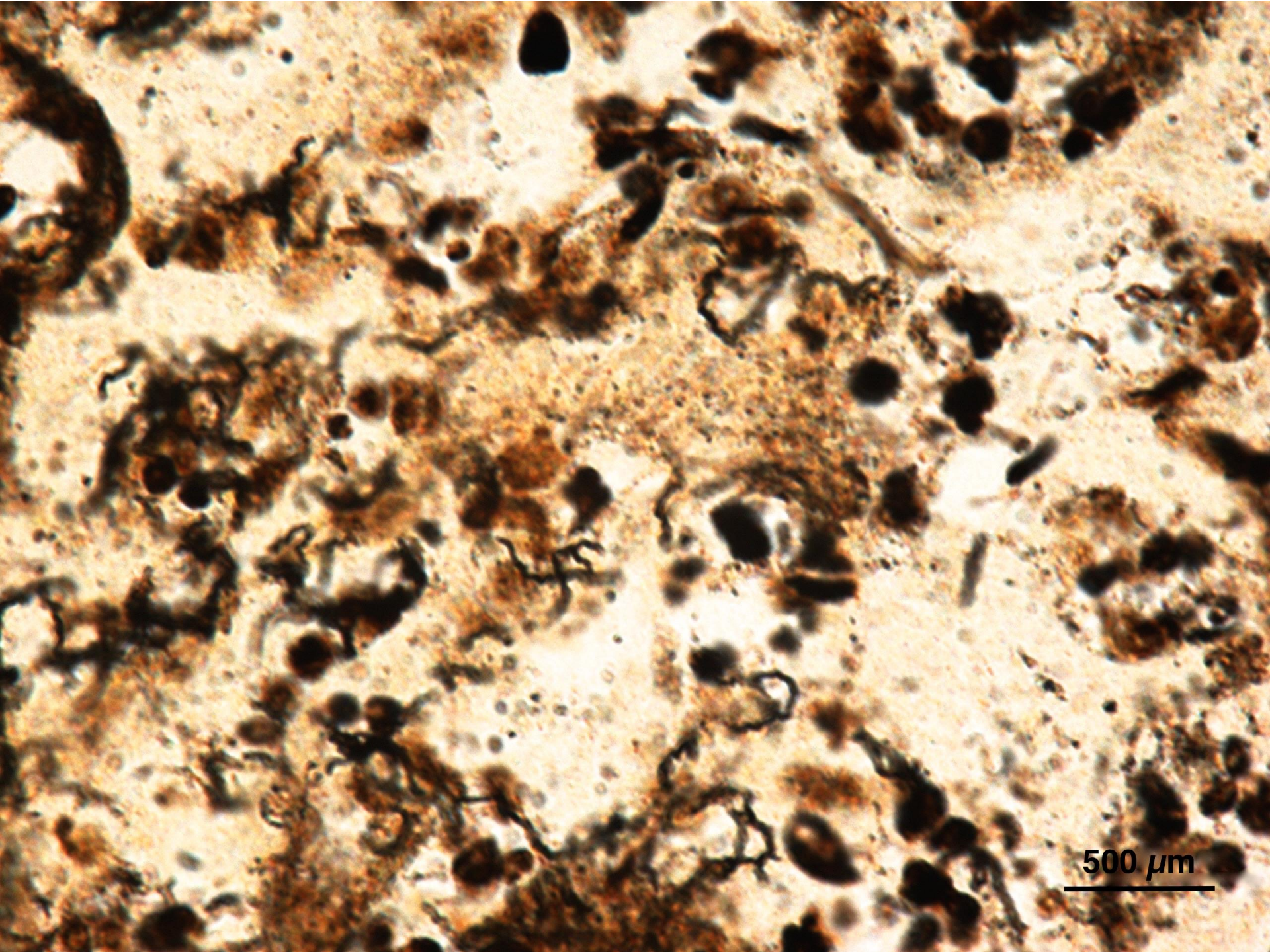












500 μm

What can we do about it?

- Biosecurity - if you've not got it keep it out
- **Purchased sheep considered by farmers to be the main way CODD introduced to a farm**
- **Turn over all sheep on entry, keep isolated for one month – issues with ram sales**
- Also consider fences, sheep scanners, sheep shearers, vets....

Control

- Strongly associated with footrot; now shown in three studies
- Controlling footrot reduces risk of sheep developing CODD e.g. in one study vaccinating for footrot reduced new infections of CODD by 32%.

Treating *individuals*

- Not many studies yet
- Foot-bathing in chlortetracycline 15 mins for 3 days: 53% cure rate
- Single injection of long acting amoxicillin together with foot bathing in chlortetracycline: 70-80% cure rate
- Two injections of tilmicosin 2 weeks apart: 100% cure rate

Treating individuals

- There is no right or wrong approach
- As to which method or product, have a conversation with your vet as to best product for you to use depending on your specific situation.

Take home messages

- Involve your vet for a holistic approach to lameness management and control
- Adopt good biosecurity measures; the sheep industry is way behind other farming sectors
- Deal with footrot and employ well established practical control measures
- Turn, isolate and treat affected individuals with an appropriate product



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