

Sheep Ticks, suffices to control the lice. In neglected flocks where the regular dipping practice has been overlooked, lice can be held in check during the winter period by dusting Sodium Fluoride through the wool. The quantity required is one half ounce per sheep. Keep the Sodium Fluoride away from the eyes and nose of the animal. The loss of wool, of mutton and lambs due to the irritation set up by the lice is considerable each year. In very severe infestations the ewes will abort their lambs and the wool crop may be reduced by more than fifty percent.

The Sucking Louse of Sheep (*Haematopinus ovillus*)



Figure 19
Sucking Louse
x 30.

Description.— The Sucking Louse of Sheep is much larger than the Biting Louse. It has a longer and narrower head. With the Sucking Louse each segment of the abdomen has two rows of hairs. The female Sucking Louse is about one twelfth of an inch long. The abdomen and the thorax in both sexes are white.

Life History.— The Sucking Louse feeds by puncturing the sheep's skin with its proboscis and drawing blood from a vessel within reach. The sexually mature females release their eggs, which adhere to the wool fibres quite close to the skin. The eggs under favorable conditions incubate in from ten to eighteen days. Cold weather, exposure and open fleece delay the hatching process. The young lice grow to sexual maturity in fourteen days, mate at once and produce more eggs to keep the species going.

Description.— Sucking Louse of Sheep is widely distributed and found in poorly cared for flocks in all parts of the country.

Treatment and Control.— The use of sheep dips as recommended for the destruction of Keds. For winter infestations when dipping is not easily carried out, the use of the following powder is recommended.

Napthalene	1 ounce, powdered
Hellebore	1 ounce, powdered
Sabadilla seed	3 ounces, powdered
Tobacco dust	3 ounces, powdered
Boracic acid	3 ounces, powdered
Sulphur	2 ounces, powdered

Mix well and apply, one-half ounce to each sheep, with a shaker can or blower, while the wool is held apart by an assistant. The wool saved will pay the cost of the treatment many times.