What is Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)?
- Most contagious virus of cloven-hoofed animals (cows, pigs, goats, sheep, deer)
- Does NOT affect public health or food safety
  - Meat and milk are safe for people to eat and drink
- Clinical signs in adult sheep are mild or not apparent
  - If seen, blisters are found on feet, in mouth, and on teats, especially in cattle and pigs
  - Other signs include lameness, fever, nasal discharge, and going off feed
- Younger animals may die from heart disease
- Animals may be infected 2-4 days before showing signs
- Highly contagious, but may spread slowly through a flock
  - Virus is shed in saliva, breath, milk, semen, urine, and manure
  - Can be spread directly between animals OR spread indirectly on clothing, footwear, vehicles, and equipment

Where is it?
- Foot and Mouth Disease is found in more than 2/3 of the world!!
  - Parts of South America, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East
- NOT in United States, Canada, Mexico, or Central America

How will Foot and Mouth Disease affect sheep producers if it enters the U.S.?
- Movements on and off farms could be stopped by State and Federal Officials to try and stop disease spread
  - Animal movement could stop
- When one animal on the farm becomes infected, the whole flock is considered infected

What can you do to protect your flock?
- Participate in the Secure Sheep and Wool Supply (SSWS) Plan
  - It is voluntary
  - It describes biosecurity standards that sheep producers can put into place to help protect their sheep from FMD
  - It supports business continuity for sheep producers during and after an FMD outbreak

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