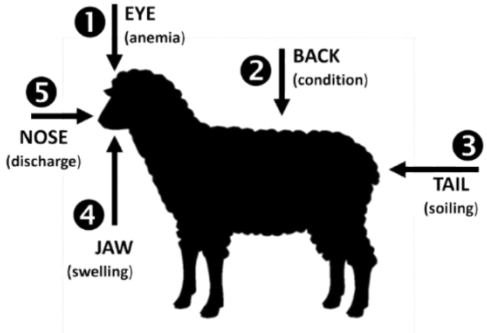
TST Targeted selective treatment (or non treatment)

Targeted selective treatment (or non treatment) means deworming only those animals that require treatment or would benefit most from treatment. TST slows development of anthelmintic-resistance worms by reducing the number of treatments given; thereby increasing refugia (worms that have not been exposed to the drugs). TST also helps to identify animals which are more resistant and resilient to internal parasites. Different tools and criteria can be used to make selective deworming decisions. The important thing is to always have a reason for deworming. Whole flock and calendar-based treatments are no longer recommended. They are not necessary, and they accelerate development of resistant worms.

The FAMACHA© system (card) estimates the level of anemia in the animal and makes a treatment recommendation for blood feeding parasites such as the barber pole worm.



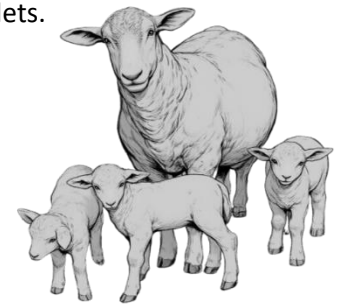
The Five Point Check© utilizes five check points on the animal's body (eye, back, tail, jaw, and nose) to determine the need for deworming for all internal parasites that can infect sheep and goats.

All animals with "bottle jaw" (submandibular edema, i.e., swelling under the jaw) should be dewormed.

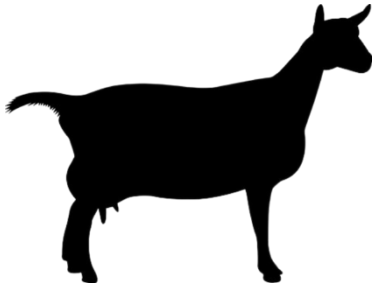
It is recommended to apply different deworming protocols (and nutrition) to females with singles, twins and triplets.

Body condition score (BCS) can be a reliable indicator of internal parasitism in adult animals. It is often combined with other criteria to make deworming decisions.

The "Happy Factor" uses targeted weight gain as criteria for deworming. In barber pole worm areas, ADG can be combined with FAMACHA© score to make better deworming decisions.

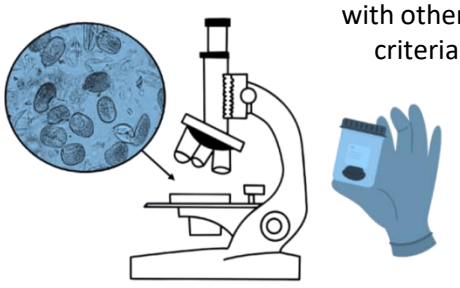


By themselves, fecal egg counts (EPG) are not a very reliable indicator for deworming; however, they are useful when combined with other criteria.



Milk production can be used as a criteria for deworming, with the heaviest milkers being targeted for treatment.

It is a good idea to deworm periparturient females who have only been through one grazing season.



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