

Goat Parasite Control

General Guidelines

Gastrointestinal (GI) parasitism is the leading cause of death and decreased production in goats. At least 48% of farms in the southeast have parasites that are resistant to all classes of dewormers. While there is no “one size fits all” recommendation for parasite control, the information in this fact sheet is provided for on-farm use. Contact your veterinarian for specific recommendations. Information provided by Dr. Sarah Reuss of the UF Large Animal Medicine Service.

Targeted Deworming

- Do not deworm all animals on a farm on a routine basis.
- 20% of animals shed 80% of the eggs.
- Leave “refugia” (worms not exposed to drugs so they do not develop resistance).
- FAMACHA © scoring (photos below right)
 - Use mucous membrane color as indication of anemia and therefore parasite load.
 - Need training to acquire card and use effectively.
- Fecal egg counts
 - Generally reflect the animal’s worm burden with some limitations.
 - Use fecal egg count reduction to monitor efficacy of treatment.

Alternative Therapies

- Sericea lespedeza - tannin condensing forage shown to suppress egg counts.
- Nematode-trapping fungi.
- Copper oxide wire particles.
- Herbal products (diatomaceous earth, ginger, garlic, tansy) have never been proven to be effective.

Anthelmintics (Dewormers)

- Resistance is a huge problem.
- Only use products for oral administration.
- Do not use injectable products and do not give injectable products orally.
- DrenchRite® assay can be performed on a farm basis to determine which dewormers are still effective.
- Work with your veterinarian to plan a strategy for your particular farm.

Smart Dreching

- Use proper dose.
- Administer drug properly.
- Pasture management
 - Stocking density
 - If rotating pastures, rest at least six weeks in between use
 - Clip, till and reseed
- Mixed species grazing
 - Horses & cattle do not carry the same parasites as goats and will help to break them down.
- Biosecurity
 - Isolate all new animals for at least 14 days.

Drug	Trade Names	Dose	Notes	Milk Withdrawal	Meat Withdrawal
Fenbendazole	Safeguard® Panacur®	10 mg/kg	Fast for 12 hours, give 2 doses separate by 24 hours	4 days	16 days
Albendazole	Valbazen®	20 mg/kg	Do NOT use in pregnant does	7 days	9 days
Ivermectin	Ivomec®	0.4 mg/kg		9 days	14 days
Moxidectin	Cydectin®	0.4 mg/kg	Only use oral drench	60 days	23 days
Levamisole	Levasol® Tramisol® Prohibit®	12 mg/kg	Dose carefully based on weight	4 days	10 days
Morantel tartrate	Rumatel®	10 mg/kg		0 days	30 days
Pyrantel pamoate	Strongid®		Not effective		



Use mucous membrane color as indication of anemia



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