Horizon 2020 Programme

EuroSheep

European Knowledge Exchange

EuroSheep 2nd TransNational WorkShop (TNWS2)

15 June 2021

Online meeting

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N° 863056.

Introduction and objective

EuroSheep activities are based around a multi-actor approach with regular discussions and exchanges between stakeholders of the sheep sector. Since the start of the project, two transnational workshops (TNWS) have been organised, to collect, collate and exchange on farmers' needs and solutions regarding sheep nutrition and health management.

This report presents the findings and take-home messages of the 2nd EuroSheep transnational event, which took place in June 2021.

2nd Transnational workshop – 15th June 2021

Following the activities in the first TNWS, and during discussion with their scientific and technical working group and their respective stakeholders between January and May 2021, each partner countries collated and documented a series of proposed solutions to answer the needs identified by the whole consortium.

Each country then validated their solutions with their stakeholders during a national workshop, where a total of 12 solutions per country were retained. These 12 solutions per country were then presented to the whole consortium during the 2nd TNWS, which took place on the 15th June 2021.

Participants

A total of 105 delegates from France, Ireland, UK, Italy, Hungary, Spain, Greece and Turkey attended the 3.5 hours workshop.

Activities and format

The format was slightly different to the first TNWS, in an attempt to encourage interactions between the countries. Plenary sessions were used, but simultaneous translation was proposed for some of the partner countries' languages. Breakout rooms were also used; one breakout room per country.

Then, in turn, experts from the other countries came in each of the breakout rooms to present to the delegates (in English) between 2 and 4 of the 10 solutions from their country. After a translation from English to the native language, stakeholders could ask the experts any precision or additional details. In total, 14 sessions of 10 minutes were organized: 8 countries (8 breakout rooms) * 2 topics (Health / Nutrition).

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Breakout rooms

	Room							
TIME	FR	GR	HU	IR	IT	SP	TR	UK
session 1 (10')	GR nutri	FR health	IR nutri	HU health	TR nutri	UK nutri	IT health	SP health
session 2 (10')	GR health	FR nutri	IR health	HU nutri	TR health	UK health	IT nutri	SP nutri
session 3 (10')	HU nutri	IR health	FR health	GR nutri	UK nutri	TR nutri	SP health	IT health
session 4 (10')	HU health	IR nutri	FR nutri	GR health	UK health	TR health	SP nutri	IT nutri
session 5 (10')	IR nutri	IT health	SP nutri	FR health	GR nutri	HU health	UK nutri	TR health
session 6 (10')	IR health	IT nutri	SP health	FR nutri	GR health	HU nutri	UK health	TR nutri
session 7 (10')	IT nutri	SP health	TR nutri	UK nutri	FR health	GR nutri	HU health	IR health
session 8 (10')	IT health	SP nutri	TR health	UK health	FR nutri	GR health	HU nutri	IR nutri
session 9 (10')	SP nutri	TR health	UK nutri	IT health	IR nutri	FR health	GR nutri	HU health
session 10 (10')	SP health	TR nutri	UK health	IT nutri	IR health	FR nutri	GR health	HU nutri
session 11 (10')	TR nutri	UK health	IT nutri	SP nutri	HU health	IR health	FR health	GR nutri
session 12 (10')	TR health	UK nutri	IT health	SP health	HU nutri	IR nutri	FR nutri	GR health
session 13 (10')	UK nutri	HU health	GR nutri	TR nutri	SP nutri	IT health	IR health	FR health
session 14 (10')	UK health	HU nutri	GR health	TR health	SP health	IT nutri	IR nutri	FR nutri

Short break

EuroSheep

Solutions presented

Stakeholders were asked, prior to the event, to choose which solutions they would like to discover during the breakout rooms sessions. Due to timing constraints, the management solutions were recategorized within either the nutrition or health category.

The **solutions for health** that were most selected by stakeholders were:

Title	Country of origin	Number of times the solution was selected by stakeholders
Targeted drainage system in the grassland	TR	6
Guidelines to manage foot-bathing	IT	5
The FAMACHA score assessment	TR	5
Coprology control after antiparasite treatment	FR	4
Better control of contagious ecthyma	FR	4
Parasitism management in grazing animals	GR	4
Flock Biosecurity	IRE	4
Appraisal of udder morphology to prevent high somatic cell count and mastitis	IT	4
Good management practices for fattening lambs	SP	4
Mixed grazing of cattle and sheep to limit parasite infestation	FR	3
Disease prevention through correct management of newborn lambs	GR	3
Treatments and protection against internal parasitism	HU	3
Reducing anthelmintic resistance	IRE	3
Selective breeding for resistance to Maedi Visna Virus (MVV)	IT	3

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Flock health plan	SP	3
Design and strategy of the hoof bath.	SP	3
Scottish Animal Health Planning System (web-based)	UK	3

The most selected **solutions for nutrition** are shown below:

Title	**Country of origin**	**Number of times the solution was selected by stakeholders**
Herbvalo - knowing the valorisation of grass on your grassland	FR	5
Two successful combinations of legume/cereal winter forage crops	GR	5
Improving the development of ewes that lambed young	HU	5
Guidelines for implementing rotational grazing	UK	5
Methods to calculate vitamin and mineral content of feeds and pastures	GR	4
Producing high feed value silage	IRE	4
Sward measurement	IRE	4
Nutrition plan of ewe-lambs from weaning to mating	IT	4
Cross comparison of feed catalogue value with animals' blood test	TR	4
Knowing the water requirements of dairy ewes	FR	3
Rationing ewe lambs for good udder development	FR	3
Artificial feeding of new born lambs	GR	3
Forage crops in ewes nutrition	HU	3
Grazing techniques	HU	3
Effect of birth and rearing type on lamb performance	IRE	3
Guidelines for the interpretation of milk urea concentration in sheep milk	IT	3
Replacement management tool	SP	3
Checking diet tool	SP	3
Electricity/net fencing for communal rangeland issues	TR	3
Guidelines on how to manage transition between milk & grass	UK	3

All the presented solutions followed a similar format, to have a continuity during the sessions.

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Once each delegation had seen all the solution presentations, they voted for their preferred one in each category: nutrition and health.

The results of that preference are show below:

Health solution title	**Most preferred by:**
Booklet on how to recognise lameness (UK)	France
Coprology control after antiparasite treatment - health (FR)	Greece
Flock biosecurity (IRE)	Hungary
Practical information on Iceberg disease (UK)	Ireland
Scottish Animal Health Planning System (web-based) (UK)	Italy
Milking machine maintenance (FR)	Spain
Reducing Anthelmintic Resistance (IRE)	Turkey
Coprology control after antiparasite treatment (FR)	UK
Nutrition solution title	**Most preferred by:**
Guidelines for the interpretation of milk urea concentration in sheep milk (IT)	France
Use of portable NIR's to assess forage feed value - Nutrition (SP)	Greece
Effect of birth and rearing type on lamb performance (IRE)	Hungary
Inclusion and management of self-seeding legume species in forage systems (IT)	Ireland
Cross comparison of feed catalogue value with animals' blood test (TR)	Italy
No preferred solution was chosen – could not come to a consensus	Spain
Replacement Management tool (SP)	Turkey
"Wikiloc"- a free tool to record grazing activities (TR)	UK

Conclusions

This second transnational workshop was successful, despite the language barriers and issues of using a virtual medium (Zoom) to conduct the meeting. However, stakeholders enjoyed the activities and were keen to discover the potential solutions from the other countries to help improve sheep productivity through health and nutrition management.

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