



Reducing anthelmintic resistance

Need/issue: Internal parasites

Aim: To increase the understanding of anthelmintic resistance- how it occurs and management strategies

How to implement:

- Do not dose adult ewes for stomach worms unless there is a demonstrated need.
- Only use white drenches (group 1-Benzimidazole) to treat *Nematodirus* in lambs.
- Faecal egg counting (dung sampling prior to treatment) identifies when worm burden is sufficient to justify treatment and prevents overuse of drenches.



Description:

- Anthelmintic resistance is the ability of stomach worms to survive anthelmintic treatment.
- It is becoming a growing problem in many countries.
- Faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT) is the most common mechanism to detect anthelmintic resistance.
- Sheep producers need to know what products are effective on their farm and be aware of management changes required to reduce anthelmintic resistance.



Expected benefits:

Reduce the risk of anthelmintic resistance occurring thus improving flock performance and profitability.

Prerequisites and/or limits:

- Good handling facilities for dosing sheep
- Knowledge on how to take faecal samples
- Area to quarantine any bought in animals
- Weighing scales to accurately dose
- Laboratory facilities to undertake FEC

Country: Ireland

Dairy or/and meat sheep: Meat sheep

Category of Animal (ewe, replacement, lamb):
All

Topic:

- Health
- Nutrition
- Management

Level of solution:

- Knowledge
- Practical

Source of information:

<https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2020/Control-of-Stomach-Worms-Flyer.pdf>
<https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2010/AnthelminticResistance.pdf>

