



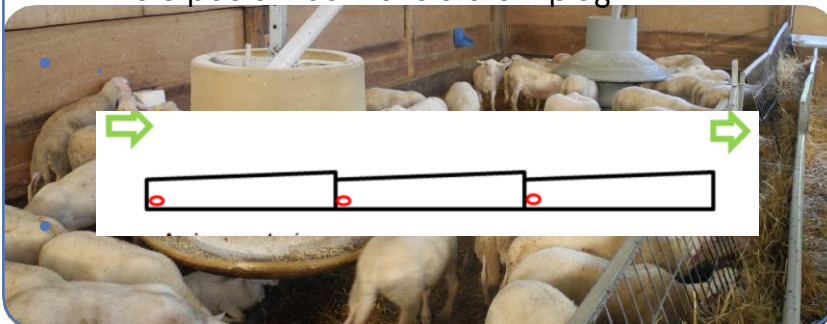
Design and strategy for the footbath

Need/issue: Lameness.

Aim: To control the incidence of lameness.

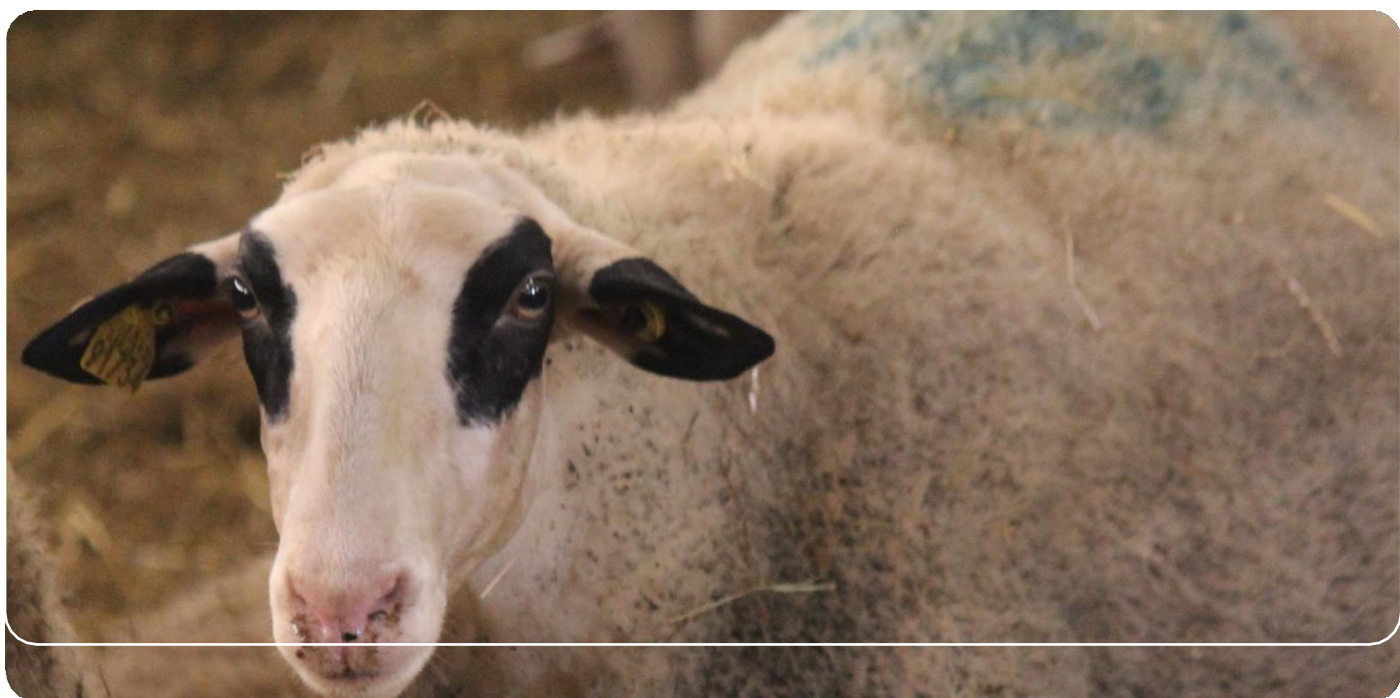
Description:

- Design of a footbath, consisting of 3 pools of 1.5 m long, with a striped floor so that the hoof opens up and comes into contact with the product when stepping on it:
- in the 1st pool with soapy water, and in the 2nd and 3rd with a disinfectant solution, formalin or copper sulfate.
- The 3 pools must have a drain plug



How to implement:





Expected benefits:

- Control and reduce the incidence of lameness,
- Increased production in adult animals, increased fertility, increased average daily gain in lambs.
- Reduced costs, treatments and labour

This solution generates a positive impact in terms of higher intake and efficiency in feed consumption and better grazing management, due to the reduction of lameness. However, it requires the use of more water and disinfectants, which implies the generation of waste from disinfectant containers. In terms of biodiversity, we consider that there may be an improvement due to the reduction of the presence of pathogens.

Prerequisites and/or limits:

- Hoof bath
- Maintain the hoof bath product in hygienic conditions.

Country: Spain

Dairy and meat sheep

Category of Animal: Ewe & replacement

Topic:

- ☒ Health
- ☐ Nutrition
- ☐ Management

Level of solution:

- ☐ Knowledge
- ☒ Practical

A footrot control plan using hoof baths generates costs of around €2 per ewe, corresponding to labour, water and disinfectant costs, but the benefits in a flock of 300 ewes can be assessed around 2800 € if it is for meat production (due to an increase of the number of lambs sold, which may also be achieved in a shorter period of time) and in 8200€, if it is a dairy flock (due to the profit corresponding to the increase of lambs sold, and litres of milk)