EuroSheep
European Knowledge Exchange

Use of Targeted Selective Treatment (TST) for ewe lambs

Need/issue: Internal parasitism.

Aim: To reduce resistance to anthelmintic products.

How to implement:

- At handling time, the animal weight is compared to its calculated target weight.
  - If its weight > its target weight, animal does not get treated.
  - If its weight < its target weight, animal gets treatment.
    - The treated animal also gets a dose adjusted to its weight (small lamb – small dose, big lamb – full dose).

Description:

- The TST approach relies on treating only the animals that need anthelmintic treatment.

- An algorithm ("Happy Factor") calculates the individual animal target weight every month, based on its previous weight and the amount of grass available to eat during that period.

- The treatment of animal is based on the animal reaching its individual target weight or not.

Expected benefits:

The animal growth is not compromised by the lack of treatment, the resistance to anthelmintic treatment is slowed down, the amount of product used, and time spent treating the animals can be reduced by up to 40%.

Prerequisites and/or limits:

- The animal needs to be weighed regularly, ideally with an EID crate with a Tru-Test weigh head

- The grass availability needs to be measured regularly

- The lambs' weights need to be sent to colleagues at Moredun to obtain the target weights, but once the TST farmer-friendly platform is fully developed, the algorithm will be directly accessible to farmers.

Country: UK

Dairy or/and meat sheep: Meat sheep

Category of Animal (ewe, replacement, lamb):
Lamb & replacement

Topic:

X	Health
	Nutrition
	Management

Level of solution:

| | Knowledge |
| X | Practical |

Source of information:

Moredun Research Institute & SRUC (**McBean et al., 2021; Morgan-Davies et al., 2018; Worming lambs based on lamb growth rate – Targeted Selective Treatment – YouTube**)