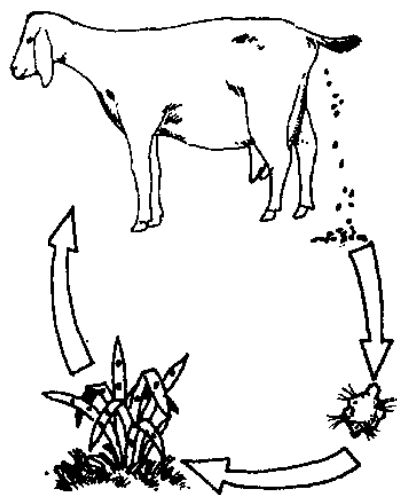


There are many species of worm, most causing a goat to scour. These are easily detected and controlled.

Haemonchus Contortus, however, is an exception. Control this worm, and the others should be under control as well.

Improper management techniques over the years have resulted in worm populations that are drug resistant.

Once a parasite population is resistant to a drug, that entire drug group will no longer be effective in the herd.



30% of the herd will have 80% of the worms.

Parasite control is most effective when wormy animals are targeted individually.

Sources:

University of Rhode Island
Northeast Ruminant Parasite
Control

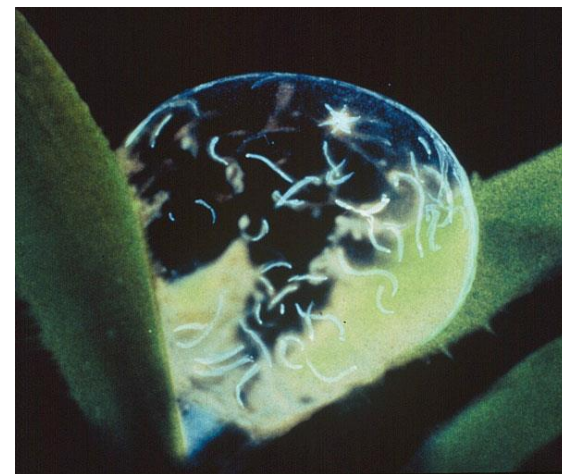
<http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat/>

The URI instructional videos are incredibly informative. The information in this pamphlet is just the basics.

I highly recommend viewing the videos in their entirety.



Integrated Parasite Control



If you have goats, you're going to have worms – it's just a fact of life for grazing animals. The goal is to keep your parasite load at a manageable level.

The following is an overview of how to control the most common parasites your goats will face.

Haemonchus Contortus

This gastrointestinal nematode, colloquially called barber's pole worm, is in nearly every goat herd throughout the world. Their larva live in the pasture, where the goats consume them.

Barber's pole does not cause a goat to show any outwards signs of infection. This parasite lives in a goat's stomach and feeds off the goat's blood - the only symptom is anemia. Once a goat is showing the effects of severe anemia, it is often too late to save them.



FAMACHA scoring is essential to detect barber's pole.

You will never eradicate barber's pole. Your goal is basically to 'breed' a strain of worms that are weak, manageable, and susceptible to drugs.

FAMACHA scoring

FAMACHA is a way of looking at a goat's inner eyelids to check for anemia. Every goat in a herd should be checked regularly and scored on the FAMACHA scale from 1 to 5, then treated according to their score.

Learn how to FAMACHA score and become certified here:

<http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat/famacha/>

Dewormers are a last resort. Natural parasite management techniques include:

- Limiting access to grass
- Alternating grazing pastures between ruminants and other species, such as cows
 - Non-ruminants consume barber's pole and kill it
- Resting the pasture (minimum of 2 months)
- Putting up a field as hay
- Letting goats browse instead of graze
 - Worm larvae climb only 4" to 6" high

Proper Deworming

If a goat has been found anemic through FAMACHA, do not hesitate to treat with chemical dewormer.

There are 3 drug groups:

- Benzimidazoles
 - Safeguard, Valbazen
- Macrolides
 - Ivomec, Cydectin, Ivermectin
- Nicotinics
 - Prohibit

The preferred method of dewormer administration is drenching. After deworming, your goat will shed drug resistant worms.



Worm Season

June – October

Barber's pole likes it warm and wet. Larva will die in hot, dry conditions and freezing conditions. Some will always survive, however, as they hibernate inside your goat over the winter.