NADIS Parasite Forecast webinar: September 2019

• Summer fluke forecast
• Quarantine dosing bought-in stock
• Sheep
  • Parasitic gastroenteritis (PGE)
  • Haemonchosis
• Cattle:
  • Parasitic gastroenteritis (PGE)
  • Lungworm infection

Plan for health – ask your vet for a veterinary health plan
About this webinar

• The NADIS parasite forecast is published monthly
• Based on detailed Met Office data
• Supported by Quality Meat Scotland (QMS)
• Many thanks to Phil Scott and others for their clinical images
Summer fluke forecast

- Both sheep and cattle are susceptible
- Acute disease outbreaks:
  - Sudden death
  - General dullness, anaemia and shortness of breath
  - Rapid weight loss, fluid accumulation (bottle jaw)
- Routine diagnostic testing
- Where acute disease occurs, treat with triclabendazole
  - Consider resistance testing
- Identifying high risk “flukey” pastures

Plan for health – ask your vet for a veterinary health plan
Quarantine dosing bought-in stock

- New stock a potential source of new parasites
- Quarantine drenching prevents introduction of disease AND anthelmintic resistance.
- Ensure accurate dosing by weighing and calibrating equipment
- Specific measures:
  - Sheep (SCOPS guidelines)
  - Cattle (COWS group)
  - Recommendations cover roundworms, ectoparasites and liver fluke
- See SCOPS & COWS websites. Speak to your vet or SQP
Sheep: Parasitic gastroenteritis (PGE)

- Pasture contamination peaks over summer months
  - Wet conditions may increase larval survival
- Monitor signs of disease
- Monitor performance indicators for targeted selective treatments (TSTs): Generally only 40-60% require treatments
- Monitor worm egg counts in pooled faecal samples
- Dose and move at-risk groups to safe pastures where available
  - Don’t move straight after dosing
- When using anthelmintics consider efficacy testing and rotation

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Sheep: Haemonchosis

Less common in the UK, but disease onset can be sudden and severe

• Acute onset disease:
  • Anaemia, observable as pallor of the tissues around the eyes
  • Oedema or fluid accumulation, including “bottle jaw”
  • Sudden death

• Chronic infections are characterised by progressive weight loss, anaemia and loss of appetite.

• Both lambs and ewes are considered at risk

• Diagnosis can be reached through faecal egg counts and post-mortem.

• Most anthelmintic products are effective, including some flukicidal products.

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Sheep: Blowfly strike

• Consult the NADIS blowfly alert for up-to-date disease risk in your area.
Cattle: PGE

- Pasture burdens peak early to mid-July
  - *Ostertagia* may remain on pastures later into the season
  - Young stock could still be at risk
- Monitor for signs of disease
- Set-stocked, strategically dosed animals should have low burdens
  - Check by faecal egg counts
- Vigilance is advised in undosed animals
  - Monitor egg counts and weight gain
- When treating with anthelmintics:
  - Treat all animals in the affected group in the face of a clinical outbreak
  - Consider the [COWS group’s “5Rs”](#) to ensure effective, sustainable use
Cattle: Lungworm

• Lungworm infection (or “husk”) can occur from June onwards.
• Outbreaks are difficult to predict
• Monitor for infection in the group
  • Widespread coughing, increased respiratory rate and difficulty breathing
• Where infection is suspected:
  • Treat animals with an anthelmintic.
  • Affected cattle should be removed from contaminated to “safe” pasture (e.g. aftermath) or housed in a well-ventilated building.
• Speak to your vet or SQP, see “COWS” group guidelines and see the recent NADIS lungworm webinar.

Plan for health – ask your vet for a veterinary health plan
Quiz

Click on the link below to answer a short quiz and print your Advanced Livestock Skills certificate