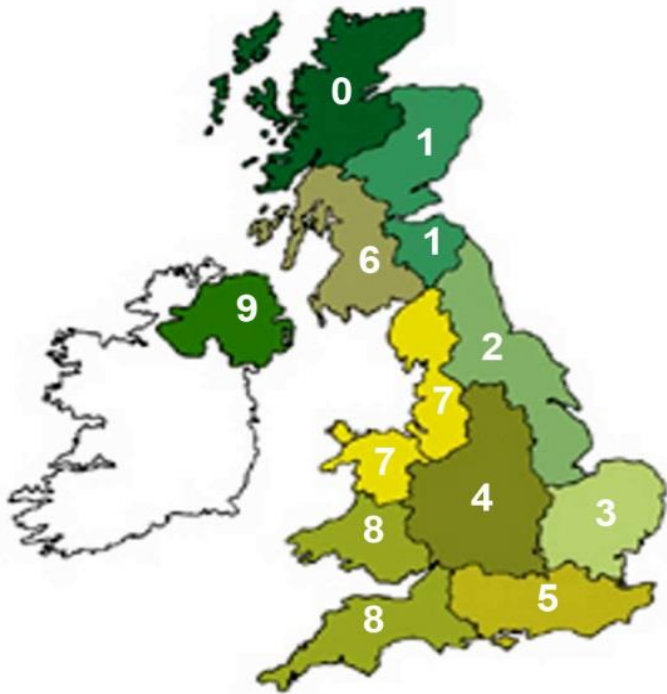




# NADIS Parasite Forecast webinar: May 2020

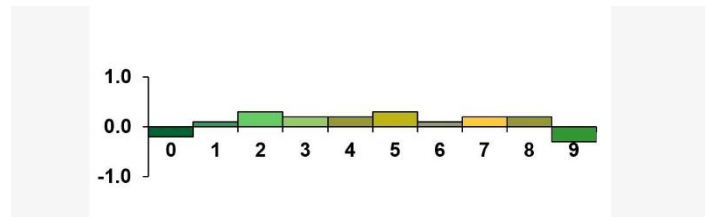
- Chronic liver fluke infection
- Sheep
  - *Nematodirus* forecast
  - Parasitic gastroenteritis (PGE)
  - Coccidiosis
  - Blowfly strike
- Cattle:
  - Parasitic gastroenteritis (PGE)
  - Lungworm
  - Flies and ticks

## Weather summary

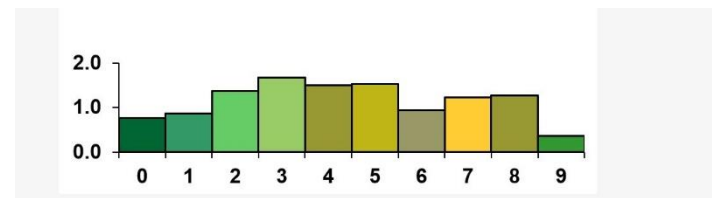


### Temperature

(as °C Above/Below Regional Average 1981-2010)



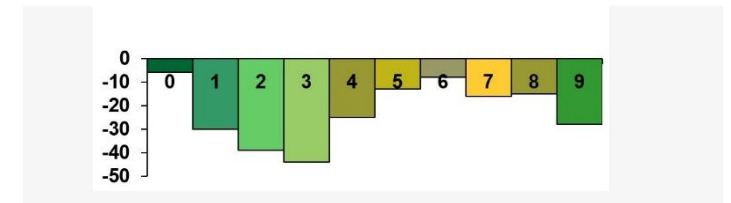
March 2020



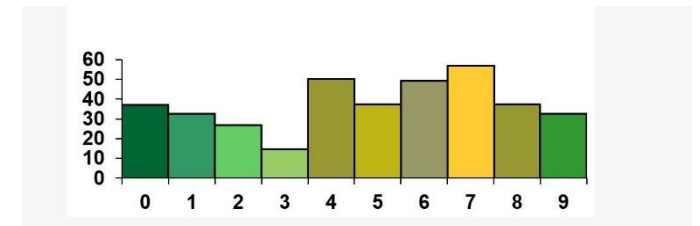
January – March 2020

### Rainfall

(as % Above/Below Regional Average 1981-2010)



March 2020



January – March 2020

# Chronic liver fluke in both sheep and cattle

- Possible in animals untreated since autumn
- Bottle jaw, anaemia, weight loss
- Information: abattoir returns, faecal egg count
- If treating, avoid triclabendazole if possible



# Sheep: Nematodirosis

- Infections pass directly from one season's lambs to the next
- Eggs survive over winter and develop the following spring
  - Temperature dependent
  - Mass hatch on pastures can occur
- Typically seen in 6-12 week old lambs
  - Sudden onset diarrhoea, anorexia, dehydration and death. Affected animals often have heavily soiled back ends
- *Nematodirus* risk forecasts:
  - Based on weather
  - High risk in mid April to beginning of May in many areas of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Later in western Scotland
  - Check SCOPs and NADIS for up to date forecast local to your area

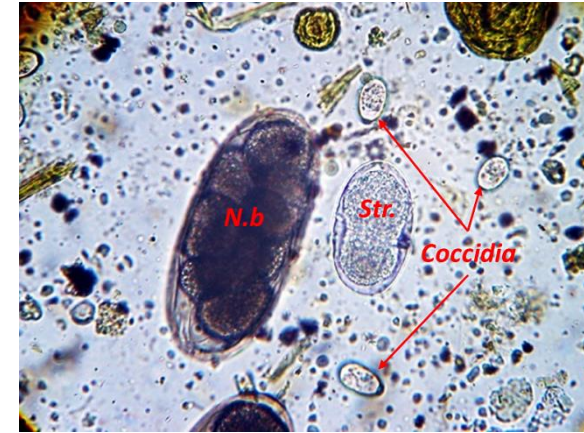


# Sheep: Parasitic Gastroenteritis

- A lambing dose for ewes is no longer recommended
  - Target treatment to thin and first season ewes only
- For lambs, faecal egg counting ideally every 3-4 weeks
- Try to use clean pastures (e.g. grazed by cattle)
- Signs of disease include lack of appetite, diarrhoea, weight loss and death
- Disease may be seen later in the grazing season as pasture contamination accumulates

# Sheep: coccidiosis

- Growing lambs 4-8 weeks
- Protozoal (single celled) parasite
- Accumulation of infective “oocysts” in the environment
- Housed and grazing animals
  - Anorexia, weight loss, diarrhoea (with or without blood) and death
- Disease associated with:
  - High intensity husbandry systems
  - High stocking densities
  - Stress factors
    - E.g. poor colostrum supply, adverse weather conditions, extended housing periods etc.



# Sheep: Blowfly strike

- Forecast risk for May is generally low, but check NADIS blowfly alert for up to date local info
- Wounds and diarrhoea increase the risk – treat lameness promptly and keep on top of worming
- Plan ahead for treatment and prevention



# Sheep: Advised actions

- Monitor for disease
- For nematodirosis:
  - Consult the [SCOPS](#) and NADIS *Nematodirus* forecasts to determine peak risk period.
  - Avoid grazing high risk pasture during risk periods
  - Where treatment is indicated group 1-BZs are usually effective
- For PGE in lambs:
  - Regular faecal egg count testing
- For coccidiosis:
  - Reduce stocking densities, batch rear lambs and avoid heavily contaminated pastures/premises.
  - A number of anticoccidial products are available for both prevention and treatment of coccidiosis
- For more information please speak to your vet or SQP



# Cattle: Parasitic gastroenteritis

- Calves and youngstock are at greatest risk
- Monitor weight gain and/or faecal egg count
- Set stocking with strategic anthelmintic treatments.
  - Start treatment within 3 weeks of turnout
- Therapeutic treatment for specific animals
  - Use of pasture rotation to prevent significant pasture build-up
  - Close monitoring required, treat as necessary
- For more information speak to your vet or SQP and see the COWS group website



# Lungworm

- Turn vaccinated calves out onto contaminated pasture to allow natural immunity to develop
- Avoid use of wormers within 2 weeks of second dose
- If vaccine not used and history of lungworm, use strategic dosing to prevent disease later in the season



# Flies and ticks

- Biting flies and midges cause nuisance and spread disease
- Ticks can spread disease in some areas
- Control options include insecticide impregnated ear tags and tail bands, pour on/spot on/spray on products

# Quiz

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

# 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