

## PARASITE MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

Circle the letter beside the ways you help control parasites below:

- a. I put animals into groups based on how easy it is for them to get wormy so I can manage them differently.
- b. My pastures are divided so I can rotate and rest them to keep them at or over 4 inches tall.
- c. I use cattle, horses or other animal species to help control sheep and goat parasites (and vice versa).
- d. There are “safe” or “safer” pastures on my farm, like new pastures, ones with lots of browse (leaves, stems of woody plants) or forbs (“weeds”), those mowed for hay, etc. and I use them for strategic animal movement.
- e. New animals on my farm are kept away from all other animals in a worm-unfriendly pen and dewormed with drugs from two or three different drug “classes” that I select with my veterinarian’s input.
- f. Animals on my farm are in good body condition so they can fight off worms (and diseases) better.
- g. I cull (get rid of) animals that always have high fecal egg counts or are always “wormy”; I do not breed them.
- h. When choosing breeding stock, either from my farm or those I may buy from other farms, I look for animals that according to records do not have to be dewormed often.
- i. I know which dewormers work on my farm by using a fecal egg count reduction test or DrenchRite<sup>®</sup> test every other year, at least.
- j. I use FAMACHA<sup>®</sup> with other signs of worms to tell if a sheep or goat needs deworming.
- k. I deworm based on “need” and not just on a regular schedule so that I do not treat animals unnecessarily.
- l. For sheep and goats, I dose orally; and for goats, I use a higher dose based on my knowledgeable veterinarian’s recommendations to make sure I do not under-dose.
- m. I always give the right dose because I weigh animals or use a weigh tape, and I give dewormer correctly. For oral medications, this means over the tongue in the back of the mouth.
- n. I consult with a veterinarian who understands and keeps up with new information about parasite control.
- o. I use browse, forbs, and different types of forages, such as ones that grow tall or that have condensed tannins (for sheep and goats), to help control worms.
- p. I keep stocking rates low to moderate (three to seven animals per acre of good pasture for sheep and goats).

Please feel free to use this area for ideas on how to improve parasite control on your farm:

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This checklist was created by Dr. Niki Whitley and is based on information from “Parasite Management Principles” by the ACSRPC ([www.acsrpc.org](http://www.acsrpc.org)).