

Northeastern Small Ruminant Producers

Do Your Small Ruminants Have Problems With Gastrointestinal Worms?

- Do you want to improve your parasite control?
- Do you want to know which of your animals are most parasite resistant?
- Do you want to learn how to select for traits like parasite resistance in your breeding program?
- Do you live in one of the Northeastern United States?

We are offering free Fecal Egg Count (FEC) analysis to assist with Selective Breeding for Resistance to Gastrointestinal Nematodes (GIN)

Receive assistance in identifying the most parasite resistant sheep and goats in your flock/herd using fecal egg count (FEC) analysis combined with FAMACHA© scores. Receive guidance on using results in individualized selective breeding decisions.

Criteria for participation – small ruminant producers that:

- Live in one of the Northeast states – New England, NY, NJ, PA, WV, MD, DE.
- Have a history of problems with gastrointestinal nematode worms.
- Are FAMACHA© certified (online training program is available).
- Are willing to share general herd/flock information/history.
- Have the ability to obtain and ship fecal samples from your animals twice, 3-4 weeks apart.
- Have not dewormed the animals to be tested 4 weeks prior to FEC analysis.

Producers interested in participating in this program please contact either Holly Burdett (hburdett@uri.edu) or Dr. Katherine Petersson (kpetersson@uri.edu) to obtain fecal sampling and shipping instructions. Samples will be accepted for analysis the remainder of August and September. As animals naturally acquire resistance to parasites as they age, we would encourage producers to focus on young replacement animals being considered for your breeding program for testing.

For more information including our information sheets, *Why Do Sheep and Goat Fecal Egg Counts*, *How To Do The Modified McMaster Fecal Egg Counting Procedure* and our [demonstration video](#) on fecal egg counting, visit our website at <http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat>. The video can also be viewed directly from the URI YouTube channel page (**UniversityOfRI**): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZQymZKe_hs.