Wormer videos launched to challenge anthelmintic resistance

Sheep producers now have access to best practice worming advice with the launch of a new series of informative videos produced by AHDB Beef & Lamb.

The videos have been created to help farmers manage the growing problem of anthelmintic resistance which has been identified across the country.

The 14 short videos, which are hosted on the levy board’s YouTube channel, Beef & Lamb TV, are produced in conjunction with Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep (SCOPS) and presented by sheep expert Lesley Stubbings along with independent vet Chris Lewis.

Lesley, who also hosted an AHDB Beef & Lamb teleconference on the subject recently, said: “As the UK sheep industry has become more reliant on pastures grazed by sheep alone, so the dependence of effective anthelmintics has increased.

“Unfortunately this heavy use, and in some cases misuse, of these relatively cheap products has led to the development of anthelmintic resistance. It is vital that the industry is able to control worms in the years to come, as failure to do so could have a huge negative impact on farmers.”

The videos cover topics such as; explaining anthelmintic resistance, correct dosing, drenching and injecting techniques, effective quarantine, calibrating a gun/injector, faecal egg counts, Nematodirus and more. They aim to arm producers with information to help them tackle parasites effectively.

Katie Brian, Better Returns Programme (BRP) project manager for AHDB Beef & Lamb, said: “It is vital that farmers understand the importance of worming correctly so that the treatment is effective. The videos we have produced are just a few minutes in length each, yet are full of practical take-home information to help producers.

“They are free to access and can be watched in the farm office or on any mobile or tablet device. Users just need to visit Beef & Lamb TV and look for the Sheep Anthelmintics playlist.”

The video series follows on from a similar set of videos produced by AHDB Beef & Lamb which demonstrate how to administer anthelmintics in cattle which were produced in collaboration with Control Of Worms Sustainably (COWS) and presented by farm vet Robert Smith.

More information on worm control is available from the BRP manuals Growing and finishing lambs for Better Returns (manual 5) and Worm control in sheep for Better Returns (manual 8) and also the SCOPS website: www.scops.org.uk/

Ends

Notes to editors

Beef & Lamb TV can be found at www.youtube.com/c/AHDBBeefandLamb
For more information, please contact Ben Coates in the AHDB Beef and Lamb press office on 024 7647 8736 or via ben.coates@ahdb.org.uk

AHDB Beef & Lamb is a division of the Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board (AHDB).
AHDB is a UK-wide Non-Departmental Public Body sponsored by Defra and primarily funded by farmers, growers and others in the supply chain through statutory levies.
It supports the meat and livestock industries (beef, sheep and pigs) in England; the horticulture, dairy and potatoes industries in Great Britain; and the cereals and oilseeds industry in the UK.
AHDB Beef and Lamb was formerly known as EBLEX.