



# Goats and Worms

Goats are  
affected by the  
same parasites  
as other  
production  
animals



Tasmania



## All Goat owners (1-1000) share common problems in dealing with worms in stock:

- Limited useful drenches for goats
- Limited useful amounts these are sold in (smaller owners)
- Where to obtain useful information

### IMPORTANCE OF INTERNAL PARASITES

- Can affect general animal health.
- Can affect wool, meat, milk output and quality (profit).
- Can affect weight gain and maintenance of a healthy weight.
- Can allow animals to be affected by other secondary infections.
- Can affect reproduction rate.
- Can affect the survival and development rate of kids.
- Affects profit (if you are producer of goat products).
- Worms are seasonal and dominant species on a property will change throughout the year.
- Not all worms cause scouring.

### INTERNAL PARASITE MANAGEMENT CONTROL

- Do you know if your stock is wormy? Most worm problems occur during the wetter months (autumn, spring and winter).
- Do you know if your drenches are effective? Use knowledge, planning and monitoring.
- Good farm management practices are essential in controlling levels of internal parasites.
- Control of Internal Parasites is usually done by drenching and rotation of stock.
- Quarantine new stock and drench.
- Have a plan to change drenches and minimise resistance forming on the property.
- Know how effective the drench groups are on the property.
- Worm testing regularly.

### Some commonly found parasites that affect sheep and goats

In Tasmania sheep and goats are affected by a number of Roundworm species. The most common ones include black scour worms (*Trichostrongylus sp.*), small brown stomach worm (*Ostertagia sp.*), large mouth bowel worm (*Oesophagostomum sp.*), and thin necked intestinal worm (*Nematodirus sp.*). These are especially important in younger animals. Also barbers pole worm (*Haemonchus contortus*), in localised pockets across Tasmania.

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### Useful Contact Information:

- Animal Health Laboratory - (03) 6777 2111
- General Enquires - 1300 368 550 (bh)
- [www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au](http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au)
- [www.wormboss.com.au](http://www.wormboss.com.au)

