

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Resistance to gastrointestinal nematodes in dairy sheep: genetic variability and relevance of artificial infection of nucleus rams to select for resistant ewes on farms

Authors: S. Aguerre, P. Jacquet, H. Brodier, J.P. Bournazel, C. Grisez, F. Prévot, L. Michot, F. Fidelle, J.M. Astruc, C.R. Moreno



PII: S0304-4017(18)30143-2
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vetpar.2018.04.004>
Reference: VETPAR 8661

To appear in: *Veterinary Parasitology*

Received date: 22-12-2017
Revised date: 6-4-2018
Accepted date: 7-4-2018

Please cite this article as: Aguerre S, Jacquet P, Brodier H, Bournazel JP, Grisez C, Prévot F, Michot L, Fidelle F, Astruc JM, Moreno CR, Resistance to gastrointestinal nematodes in dairy sheep: genetic variability and relevance of artificial infection of nucleus rams to select for resistant ewes on farms, *Veterinary Parasitology* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vetpar.2018.04.004>

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Resistance to gastrointestinal nematodes in dairy sheep: genetic variability and relevance of artificial infection of nucleus rams to select for resistant ewes on farms

S. Aguerre¹, P. Jacquiet², H. Brodier², J.P. Bournazel², C. Grisez², F. Prévot², L. Michot³, F. Fidelle³, J.M. Astruc⁴ & C.R. Moreno¹

¹ GenPhySE, Université de Toulouse, INRA, ENVT, 31320, Castanet-Tolosan, France

² UMR INRA-ENVT 1225, Interactions hôtes-agents pathogènes, UMT Santé de Petits Ruminants, 31076, Toulouse, France

³ CDEO, Quartier Ahetzia, 64130, Ordiarp, France

⁴ Institut de l'Elevage, 31321, Castanet-Tolosan, France

Corresponding author

Sophie Aguerre

Telephone: +33 5 61 28 54 53

e-mail address: sophie.aguerre@inra.fr

Highlights:

- FECs after experimental infections and FECs on farm are highly correlated.
- Dairy farm ewes born to resistant versus to susceptible rams have 50% fewer FEC.
- A sustainable strategy is to control GIN using genetic selection and anthelmintics.

Abstract

Breeding sheep for enhanced resistance to gastrointestinal parasites is a promising strategy to limit the use of anthelmintics due to the now widespread resistance of parasites to these molecules. This paper reports the genetic parameters estimated for parasite resistance and resilience traits in the Blond-faced Manech dairy sheep breed and the putative impacts of the

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