

## INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

**We are recruiting UK sheep farmers to answer a short questionnaire to assess your awareness and understanding of the Targeted Selective Treatment (TST) approach to controlling roundworms in sheep. If you think you might be interested after reading through the information below, please get in touch with the research team at Liverpool. We can answer any questions you may want to ask before deciding whether to participate. If you would like to discuss with your friends, family or veterinary surgeon, please feel free to do so.**

### **1. What is the purpose of the study?**

The aim of this study is to evaluate the awareness and understanding of the Targeted Selective Treatment (TST) approach to controlling roundworms in sheep, by UK sheep farmers. This study aims to identify factors that may affect farmers adapting to new worming techniques, and assess whether the farmer-vet relationship plays a part in this

### **2. Why have I been contacted to take part?**

You are a UK sheep farmer and a member of The Farmer Network.

### **3. What are the requirements for participating farms?**

You should be **willing to answer a short questionnaire** either by **email or phone call** in **December 2020**.

You should be a sheep farmer and a member of The Farmers Network. There does not need to be a history of worming problems on the farm.

### **4. What is involved in the study?**

If you are interested taking part in the study you will be asked to ring, text or email the researcher and provide an email address. We will contact you and ask if you want us to send the questionnaire by email or if we can conduct the questionnaire over the phone. A summary of the findings will be sent to you at the end of the study.

### **5. Who will visit my farm and when?**

No one is required to visit your farm during this study.

### **6. Will there be any costs to me if I participate?**

**The main cost to you is your time.** We will require you to answer a few questions over the phone or fill in a short questionnaire. The whole questionnaire should take only 15 minutes of your time.

### **7. What are the benefits?**

You may learn more about a new worming system that could benefit your farm. You will be assisting in a study that may help reduce resistance to worming treatments, which is a rising problem.

### **8. How will my data be stored and used?**

All the information collected during the study will be kept confidential. Digital data will be password protected and stored on the University of Liverpool server. A Y3 veterinary student and Diana Williams are the only people who will have access to your detailed information. Your contact details will be stored separately from information we collect in the questionnaire. Data will be destroyed 3 years after the end of the study. At no time will your data be disclosed to any other party. The results from the questionnaire will be analysed and written up in a report. All the data in the report will be anonymised and we will send you a copy of the report at the end of the study.

Further information on how your data will be used can be found in the table below.

How will my data be collected and stored?	Data from the questionnaire will be collected and stored electronically on the University of Liverpool server.
How long will my data be stored for?	Your anonymised data will be stored for no longer than 3 years.
What measures are in place to protect the security and confidentiality of my data?	Electronic data will be stored in a confidential manner on the University of Liverpool's secure servers. Only the researchers identified will have access.
Will my data be anonymised?	Yes, all collected data will be anonymised.
How will my data be used?	All the data collected will be analysed and used to prepare a report. The report will only contain anonymised data, no one will be able to identify you or your farm from the report.
Who will have access to my data?	Only the researchers conducting the study at the University of Liverpool are Megan Burgess, a Y3 veterinary student and Prof Diana Williams
How will my data be destroyed?	Data held electronically will be deleted.

#### **9. What if I want to leave the study whilst participating?**

We encourage you to only sign up if you know that you can commit 15 minutes or so to completing the questionnaire. However, you are free to leave the study at any time if you wish.

#### **10. What if I am unhappy or there is a problem?**

If this occurs, please do let us know (using the contact information below) and we will try to help. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint which you feel you cannot come to us with then you should contact the Research Governance Officer on 0151 794 8290 (ethics@liv.ac.uk). When contacting the Research Governance Officer, please provide details of the name or description of the

study (so that it can be identified), the researcher(s) involved, and the details of the complaint you wish to make.

**11. If you are interested in taking part in this study, please contact Megan Burgess on:**

[M.V.Burgess@student.liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:M.V.Burgess@student.liverpool.ac.uk)

**12. Who can I contact for more information?**

**Professor Diana Williams**

07968075462

[williadj@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:williadj@liverpool.ac.uk)

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