COST Action FA0805
Goat-parasite interactions: from knowledge to control

3rd CAPARA WGs Workshop & MC Meeting

ABSTRACT BOOK

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APOLLONIA BEACH HOTEL
LIMASSOL - CYPRUS
To gain insight into the practical approach to the control of parasitoses in small ruminants, a survey of veterinarians was initiated in several counties in Serbia. The veterinarians were interviewed in person or via email. The inquiry related to the prevailing farming practices in small ruminant breeding, the usual approach in the control of parasitoses, the types of applied anti-parasitic drugs and the experience in poor outcome of treatment with antiparasitics. The practitioners came from both lowland areas with developed intensive crop production and small areas of grassland, and mountainous areas with large pastures.

The veterinarians who responded to the inquiry were well experienced, as the mean time in the veterinary service was 19.07 ± 6.06 years. Anti-parasitic drugs were administered routinely at owners’ request even when parasites were not diagnosed, or after clinical and/or pathomorphological diagnosis. The predominant parasitic infections in the lowland region included sheep mange, fasciolosis in some areas, and nematodes and cestodes. In highland areas, the most frequent parasitosis was fasciolosis. Most commonly used treatment included ivermectin, albendazole and tetramisole, with slight differences in the predominant drug between lowland and highland areas. Antiparasitics were administered according to animal body weight as estimated by the owner, as per the respective manufacturers’ instructions. One half of the vets reported having experienced failure of the treatment to give the expected effect, which they attributed to drug underdosing (the owners themself gave the drugs), poor drug quality or wrong diagnosis. None of the vets took the possibility of resistance to antiparasitic drugs into account.