



# Small Farm Field Day

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## GOAT MEAT DEMONSTRATION

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**OBJECTIVE** — The purpose of this demonstration is to show alternative means for goat-meat production and to evaluate alternative methods of parasite detection and management.

**OPPORTUNITY** — There is an increased demand for goat meat in North Carolina due to increasing ethnic populations that desire goat meat in their diets. There is unmet demand in major cities in North Carolina and nearby states.

Internal parasites are one of the major threats to meat-goat producers. Currently, there are problems with increased resistance to most dewormers. At the same time there is increasing interest among farmers to produce livestock by natural methods. Thus alternative methods of managing parasite problems are needed

### METHODS

#### **Alternative wormers diagnostics and genetic diversity.**

- Surveys and records will be used to assess overall management practices and provide enterprise management and marketing support. Surveys will be sent to producers in selected project areas to determine current practices used to control internal parasites in small ruminants.

#### **Novel parasite-fighting treatments**

- Provides an evaluation of infection, extraction methods, and administration and efficacy of treatments
- Utilizes measurements of fecal egg counts (FEC), packed cell volume (PCV), blood proteins, and DNA

#### **Parasite Monitoring: SPOT CHECK**

- Provides a quantitative evaluation of gastrointestinal parasite load
- Utilizes actual egg counts
- Manages for prevention of problems
- Removes guesswork from determining when to deworm
- Assesses effectiveness of particular deworming drugs

#### **Parasite Monitoring: FAMACHA**

- Clinically assays and evaluates anemia caused by the Haemonchus parasite and other species.
- Utilizes differential fecal egg counts, hematocrits, and body condition scores
- Provides a “FAMACHA Score,” which is a relative assessment of the degree of anemia

**OUTREACH** — Evaluation of parasite monitoring models for demonstrations and for use at A&T Farm Field Days