

# FAMACHA® Training Policy for the Small Ruminant Chapter ANZCVS

## Background

The FAMACHA® system is one that compares the eye mucous membrane colour of the small ruminants with a laminated card to determine which animals need drenching for barber's pole worms. Records can also be kept to select animals that are likely to pass on genes for worm resilience. This video from Meat & Livestock Australia provides an explanation of the FAMACHA® system - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCauFCxjCIs&t=2s> .

The Small Ruminant Chapter of ANZCVS has obligations that must be met in order to obtain FAMACHA® cards. These cards can only be distributed by the chapter in Australia, New Zealand and nearby islands. The Chapter has undertaken to promote, protect and encourage the correct use of cards wherever distributed. An annual report will be provided to South Africa which will include the names and contacts of people provided with cards.

A policy was therefore developed to meet these obligations and is as below:

- Chapter members can purchase cards as their membership exams covered parasite control.
- Staff of the WormBoss program ([www.wormboss.com.au](http://www.wormboss.com.au)) and their state coordinators can obtain cards as they are recognised veterinarians or parasitologists with relevant expertise.
- Non- chapter members must first attend a course held by a chapter member as an assistant presenter before purchasing cards or alternatively attend a training session arranged by the Chapter. Both Dr Kylie Greentree and Dr Sandra Baxendell are planning to hold courses in NSW and Qld respectively in 2018.
- All those that deliver the course must use this handout (in addition to other handouts)- [http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat/files/FAMACHA-Scoring\\_Final2.pdf](http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat/files/FAMACHA-Scoring_Final2.pdf)
- Presenters may use their own PowerPoints or ask a chapter member presenter for help. There is a FAMAVHA Consortium Australia group on LinkedIn that has many items of interest that would help potential presenters prepare a PowerPoint – see <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4301659> . Any PowerPoint or training aid used must cover:
  - FAMACHA is only relevant for barbers pole worms
  - Life cycle of barbers pole worms
  - Anthelmintic resistance & refugia management
  - Residue prevention and using non-registered drenches in goats and alpacas
  - Pasture management
  - Genetic selection
  - Targeted treatments versus treating the whole herd/flock
  - The need to store anthelmintics according to label instructions
  - The 5 PointCheck®
  - Wormboss website i.e. [www.wormboss.com.au](http://www.wormboss.com.au) for Australian courses
- Presenters must examine each participant in a hands-on situation in suitable yards with suitable sheep, goats or alpacas to ensure each is capable of correctly using the FAMACHA® cards and the 5 PointCheck®. Presenters will be responsible for any animal ethics Committee approval if required under the relevant jurisdiction's legislation, although this is unlikely to be needed as these checks are a normal husbandry procedure and non-invasive.
- If successful, then each participant must be given a certificate that has the location and date of the course to allow them to purchase cards in the future if their current cards have

faded. Examples of certificates can be found on the chapter website or see the end of this document. A full list of names and contact details of attendees must be given to the Chapter coordinator within 4 weeks of the course completion.

- Evaluations must be undertaken at the end of the course and it is suggested another is done again in approximately 12 months' time ([www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com) is a useful tool). Examples of evaluations can be found on the chapter website and as an Appendix to this document. Evaluations, handouts and PowerPoints must be kept by the presenter in case of any audit (electronic storage suggested).
- Presenters must provide a list of course participant names and contacts within 4 weeks of the course to the chapter FAMACHA coordinator.
- Prices of cards to presenters must completely cover chapter costs based on a likely number of cards to be sold annually. This is currently \$30 including GST plus any postage. There may be a delay in getting cards when card numbers get low so plenty of notice must be given. Cards won't be posted by the chapter FAMACHA coordinator until payment is received and name and address is given (for records). Cheques should be made payable to the ANZCVS - Small Ruminant Chapter or can make a direct payment to BSB 034-090 Account Number 177 605 with your name or practice name. Allow \$3.50 for registered postage in Australia (20 cards weigh 80 grams before packaging in a CD box) or \$1 if just purchasing one for yourself and willing to risk the normal mail. The Chapter currently has 160 cards in stock which will be provided on a first come, first serve basis.
- Dr Sandra Baxendell ([goatvetoz@gmail.com](mailto:goatvetoz@gmail.com)) 22 Lesina St, Keperra, Brisbane, QLD 4054 Australia is the current coordinator. Other Chapter members are welcome to volunteer as a coordinator.



# Certificate of Competency: FAMACHA<sup>®</sup> Anaemia Guide

It is hereby certified that

.....

of

.....

has successfully completed a course in the use of a  
FAMACHA<sup>®</sup> guide to assist in the control of  
*Haemonchus contortus* (barber's pole worms) in sheep  
and goats, held on ..... // at ..... insert location &  
organised by.....

..... (Presenter to sign on day)

Insert date //

Insert presenter's name and logo

FAMACHA<sup>®</sup> is distributed under the auspices of the South African copyright holder. In the USA it is under the auspices of the American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control ([www.wormx.info](http://www.wormx.info)). In Australia and New Zealand this is under the auspices of the Small Ruminant Chapter of the Australian New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists ([www.anzcvcs.org.au](http://www.anzcvcs.org.au)).

# FAMACHA/Small Ruminant Internal Parasites

## Feedback:

Workshop Location:

insert

Date //

YOUR NAME (optional): .....

*I appreciate your feedback - it helps me to further improve. Thank you*

Rating Scale: 5 – excellent, 4 – very good, 3 – good, 2 - needs improvement, 1 – poor.

Think about the talk and rate your response from 1 – 5 for the following questions:	Rating	How can this be improved?
1. How would you rate presenters' name preparation?		
2. How would you rate the quality of the information delivered?		
3. Rate the practical demonstration given, did you find it relevant and beneficial?		
4. Was the length of the presentation adequate to meet your needs?		
5. Were you satisfied with the opportunities given to ask questions, actively participate and network in the session?		
6. How would you rate the handouts/follow-up?		
Please give any further feedback or comments.		

Please return this form to the organizer or email later to insert presenter's email by //

Suggested SurveyMonkey Questions (note the free version only allows 10 questions so you need to be selective)

1. Numbers of small ruminants on your farm <10, 10-20, 25-50, 50-100, 100 -500, >500
2. Area of land grazed in hectares.
3. How often have you used the FAMACHA © card since the course – once or twice, 3-6 times, at least monthly, monthly and fortnightly in summer.
4. Have cases of bottle jaw in your herd/flock – reduced, increased, stayed the same.
5. Have you purchased or kept any homebred rams/ bucks/macho (cross out what does not apply) in the past year – yes/no. If yes, what consideration did you give to worm resistance & resilience – none, considered but no information was available for my breed (state breed), used FAMACHA scores to select, used sire evaluation trail,
6. Have you culled any females in the last 12 months Yes/No. Did FAMACHA© scores influence your decision. Yes/No.

If you have culled females in the last 12 month, have you noticed any improvement in overall FAMACHA scores in your herd/flock? Yes/No

7. Did you drench all your animals before doing the FAMACHA course? Yes / No and if No, what % of the herd did you drench .....%  
What % of the herd do you now drench after doing the course .....%
8. Prior to the FAMACHA Course how often were you drenching per year? - 1-2, 3-5, every month, only when clinical signs were noticed, other (specify).  
Has this changed in the past 12 months? Increased/ decreased? How frequently? 1-2, 3-5, every month, only when clinical signs, only those animals with a score of 4 or 5 on the FAMACHA score card. Which of the following parasite control methods are you now using (yes/no/was already using before the course):
  - a. Using targeted selected treatments i.e. not drenching all animals
  - b. Drench and move adults (note this a trick question as course emphasizes drench and stay to manage refugia)
  - c. Preparing safe pastures for weaners
  - d. Keeping pasture high for goats (delete for sheep only courses)
  - e. Using double or triple drenches at the same time
  - f. Rotational grazing with a non-susceptible species
  - g. Using Copper Oxide Wire Particle boluses for barbers pole worms
  - h. Store drenches in a cooler location
  - i. Rotate drench families each year (note this a trick question as course emphasizes using multiple drench families as annual rotations don't work to prevent resistance)
9. Have you used the same/less/more drench over the last 12 months?
10. Have you found the FAMACHA Card tool for parasite control– very useful, useful, not useful?