



For Immediate Release
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Goat parasite workshops scheduled in spring 2008

Normal, AL, April 2008---The Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs Unit at Alabama A&M University in partnership with the Goat and Sheep Producers of Alabama (GSPA) will offer a series of free gastro-intestinal (GI) parasite identification and FAMACHA training workshops in Bullock, Baldwin, Chilton, and Marshall counties. All workshops will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with a one-hour lunch on your own.

The workshops are conducted at the beginning of the grazing season in early spring because spring is a time when gastrointestinal parasite (worms) infections are more prevalent. The objective of the workshop is to educate farmers, veterinarian practitioners, Extension agents, and other interested persons on:

- Small ruminant production and alternative herd management
- Life cycle of gastrointestinal worms
- Consequences of parasite-host interactions
- Parasite deworming treatments to reduce infection among goat and sheep herds

In addition, participants will learn how to administer FDA-approved and non-FDA-approved products effectively to minimize the use of chemicals in the control of GI parasites. (The FAMACHA test is a test developed by South African scientists and is a management tool used to control barber pole worm infection of sheep and goats.)

The workshop brochure is also available online at www.aces.edu/urban. For additional information, please contact Dr. Maria Leite-Browning at (256) 372-4954.