



426 Research paper

Toward innovative tools of intervention and decision aid to control mammary infections in small ruminants breeding

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In **Significant Impact Groups:**

Pathogen management \ None Prudent use AB

Species targeted: Other; Sheep;

Age: Adult;

Summary:

In small ruminants, management tools for the control of mammary infections must be rethought, taking into account their animal specificities as well as management, equipment or work organization. The study integrated the inputs of observation, as a central element of the work of breeders and advisors, and various innovative technological solutions or automated recordings now available or in development as diagnostic tools (molecular bacteriology, cell counts, infrared spectra, clinical examination of the udder and the teat) and in terms of milking ability and milking conditions (use of milk kinetics recordings or vacuum fluctuations and thermography). In a context of antibiotics use reduction, criteria for the selection of animals to be cured (or culled) have been proposed. New phenotypes have been explored for a better understanding of the risk factors associated with milking. Finally, after studying the genetic progress and economic impact, the inclusion of new traits in selection schemes was carried out (somatic cell counts) or proposed to improve the resistance of animals to mammary infections.

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Where to find the original material:

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