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Coprological assessment of albendazole efficacy against gastrointestinal strongyle-type nematodes in sheep from Gorj County, Romania

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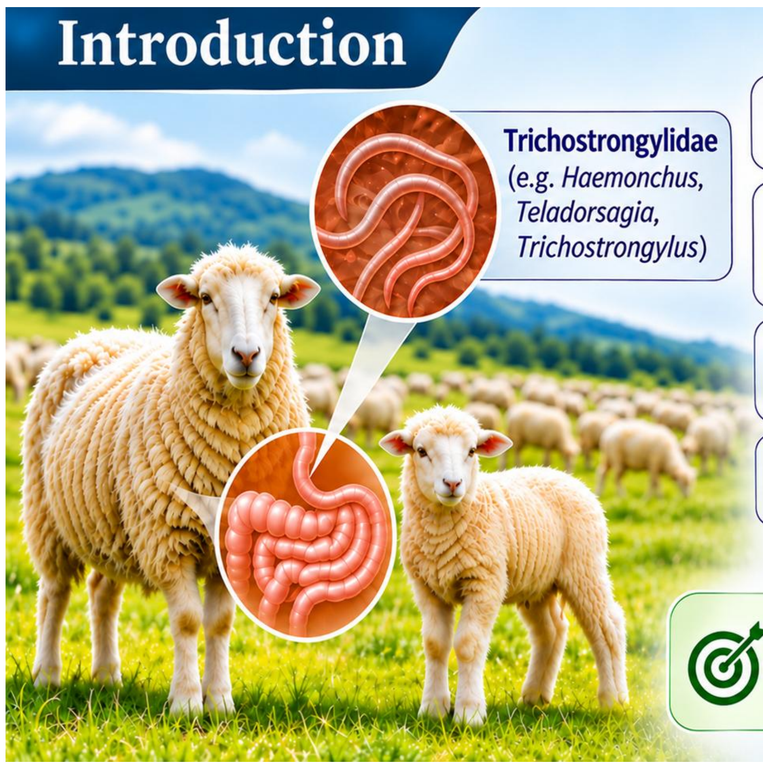
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***Abstract**: Trichostrongylid infections are among the most important gastrointestinal parasitic diseases affecting sheep, with a significant impact on animal health and productive performance. This study aimed to assess the prevalence of gastrointestinal parasitic infections in sheep and to determine the anthelmintic efficacy of albendazole (Vermitan® 10%) in controlling infections caused by nematodes of the family Trichostrongylidae. The study was conducted between March 2025 and March 2026 on three extensively managed sheep farms located in Gorj County, Romania. A total of 91 faecal samples were examined using the Willis flotation technique for the detection of parasitic elements and the McMaster technique for the determination of faecal egg counts, expressed as eggs per gram of faeces (EPG). Coprological examinations revealed an overall prevalence of parasitic infections of 92.31%, with nematodes belonging to the family Trichostrongylidae representing the predominant parasitic group. The therapeutic efficacy of albendazole (Vermitan®), administered orally at a dose of 5 mg albendazole/kg body weight, was assessed using the faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT) at 7, 14 and 21 days post-treatment. The mean faecal egg count decreased from 1,333.33 EPG before treatment to 50.00 EPG on day 21, corresponding to FECRT values of 55.83%, 95.00% and 96.25% on days 7, 14 and 21, respectively. These findings demonstrate the efficacy of albendazole (Vermitan®) in reducing trichostrongylid egg shedding and highlight the importance of coprological monitoring in optimising strategies for the control of gastrointestinal parasitic infections in sheep.*

***Keywords:** sheep; Trichostrongylidae; albendazole; anthelmintic efficacy; FECRT*

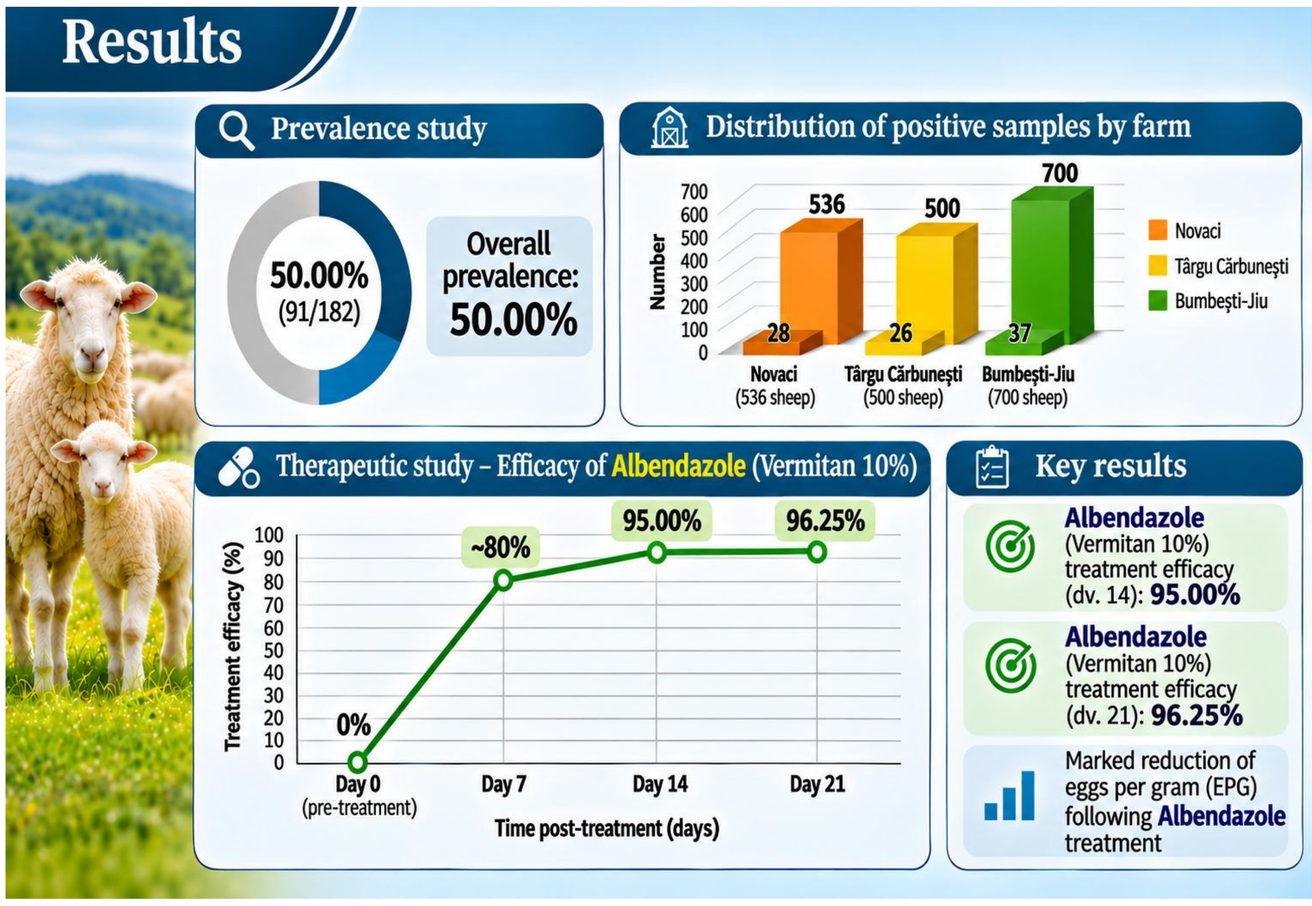
Introduction



Materials and Methods



Results



Conclusions

