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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] - FW: Call for Abstracts --- Submission Details  
**Date:** Friday, October 13, 2023 at 11:39:18AM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Stephan A Wildeus  
**To:** Jessica C Queen, Mackenzie A Robertson, Javin J. Davis  
**CC:** Dahlia J. O'Brien, Kwame Matthews

Dear All,

Attached is the abstract submission information for the Bioworma abstract you co-authored.

Regards,

Stephan Wildeus, Ph.D.  
Research Professor – Small Ruminants  
Agriculture Research Station  
Box 9061  
Virginia State University  
Petersburg, VA 23806  
Ph: (804) 524-6716  
e-mail: [swildeus@vsu.edu](mailto:swildeus@vsu.edu)

**From:** [noreply@goCadmium.com](mailto:noreply@goCadmium.com) <[noreply@goCadmium.com](mailto:noreply@goCadmium.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Stephan A Wildeus <[SWildeus@vsu.edu](mailto:SWildeus@vsu.edu)>  
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January 27-30, 2024  
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**Abstract Category**  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT COMPETITION

**Abstract Type:**

Oral

**Abstract Status:**

Complete

**Abstract ID:**

1661370

**Abstract Title:**

*The Efficacy of a Natural Fungus (*Duddingtonia flagrans*) in Reducing Gastrointestinal Nematode Indicators in Lambs*

## Author(s)

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1. [Jessica Queen](#) (Role: Presenting Author)
2. [Dahlia O'Brien](#) (Role: Author)
3. [Stephan A. Wildeus](#) (Role: Author)
4. [Javin Davis](#) (Role: Author)
5. [MacKenzie Robert son](#) (Role: Author)
6. [Kwame Matthews](#) (Role: Author)

## Abstract Submission

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### Submission Type (for Student Competitions only)

### Abstracts

Sustainable and profitable small ruminant production in the US is affected by infections with gastrointestinal nematodes (GIN), especially the blood sucking GIN, *Haemonchus contortus*. The overuse and mis-use of available drug classes has led to multi-drug resistant GIN that pose significant challenges to parasite control on many farms. The objective of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a natural fungus (*Duddingtonia flagrans*; Bioworma®, International Animal Health) in reducing GIN larval counts and other GIN indicators in hair sheep wethers. Eighteen St. Croix (n = 9) and Barbados Blackbelly (n = 9) wethers (227 ± 1.4 days of age and 29.7 ± 0.6 kg BW) were dewormed (d 0) with a combination of levamisole (Prohibit®; 8 mg/kg BW) moxidectin (Cydectin®; 0.2 mg/kg BW) and albendazole (Valbazen®; 7.5 mg/kg BW) prior to the start of feeding according to the manufacturer's recommendations for feeding BioWorma®. At this time, lambs were separated into two treatment groups (n = 9/group), split into 3 replications per treatment group and placed on six pasture paddocks (0.06 ha; n = 3 per paddock) after accounting for breed, initial fecal egg count (FEC) and BW. Lambs were then fed daily either a grain supplement ration (corn and soybean meal) with Livamol with Bioworma® (LIV) or without (CON) at 2% of their BW for 98 d. LIV was added to the ration based on total lamb BW/paddock. To evaluate the effect of LIV treatment, BW and body condition scores (BCS) were recorded every 2

weeks for 98 d. Blood and fecal samples were also collected for determination of packed cell volume (PCV) and FEC. Pooled treatment group feces (d 0 – 98) were collected and cultured to determine GIN genera. A subset of animals/treatment (n = 3) will be harvested to determine abomasal worm counts. Data were analyzed using repeated measures in a mixed model, and FEC were log transformed prior to analysis. Following deworming (d 0), FEC were reduced by 100% by d 14. There was a mixed population of GIN at the start of the study (averaging 54%, 42%, 1.2% and 1.8% for *H. contortus*, *Trichostrongylus* spp., *Oesphagostomum* spp. and *Nematodirus* spp., respectively). LIV with Bioworma® supplementation had no impact on BW, BCS, PCV or FEC in this study averaging 34.2 ± 0.3 kg, 2.5 ± 0.04, 34.7 ± 0.5% and 150.9 eggs per gram, respectively. Under the conditions of this study, Bioworma® supplementation had no influence on GIN indicators measured up to 100 d of grazing. This research will be continued during subsequent grazing seasons to determine the effect of continued supplementation on lamb parasite load and performance as well as pasture infestation levels.

## Keywords

Duddingtonia flagrans  
Lambs  
Parasite s

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