

7.2 Action 3; Liver Fluke Faecal Egg Testing

Faecal Egg Testing is targeted at the control of liver fluke in adult suckler cows.

Samples must be taken and submitted to approved laboratories (these can be found on the Department website, [here](#) before the 01st of November 2020. Participants should carefully read Annex 4 for further details on this action.

Annex 4

Action 3. Liver Fluke Faecal Egg Testing (FET)

Procedure for Liver Fluke Faecal Egg Testing for BEEP -S Scheme

Faecal egg testing will be targeted at the control of liver fluke infection in adult suckler cows. Samples will be required to be taken and submitted to approved labs before 1st November 2020.

All faecal samples collected must be fresh.

Stage 1 – Collection of faecal samples

Collection of faecal samples:

1. The applicant must contact a Department approved laboratory to request the sampling pack (empty sample containers, submission form and Ziplock bags) and to arrange a payment procedure.

Faeces may be submitted to a laboratory in a 30 ml screw cap plastic, universal container. (containers with push on caps are not suitable because gas production in the sample may cause the cap to become dislodged thereby leading to spillage).

2. The list of approved laboratories and veterinary practices can be found on the Departments website: [here](#).
Where a participant fails to use a laboratory from the list of Department approved laboratories for the purpose of the parasite control action (liver fluke FET), this action will be considered to have not been fully completed in line with the programme conditions and will therefore not be eligible for payment.

3. Cows should be placed in a clean pen. Rectal faecal samples should be collected directly into a container. If this is not possible then animals should be closely observed, and faeces should be picked up off the ground as soon as they are passed.

Submission of faecal samples

4. Using gloves, collect faecal samples from at least 10 different fresh faecal deposits and place them in 10 separate containers (You must collect at least a heaped teaspoonful of faeces). Place all filled containers of faeces in a leak and crush proof container (jiffy bag) and marked "biological sample" before being placed in the post.
5. Post samples with the submission form on the day of sampling, or the following day at the latest. Ideally, avoid posting samples of Thursday or Friday so samples are not left in the post over the weekend.
6. If samples are collected at the weekend store them in a cool place preferably in a fridge not used for domestic purposes (DO NOT FREEZE or PLACE IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT) and post on Monday.
7. It is important that samples are clearly labelled and correspond to the correct animal ID number(s)
8. Include any relevant information on the animal's history such as animal age, clinical signs if present as well as details of any prior treatment and grazing history.

Results:

These results will be reported to you directly and to DAFM.

Interpretation of results:

You should discuss your results with your private veterinary practitioner or agricultural advisor.

Cows should be dosed based on the result.

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Anthelmintic Administration

- Dose in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- Check calibration of dosing gun / syringe prior to dosing.
- Check expiry date of drug.
- Shake bottle/container with anthelmintic well prior to use.
- Record the name of the product you used and which anthelmintic class it belongs to.