

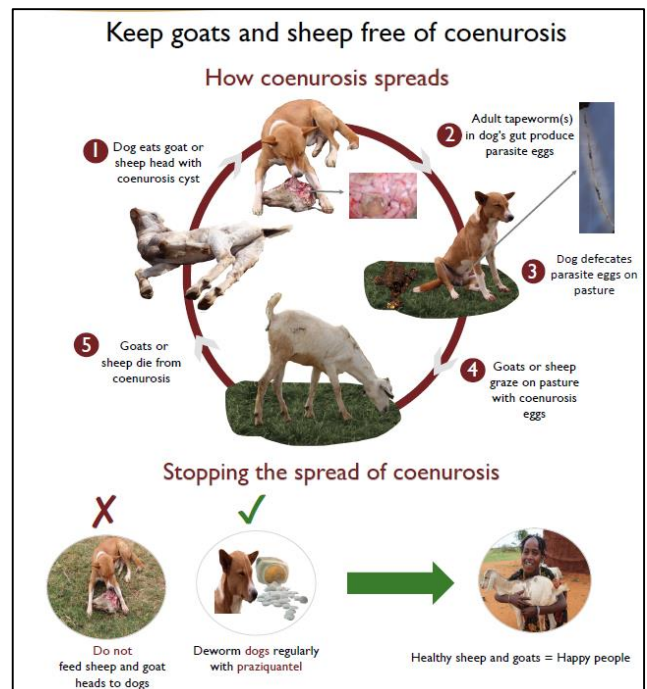
# Coenurosis control - break the cycle

## Problem statement

- Coenurosis is a fatal disease and thus a serious problem for small ruminant production. Circling is the typical clinical sign, but may be confused with other nervous conditions.
- Coenurosis is widespread in areas where sheep production is important, especially in the highlands where 5% annual mortality was attributed to coenurosis.
- The disease has a complex transmission cycle involving dogs and the environment, thus needs a community approach for control.
- Coenurosis was identified as one of the major small ruminant disease constraints in CRP sites.

## Key messages and solutions

- Improve knowledge at community level (men and women) through training on the cause, transmission and control options of the disease, engage farmers at all stages of the intervention.
- Introduce deworming of dogs and stop feeding sheep or goat heads to dogs
- Establish wider awareness-raising campaign to foster community involvement in the program to implement regular dog deworming campaigns at community level
- Evaluate reduction in parasite burden in dogs
- Explore options to establish drug supply chain
- Monitor and document incidence of coenurosis incidence in small ruminants and changes in knowledge and attitude in the community



## Benefits

- Improved awareness and understanding of the community about the disease cause, transmission and control
- Improved dog health and interruption of coenurosis transmission cycle
- Reduced morbidity and mortality in small ruminants

## Evidence

- Coenurosis was identified as one of the major small ruminant disease constraints in several CRP sites.



- A feasibility study in Borana successfully tested training material for communities. The study also proved that collection of dog fecal samples and deworming of dogs can be easily implemented at community level. Given the urgency of the problem, livestock keepers were willing to engage.



## Suitability

- Intervention makes sense in sites where sustainable drug supply can be established and where it is possible to motivate the community to engage in dog deworming.
- Full engagement of the community is necessary to achieve high coverage of deworming, incl. street dogs.
- The intervention is ideally combined with other health and gender interventions.

### Resource requirements (low to high)

Land	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Water	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Labour	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Cash	● ● ○ ○ ○
Access to inputs	● ● ● ● ●
Knowledge and skills	● ● ● ○ ○

### Impact areas (low to high)

Food security	● ● ● ● ○
Human nutrition	● ● ● ○ ○
Employment and livelihoods	● ● ○ ○ ○
Natural resources base	● ● ○ ○ ○
Gender empowerment	● ● ○ ○ ○
Market linkages	● ○ ○ ○ ○

## Value chain focus



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