



St. George's University

SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Grenada, West Indies



9th Novel Approaches to
the Control of Helminth
Parasites of Livestock

March 8-11, 2024
Grenada, W.I.

9th International Conference of Novel Approaches to the Control of Helminth Parasites of Livestock

Parasitic helminths of livestock remain a serious global concern for animal health and productivity, impacting the economics of production as well as animal welfare. For over 50 years, chemical anthelmintics have been used as the primary means for controlling parasitic helminths. However, within a few years following the introduction of anthelmintics there were reports of parasite drug resistance. This conference, first held in 1995, was born out of a collective concern regarding the sustainability of helminth control solely reliant on anthelmintics. This underscored the necessity for global collaboration and the allocation of research resources to develop novel non-chemical, and low-chemical strategies to enhance the sustainability of helminth parasite control programs.

Since 1995, anthelmintic resistance has continued to increase in its spectrum and geographic range, with multiple-anthelmintic resistance now common in many of the most important species of parasitic nematodes. With no products containing new classes of anthelmintics expected in the livestock market for the foreseeable future, now more than ever, we need novel approaches that do not depend primarily on chemical anthelmintics. Thus, almost 30 years later, the objective of the NA conference remains the same: to serve as a forum for veterinarians, parasitologists, livestock extension specialists, and other interested persons to exchange insights and advances for sustainable parasite control.

We expect a major outcome of this conference will be the re-establishment of collaborative efforts that were interrupted by the pandemic as well as the promotion of new global collaborations. We look forward to bringing together a broad coalition of experts from around the world to share their most recent discoveries and insights for improving the sustainability of parasite control in livestock.

The 9th NA Conference is scheduled for the 8th to the 11th of March 2024, at St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine on the beautiful tropical island of Grenada. The program contains a 3-day scientific program, followed by a one-day field trip that includes a tour of St. George's University, a visit to several farms, a tour of the scenic island, and delicious lunch at the famous Belmont Estate in the northern region of the island. A post-conference field trip is a tradition of the NA Conference, highlighting the cultural and technical experience of the hosts. The scientific program has been planned to address many of the most important topics relevant to novel approaches of helminth control, and include the following:

University Centre, Grenada, West Indies

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- Advancements in Refugia-based Strategies, and impact of TST, Grazing Management and Nutrition
- Recent advances in the genome of *H. contortus* and insights into AR
- Advances in the use of genetics and phenotype for estimating host resistance
- Advancements in the Diagnosis of AR (FECRT, in vitro, molecular)
- Computer Modeling and Climate Change
- Advances in the use of Biological Control agents and Bioactive Plants/Resources
- Managing Resistance to Anthelmintics
- Advancements in Development of Vaccines
- Problems and Issues of Parasite Control in Tropical Climates
- Integrated Control: Effective Communication and Dissemination Towards Farmers

The conference format will include two keynote speakers, nine scientific sessions, and poster sessions where researchers will be able to share new data. Each session will include introductory presentations by noted experts, followed by a lengthy period for discussion and debate that will facilitate the exchange of information and perspectives from the diverse global community in attendance.

A bit of history: The first NA Conference was held in Armidale, Australia almost 30 years ago in 1995 as an initiative of Dr. Leo Le Jambre and Dr. Malcolm Knox, among others. Since then, the conference has been held approximately every three years on several continents around the world: Louisiana, USA (1998), Edinburgh, Scotland, UK (2002), Merida, Mexico (2005), Ipoh, Malaysia (2008), Melbourne, Australia (2010), Toulouse, France (2013), Belem, Brazil (2015), and now after a modest hiatus, in True Blue, Grenada in 2024.

About the NA9 logo: The conference logo was created to combine aspects of the tropical location of the conference with the core aspects of the conference. The logo includes the following features: the colors of the Grenadian flag, a *Haemonchus* female to represent the 9th NA conference, a goat grazing on land contaminated with nematode larvae, and several important plants of the region: nutmeg, callaloo and banana.

We welcome all of you to St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine and the beautiful tropical island of Grenada. We have a great conference planned that will be both informative and fun. I hope you will come and join us at NA9. For further information and to register, please see our conference website:

Best regards,

Ray M. Kaplan

On behalf of the Scientific and Local Organizing Committees

University Centre, Grenada, West Indies

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