

2019-2020 Small Ruminant Chapter President's Annual Report

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The Small Ruminant Chapter continued its work promoting veterinary professional interest in small ruminants. The president, along with the secretary, Kylie Greentree, volunteered to run a small ruminant session during Science week, starting in late 2019. This was to be done with another chapter and we would have had an overseas speaker supported with some great local speakers. However Covid 19 meant that Science Week was cancelled after everything was arranged. On a positive note, it was useful training for both of us and we will try again next year. By having joint convenors, we were able to cope as one of us was generally available to attend the many teleconferences about Science week.

We arranged a second shipment of FAMACHA cards from South Africa after a successful annual report. This is the chapter's main source of income for the chapter. The secretary and president have now held many FAMACHA training courses around the eastern states. By promoting targeted selected worm treatments based on the FAMACHA system, which scores anaemia, it discourages unnecessary anthelmintic use by small ruminant owners and hence should reduce the development of resistant worms. Sales have stalled post Covid -19 as planned courses were cancelled, including a first one planned for Tasmania. The President wrote an item for the "Courier" to encourage vets to buy FAMACHA cards, which are suitable for use in all *Haemonchus* areas in sheep, goats and camelids. As President I took on the role of handling all the card sales and procurement. I also manage the chapter website on the overarching college website.

The Committee has been active and managed to either adopt or work around the new email system introduced by the College. Most of our work was done by emails rather than meetings. I would like to thank our committee and chair of the examination committee as without their contribution, the chapter would not exist. We are actively seeking new examiners for next year (exams are held every second year) and more volunteer committee members. Also please encourage non-members to study and sit for the examination.