

SMALL RUMINANTS PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://smallruminants.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

SAMPLE

Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. Is the same dosing of deworming used for goats and sheep?**
 - A. Yes
 - B. Sometimes
 - C. No
 - D. Only in young animals
- 2. How should peripartum antibiotic therapy be determined for a ewe or doe with dystocia and potential uterine infection?**
 - A. Based on clinical signs and risk; if infection suspected, use veterinarian-guided broad-spectrum antibiotics; avoid unnecessary use
 - B. Always administer a fixed broad-spectrum antibiotic to all ewes regardless of signs
 - C. Never use antibiotics during the peripartum period
 - D. Use narrow-spectrum antibiotics only, irrespective of signs
- 3. How should producers monitor and maintain ewe/doe body condition score during the breeding season to optimize reproductive performance?**
 - A. Regular BCS checks (target around 2.5–3.5); adjust nutrition four to six weeks before breeding; avoid extremes.
 - B. Do not monitor BCS; feed the same year-round.
 - C. Target BCS 1.0–1.5; reduce feed before breeding.
 - D. BCS only important after lambing.
- 4. Which external parasite causes warbles?**
 - A. Bot fly
 - B. Face fly
 - C. Blow fly
 - D. Screwworm
- 5. Define targeted selective treatment (TST) in parasite control and list two benefits.**
 - A. Treating only animals with evidence of significant parasite burden (high FEC, high FAMACHA score); benefits include slowed resistance development and cost savings.
 - B. Treating all animals with any detectable parasite.
 - C. Treating only animals with clinical signs.
 - D. Treating no animals.

- 6. How is passive transfer of antibodies in newborn lambs/kids assessed, and what IgG level indicates adequate transfer?**
- A. Blood IgG concentration assessment (e.g., on-farm colostrum test or ELISA); adequate transfer typically defined as IgG >10 g/L within 12–24 hours.
 - B. Colostrum volume measurement.
 - C. Total solids in serum.
 - D. Fecal IgG assessment.
- 7. Which region is used for subcutaneous injections in small ruminants?**
- A. Lateral Cervical region
 - B. Hindquarters
 - C. Neck base
 - D. Axillary region
- 8. Which statement best describes the mechanism of action for macrocyclic lactones, such as ivermectin, in treating parasitic infections?**
- A. Macrocyclic lactone; acts on glutamate-gated chloride channels causing paralysis.
 - B. Imidazothiazole; inhibits acetylcholine release.
 - C. Benzimidazole; uncouples oxidative phosphorylation.
 - D. Tetrahydropyrimidine; disrupts neuromuscular transmission.
- 9. Which zoonotic disease causes open wounds on the muzzle?**
- A. Rabies
 - B. Leptospirosis
 - C. Orf (Sore mouth)
 - D. Ringworm
- 10. What is the purpose of FAMACHA scoring?**
- A. To assess parasite burden based on mucus membrane color
 - B. To measure body weight
 - C. To estimate age
 - D. To determine vaccination status

Answers

SAMPLE

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. D
8. A
9. C
10. A

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Is the same dosing of deworming used for goats and sheep?

- A. Yes
- B. Sometimes
- C. No**
- D. Only in young animals

Deworming dosing is species-specific because goats and sheep differ in how they absorb, metabolize, and tolerate drugs. Goats often metabolize dewormers faster than sheep, which can mean that using the same mg/kg dose fails to reach effective levels, while for some drugs goats may be more sensitive to toxicity. Because of these differences, the dose and sometimes the drug choice must follow the label for each species and veterinary guidance. Always check the product directions for goats versus sheep and consider factors like age, pregnancy, and overall health when planning treatment. Using the same dose for both can lead to underdosing with poor parasite control or overdosing with safety risks.

2. How should peripartum antibiotic therapy be determined for a ewe or doe with dystocia and potential uterine infection?

- A. Based on clinical signs and risk; if infection suspected, use veterinarian-guided broad-spectrum antibiotics; avoid unnecessary use
- B. Always administer a fixed broad-spectrum antibiotic to all ewes regardless of signs**
- C. Never use antibiotics during the peripartum period
- D. Use narrow-spectrum antibiotics only, irrespective of signs

Antibiotics around parturition in a ewe or doe should be used based on infection risk and what you see clinically, not given to every animal by default. Dystocia increases uterine contamination and the chance of infection, but not every case develops active infection. If there are signs of uterine infection or systemic illness (fever, foul discharge, tachycardia, depression, prolonged parturition), a veterinarian should guide therapy and select a broad-spectrum antibiotic with good uterine penetration, tailoring the choice, dose, and duration to the situation and any culture results. If there are no signs of infection and labor is proceeding normally, antibiotics are not routinely indicated. This approach protects animal welfare while reducing unnecessary antibiotic use and resistance.

3. How should producers monitor and maintain ewe/doe body condition score during the breeding season to optimize reproductive performance?

- A. Regular BCS checks (target around 2.5–3.5); adjust nutrition four to six weeks before breeding; avoid extremes.**
- B. Do not monitor BCS; feed the same year-round.
- C. Target BCS 1.0–1.5; reduce feed before breeding.
- D. BCS only important after lambing.

Maintaining a moderate energy reserve around breeding is essential because a ewe's energy status directly affects ovulation rate, conception, and early fetal development. Regular body condition scoring lets you catch trends toward being too thin or too fat before breeding, so you can adjust the diet in time. The best practice is to monitor regularly and aim for a moderate condition score, about 2.5 to 3.5 on a 1–5 scale. This range provides enough fat reserves to support pregnancy and lactation without pushing the animal into obesity, which can impair fertility and increase pregnancy complications. Planning nutritional adjustments four to six weeks before breeding aligns with how reproductive tissues respond to energy balance, helping optimize ovulation and pregnancy establishment. Extreme conditions should be avoided: being too thin can reduce conception rates and yield poor litter outcomes, while being too fat can lead to metabolic problems and delayed or poor returns in reproductive performance. Regular monitoring, timely dietary adjustments, and avoiding extremes give the best chance for reproductive success.

4. Which external parasite causes warbles?

- A. Bot fly**
- B. Face fly
- C. Blow fly
- D. Screwworm

Warbles are subcutaneous swellings caused by the larvae of a bot fly living under the skin of ruminants. The adult bot fly deposits eggs on hair, the larvae hatch and penetrate the skin, migrate to subcutaneous tissue where they develop into warbles with a visible breathing hole, and later drop to the soil to pupate. This specific life cycle under the skin is what creates the characteristic warble lesions. Other external flies don't produce this subcutaneous larval development. Face flies irritate the eyes and can spread disease but don't form warbles under the skin. Blow flies and screwworms cause maggot infestations in open wounds or necrotic tissue rather than forming the subcutaneous warbles characteristic of bot fly infection.

5. Define targeted selective treatment (TST) in parasite control and list two benefits.

- A. Treating only animals with evidence of significant parasite burden (high FEC, high FAMACHA score); benefits include slowed resistance development and cost savings.**
- B. Treating all animals with any detectable parasite.
- C. Treating only animals with clinical signs.
- D. Treating no animals.

Targeted selective treatment focuses on treating only animals that show meaningful parasite burden, using indicators like high fecal egg counts or low FAMACHA scores to decide who needs therapy. This approach is best because it concentrates anthelmintic use where it's truly needed, reducing overall drug exposure in the parasite population and helping slow the development of resistance. It also cuts costs by using fewer doses and less labor, since not every animal is treated. In addition, by leaving some animals untreated, you maintain a refugia of susceptible parasites, which further helps delay resistance.

6. How is passive transfer of antibodies in newborn lambs/kids assessed, and what IgG level indicates adequate transfer?

- A. Blood IgG concentration assessment (e.g., on-farm colostrum test or ELISA); adequate transfer typically defined as IgG >10 g/L within 12–24 hours.**
- B. Colostrum volume measurement.
- C. Total solids in serum.
- D. Fecal IgG assessment.

Assessing passive transfer hinges on measuring the newborn's circulating IgG, because systemic protection comes from absorbed antibodies in the blood. To evaluate adequacy, you look at serum IgG within the first 12 to 24 hours after birth. On-farm tests that estimate IgG levels or laboratory ELISA can quantify this, allowing a clear determination of how well the neonate has received colostrum antibodies. A serum IgG concentration above about 10 g/L is generally considered adequate transfer; lower values indicate incomplete transfer and a higher risk of disease. This timing matters because the gut's ability to absorb immunoglobulins is highest right after birth and declines rapidly as the gut closes, so measuring within 12–24 hours reflects true absorption. Colostrum volume, total solids, or fecal IgG don't directly indicate the newborn's systemic immunity and therefore aren't reliable measures of passive transfer on their own.

7. Which region is used for subcutaneous injections in small ruminants?

- A. Lateral Cervical region
- B. Hindquarters
- C. Neck base
- D. Axillary region**

Subcutaneous injections work best when placed into loose, pliable tissue that can hold the medication just under the skin without hitting muscle or a blood vessel. The axillary region under the forelimb provides that loose tissue and is easy to access even with a wooly fleece. This site allows the medication to be deposited in the subcutaneous layer reliably and with minimal discomfort, and it reduces the risk of deeper penetration. The other areas are less ideal for subcutaneous injections: the neck area (often used for injections in veterinary practice) tends to have tighter skin and is more commonly used for intramuscular injections, while the hindquarters have thicker, less mobile tissue that's harder to access and can alter absorption. The axillary region thus offers the best combination of tissue looseness, accessibility, and safety for subcutaneous administration.

8. Which statement best describes the mechanism of action for macrocyclic lactones, such as ivermectin, in treating parasitic infections?

- A. Macrocyclic lactone; acts on glutamate-gated chloride channels causing paralysis.
- B. Imidazothiazole; inhibits acetylcholine release.
- C. Benzimidazole; uncouples oxidative phosphorylation.
- D. Tetrahydropyrimidine; disrupts neuromuscular transmission.

Macrocyclic lactones, like ivermectin, exert their effect by binding to glutamate-gated chloride channels in many nematodes. This binding increases the flow of chloride ions into nerve and muscle cells, hyperpolarizing the cell membranes and blocking neural transmission. The result is paralysis of the parasite, first affecting feeding muscles and then the body muscles, leading to death. This mechanism is selective because mammals have different dominant chloride channels in the central nervous system and ivermectin is largely excluded from the brain by protective barriers and transport proteins, giving therapeutic safety at usual doses. Other study-listed drug classes act through different targets—imidzothiazoles stimulate acetylcholine receptors to cause depolarizing paralysis; benzimidazoles disrupt microtubule formation; tetrahydropyrimidines also affect neuromuscular transmission but via distinct nicotinic receptor interactions—whereas macrocyclic lactones specifically exploit GluCl channels to paralyze the parasite.

9. Which zoonotic disease causes open wounds on the muzzle?

- A. Rabies
- B. Leptospirosis
- C. Orf (Sore mouth)
- D. Ringworm

Open wounds on the muzzle point to contagious ecthyma, also known as Orf. This viral infection causes vesicles on the lips, muzzle, and around the mouth that rupture and form crusted ulcers, which appear as open wounds on the muzzle. It's zoonotic, so people in contact with infected animals can develop similar lesions, often on the hands. Rabies would present with neurological changes rather than muzzle sores; leptospirosis shows systemic signs like fever and kidney or liver involvement; ringworm produces circular patches of hair loss and crusting rather than open muzzle ulcers.

10. What is the purpose of FAMACHA scoring?

- A. To assess parasite burden based on mucus membrane color
- B. To measure body weight
- C. To estimate age
- D. To determine vaccination status

FAMACHA scoring targets anemia caused by parasitic infection by examining the color of the mucous membranes, usually the conjunctiva inside the lower eyelid. By comparing what you see to a standardized color chart, you judge how pale the membranes are, which reflects how much red blood cell loss the animal has suffered from blood-feeding worms like *Haemonchus contortus*. This information guides selective deworming—treating only animals with clinically significant anemia—so you treat the right animals and reduce unnecessary drug use and on-farm resistance. The other options don't fit because FAMACHA isn't about body weight, age, or vaccination status. It's about the animal's level of anemia due to parasitism, inferred from the color of the mucous membranes.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://smallruminants.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

SAMPLE