



Israeli pilots testing innovative PLF tools for welfare monitoring and elevation

In the beginning of TechCare project welfare aspects in the production of meat/dairy sheep and dairy goats have been identified, prioritized and potential PLF tools have been identified and matched to specific welfare aspect to which they may contribute.

Following the above the tools have been deployed to research and demo farms where their capacity to help manage welfare is being tested.

In Israel, two pilot farms are being used; one in the ARO research farm - an extensive meat sheep system environment, and one to the east which unlike ARO farm – is also producing dairy (Ivry). Farms are similar in terms of climate and housing conditions. Welfare priorities being in the focus are: parasitism, under-nutrition. The innovative tool tested is: weighing trough with electronic identification, ultra-high frequency readers (for individual data collection), electronic weighing and water consumption meter. Regular sheep welfare assessments are being carried out, to match any welfare issue with information gathered or transmitted by the innovative tools being tested. Issues of data collection, transfer and analysis are also being considered, as well as connectivity and infrastructure requirements. Data collected is sent for further analysis in an automated computer system to be disseminated to farmer via a mobile application of an early warning system. Once testing on pilot farms is completed, the candidate tools will be deployed on commercial farms, for real-conditions testing.



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