

# Deworming Protocol

Professional Services Veterinarian Department Technical Bulletin



## Deworming Cattle FAQs

### What is strategic deworming?

A method of deworming that fluctuates based on:

- Management - Type of cattle and how they are worked.
- Environment - Pasture density, rotation schedule, housing type.
- Weather - Deworming approximately 1 month after heavy rain.

### What are the costs of failing to deworm?

- Immune suppression
- Decreased milk
- Decreased weaning weight
- Decreased feed efficiency

### What herd management techniques should be used in a deworming program?

- Let pastures sit for a year without grazing to break the worm's life cycle.
- Make sure the proper dose is administered. If the dose isn't adequate, resistance can more easily occur.
- Proper chute facilities will decrease stress at handling and increase dosing compliance.

### How do you evaluate your herd to design an optimal deworming program?

- Feed efficiency
- Fecal egg counts
- Weaning weights
- Overall herd health

### How does season and latitude affect deworming considerations?

- Deworm more frequently during wet periods - approximately 1 month after a heavy rain.
- Deworm more frequently if you live in a wet or humid climate.
- Deworm in late fall in northern climates to kill larva before winter to clear infestations.



ANIMART Deworming Products	Active Ingredient	Drug Class
Cydectin Pour-On / Injectable	Moxidectin	Macrolytic Lactones Avermectins Milbemycins
Dectomax Pour-On / Injectable	Doramectin	
Eprinex Pour-On	Eprinomectin	
Ivermectin Pour-On / Injectable	Ivermectin	
Ivomec Plus Injectable	Ivermectin	
Ivomec Pour-On / Injectable	Ivermectin	
Long Range (Rx) / Injectable	Eprinomectin	Avermectin
Rumatel Crumble	Morantel Tartrate	Nicotinic agonists
Safe-Guard Crumbles / Panacur / Paste / Block / Suspension	Fenbendazole	Benzimidazole
Valbazen / Suspension	Albendazole	

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## Beef Cattle



Can be dewormed according to:

- Age
- Sex
- Environment

### Bulls

- More susceptible to parasites.
- Deworm twice yearly.
- Older animals can be dewormed with any product.

### Mature cows

- Have some built-up immunity, worm burden isn't as high as younger animals.
- Pregnant with their second calf and older.
- Deworm yearly around the time of freshening.
- Wet year or crowded pasture - another deworming is recommended.
- Extremely dry year or pasture vacant a year - deworming not necessary that year.
- Older animals can be dewormed with any product.

### Young cattle

- Deworming should start pre-weaning at about 3-4 months old.
- Will add significant weaning weight (20-40 lbs) compared with non-dewormed calves.
- If kept as stocker calves, deworm again at weaning.
- Avermectin/milbemycin-type products are going to provide the best treatment for these young calves and have the added benefit of controlling some of the external parasites.

## Dairy Cattle



### Mature cows

- If pastured seasonally.
- All mature cows on drylot, in semi-confinement or in pasture during dry period benefit the most when dewormed at freshening.
- Mature cows that live in confinement should be dewormed once a lactation as a group or individually at freshening.

### Youngstock

- Dairy youngstock raised on pasture should be dewormed one month after turning out to pasture and in late fall.
- Egg counts can be taken for different groups of youngstock to strategically plan the optimal time to deworm.

## Major Parasiticides and Their Efficacies

Anthelmintic	Roundworm Inhibited	Roundworm Active	Liver Fluke	Tapeworms	Mites	Lice	Warbles	Persistence
Morantel	None	Fair	None	None	None	None	None	None
Albendazole	Fair	Good	Some	Some	None	None	None	None
Fenbendazole	Fair	Good	None	Some	None	None	None	None
Milbemycins	Excellent	Excellent	None	None	Good	Good	Excellent	Good
Avermectins	Excellent	Excellent	None	None	Good	Good	Excellent	Good

Table adapted from: T. A. Yazwinski, C. Tucker and H. Featherson. Cattle worms: their story and how the cattle producer might try to control them. Proceedings of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association, Cattlemen's College. 1997.

For more information contact:  
1.800.255.1181 | info@animart.com

