

Standard Deworming Recommendations

October 28, 2013

Summary Dairy and Beef Deworming Recommendations

Confined Dairy Heifers Less Than Twenty Months Old

- November use 5cc per 110lbs of Ivomec pour-on. Slaughter withhold is 48 days.

Confined Dairy Cows

- November use 5cc per 110lbs of Eprinex or Cydectin pour-on to control mange and lice. If mange is not a problem use a lactating labeled delousing product like Durasect or Cylence.

Dairy Cattle and Beef

Confined animals (Those kept in barns or have access to small dirt lots) usually do not need dewormed because infective larva do not develop under these conditions. Young stock may require coccidiostats in their feed to control coccidia. These cattle do need to have lice control using topical products. Eprinex and Cydectin can be used on dairy animals over 20 months of age. Ivomec pour-on and generic Ivermectin pour-on can be used on dairy heifers less than 20 months of age and beef cattle. There is a slaughter with holding for Ivomec and generic Ivermectin pour on of 48 days. They cannot be used in milking animals because of long lasting milk residues.

Young stock that are on or have been on pasture are the animals most likely to have decrease growth rates and show visible signs of internal parasitism. These signs are thin heifers (Poor body condition), rough faded hair coats, diarrhea, and even death.

All pastured young stock should be dewormed in the fall after a killing frost or when they are taken off of pasture and confined. November is the ideal month to do this because the Ivermectin wormers can still be safely used without risk of problems caused by hypoderma larval (grub) migration. Ivermectin dewormers used this time of year will help heifers be parasite free during the winter months. They also help control lice and mange that are common in the cold winter months.

Summary Dairy and Beef Deworming Recommendations (Cont.)

Pastured Dairy Heifers Less Than Twenty Months and Beef Cattle

- Around July 1st deworm with 2.2cc per 100lbs of safeguard drench or Ivomec pour-on 5cc per 110lbs distributed along topline, or Ivomec injectable 1cc per 110lbs. Meat withhold will be 48 days for Ivomec pour-on, 35 days for injectable, and 8 days for Safeguard.
- Fall deworming in November give 5cc per 110lbs of Ivomec pour-on.

Pastured Dairy Cows

- July deworming can be done with Safeguard pellets. Slaughter withhold is 8 days and there is no milk withhold.
- November use 5cc per 110lbs either Eprinex or Cydectin pour-on distributed equally across the topline. There is no meat or milk withhold.

Dairy Cattle and Beef (Cont.)

Adult beef and dairy cattle develop some level of immune resistance to internal parasites. They may or may not show an increase in rate of grain or milk production when they are dewormed. Deworming will decrease the number of parasite eggs shed onto pasture so deworming beef cows can help decrease the parasite exposure their calves' experience. So a better argument can be made for deworming them the same time you deworm their calves. July 1st would be a good target date to deworm spring calving herds. Performance response in pastured dairy cows is variable. Discussing your particular case with your herd veterinarian would be best.

Most pastured heifers and beef calves will benefit by being dewormed at least once while they are on pasture. You can use oral product like safeguard (Fenbendazol) that is available in drench, pellets, and licking block forms. Drenching is the most accurate and surest way to accomplish this. Pellets can work on cattle that are regularly fed grain in headlocks or station bar feeders that allow bunk space for each heifer to receive her share. Ivermectins can also be used ideally as a drench but also as injections and pour-ons. If you are using a pour-on Ivermectin we recommend using a brand name version like Ivomec, Eprinex, or Cydectin because of the variable effectiveness of generic Ivermectin pour-ons.

Goats and Sheep Internal Parasite Control

Internal parasite control programs vary with each farm. Internal parasites are spread by eggs shed in the animals manure. These eggs hatch and form infective larvae that live in water droplets on pasture grasses. Decreasing their number by spreading the larvae over a larger area and strategic deworming will help decrease animal's worm burden. Owners that have lots of pasture ground (enough to supply 1 acre of pasture per 2 adults) or hay ground that can be pastured after 1st cutting is taken off will have less trouble with internal parasites than an owner grazing 10 animals year round on a one acre lot. Discuss your situation with your veterinarian who can tailor control recommendations to your situation.

Depending on the level of pasture contamination and the size of your pasture (At least 1 acre per 2 adults) you may only need to deworm adults once a year in the fall.

Oral drenches tend to work best and need to be carefully administered using a drench gun or a leur lock syringe and a metal drench probe that allows you to put the drench over the back of the tongue slowly so they are able to swallow it but not taste it.

Young stock will need deworming at least once during the pasture season. Thin or pale adults should be dewormed at this time as well. Ideally, deworming young stock and pasturing them on regrowth hay fields after deworming will keep their parasite levels low.

Using Ivomec sheep drench you can give 4.5cc per 26lbs of body weight to sheep and 6cc per 26lbs to goats. There will be a 22 day meat and milk withhold after using the dewormer. One can administer the same dose of Ivomec drench to young stock with the same with holds as adults. If wormer resistance is not a problem you can use a double dose of Fenbendazol (Panacure/Safeguard). Checking fecal egg counts before and 7 days after deworming will help identify resistant parasite problems. Around July 1st young stock should be dewormed with Ivomec drench as stated previously or with Fenbendazol at 4.5cc per 100 lbs, Once the young stock have been dewormed you should consider moving to a clean lot. During November and December owners should deworm their whole herd using 6cc per 25lbs of oral Ivomec for goats and 4.5cc per 25lbs for sheep.

Summary Goat and Sheep Deworming Recommendations

- Using Ivomec sheep drench. Give 4.5cc/26lbs of body weight to sheep and 6cc/26lbs to goats. There will be a 22 day meat and milk with hold.
- Young stock can receive the same Ivomec drench dose as adults with the same meat and milk with hold.
- If dewormer resistance is not a problem, use a double dose of Fenbendazol (Panacure/Safeguard). You will use 4.5cc/100lbs for sheep and goats
- July 1st deworm young stock with Ivomec oral drench above or Fenbendazol oral drench. Consider weaning and moving to clean lot.
- November/December use 6cc/26lbs of oral Ivomec to deworm all goats and 4.5cc/26lbs to deworm all sheep.

Horse Internal Parasite Control

Horses pick up internal parasites on pasture. Worm eggs are shed in the manure of infected horses. These eggs develop into infective larvae that reside in water droplets on blades of grass. They are eaten by other horses and develop inside the horse into egg laying adults. These are removed by deworming with effective products.

All horses should be dewormed in the fall after a killing frost, usually in November or December. You should use a product that will kill bots. Products like Quest or Ivermectin are good examples. Adding a tapeworm product is advisable, EquiMax or Quest Plus work well at this time of year.

Use a weight tape and dose a little high. For example, a 900lb horse worm for a 1000lbs and an 1150lb worm for 1250lbs. Any other deworming of adults should be done according to fecal egg counts. Single animals pastured by themselves may not need dewormed until next fall. Foals will likely need dewormed at 2-3 months of age with an Ivermectin. Check a fecal sample 6-8 weeks later and deworm accordingly.

Weanlings and yearlings will likely need deworming, 6-8 weeks after they go on pasture with adults using an Ivermectin. Check a fecal in 6-8 weeks and deworm accordingly. Again, use a weight tape and dose them adequately.

Pyrantel Tartrate (Strongid), Fenbendazol (Panacure/Safeguard), and other non Ivermectin dewormers may work on your horses but parasite resistance is common. Pasturing weanlings and yearlings separate from adults will decrease their exposure to internal parasites. Deworming the young stock and putting them out on regrowth hay fields is an excellent way to decrease exposure, this will also work for adult horses. Checking fecal egg counts before deworming and 7-10 days after deworming can help determine whether specific dewormers are still effective on your farm.

Summary Horse Deworming Recommendations

- Foals deworm at 3-4 months of age with Ivermectin. Check fecal 6-8 weeks later and deworm accordingly.
- Weanlings and yearlings deworm 6-8 weeks on pasture with Ivermectin and check fecal in 6-8 weeks, then deworm accordingly with Ivermectin, Quest, Strongid, or Panacure. Pasture young stock separate from adults.
- Deworm all horses in November or December with EquiMax or Quest Plus. During pasture season perform fecal egg counts and deworm with Ivermectin, Quest, Strongid, or Panacure when needed.