

# DEWORMING PROTOCOL



## 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 production
- Decreased weaning weight/weight gains
- Decreased feed efficiency
- Decreased reproductive 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.
- Place less susceptible more mature cattle on more contaminated pastures.

### 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 warm (60-80°F) and wet (at least 2" of rain/month) periods.
- 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.

### What is resistance?

- Failure of preventative effective product to decrease worms greater than or equal to 95% when used at the recommended dose rate.

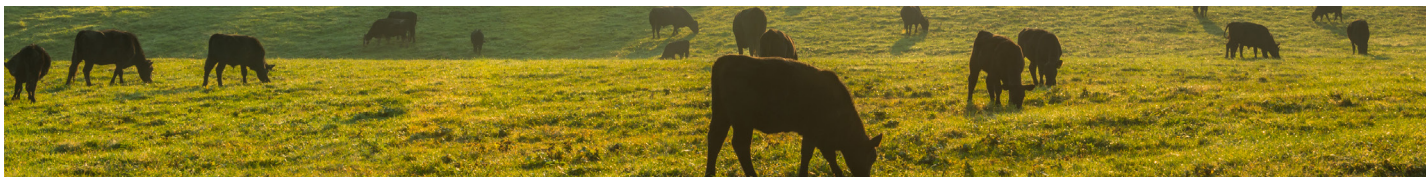
### Resistance Facts:

- Deworming at the wrong time causes resistance.
- Treatment failure does not mean resistance.
- You don't want to kill all the worms; you want a few good worms to decrease resistance.
- Drivers of resistance:
  - Lack of 100% fecal egg counts
  - Route of administration (injection preferred to pour on for more accuracy)
  - Generics: certain generics shown not as effective as name brands
  - Management practices: dose, diagnostics, treatment, timing

Drug Class	Active Ingredient	Product (refer to Dewormers Comparison Chart Tech Bulletin for product specifics)
<b>Macrocytic Lactones:</b> paralyzes the pharynx, body wall, and uterine muscles causing death	Ivermectin	Ivermectin, Ivomec Plus, Ivomec
	Doramectin	DectoGard, Dectomax
	Eprinomectin	EpriGard, Eprinex, Eprizero, LongRange(Rx)
	Moxidectin	Cyductin
<b>Benzimidazoles:</b> Depletes energy reserves in parasite cell and inhibits the elimination of waste	Albendazole	Valbazen
	Fenbendazole	Safe-Guard, Panacur
<b>Imidazothiazoles:</b> Stimulate muscle contractions in the worms causing paralysis	Levamisole	Levasole, LevaMed
<b>Macrocytic Lactones &amp; Imidazothiazoles</b>	Doramectin & Levamisole	Valcor



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## Beef Cattle

### Can be dewormed according to:

- Age
- Sex
- Environment

### 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.

### Bulls

- More susceptible to parasites.
- Deworm twice yearly.
- 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.



## 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. (Early lactation deworming increases milk yields more consistently vs. other times)
- 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 and at least 2+ times in hot weather.
- Dairy youngstock should be dewormed as yearlings and prior to entering the milking herd.
- Egg counts can be taken for different groups of youngstock to strategically plan the optimal time to deworm.

## New Treatment Guidelines

- Treat only incoming stressed cattle instead of the resident herd
- Leave 10% of your herd untreated
- Don't use the same class of dewormer each time (consult chart on other side of page)
- refrain from deworming the herd before moving them to a clean pasture (increasing the resistance)

**DETECT. DEFEND. DELIVER.**