

Horse Worm Treatment Prescribing Options

Following the loss of a praziquantel-only worming product

Prepared in conjunction with
Professor Matthews of the
Moredun Research Institute



| | ACTION | TAPEWORM TEST | WORM COUNT | FIRST CHOICE TREATMENT | SECOND CHOICE OPTION | THIRD CHOICE OPTION |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| AUTUMN/ WINTER | Treat possible encysted redworm Tapeworm test. | -ve | N/A | moxidectin | 5-day fenbendazole (ONLY if no known resistance*) | |
| | | +ve | N/A | moxidectin + praziquantel | none | |
| OTHER TIMES OF YEAR | Worm egg count every 6-12 weeks depending on risk. Seek advice from a veterinarian or Suitably Qualified Person. Tapeworm test every 6 months. | -ve or N/A | -ve | no treatment required | | |
| | | -ve or N/A | +ve redworm | ivermectin | pyrantel (if no known redworm resistance or treat & test efficacy*) | moxidectin (if circumstances dictate**) |
| | | -ve or N/A | +ve roundworm | fenbendazole (check efficacy after treatment*) | pyrantel (check efficacy after treatment*) | |
| | | +ve | -ve | double dose pyrantel | ivermectin + praziquantel | |
| | | +ve | +ve redworm | ivermectin + praziquantel | double dose pyrantel (if no known redworm resistance or treat & test efficacy*) | moxidectin + praziquantel (if circumstances dictate**) |
| | | +ve | +ve redworm +ve roundworm | double dose pyrantel (if no known redworm resistance or treat & test efficacy*) | ivermectin + praziquantel (if no known roundworm resistance or treat & test efficacy*) | |

N/A - not applicable

*seek advice from prescriber on efficacy testing after treatment

**seek advice from veterinary surgeon or Suitably Qualified Person on use of moxidectin outwith autumn/winter

Resistance Status of the Five Main Wormers

available to treat horses in the UK

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| DRUG | Adult small redworm (Cyathostomins) | Encysted small redworm (Cyathostomins) | Large redworm (Strongylus vulgaris) | Larval large redworm (Strongylus vulgaris) | Roundworm (Parascaris equorum) | Tapeworm (Anoplocephala spp.) | Pinworm (Oxyuris equi) | Lungworm (Dictyocaulus arnfieldi) | Liver fluke (Fasciola hepatica) | Threadworm (Strongyloides) | Bots (Gasterophilus spp.) | NB: not a horse worm |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| FENBENDAZOLE | ✓ | ✓ ⁵ | ✓ | ✓ ⁵ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | |
| PYRANTEL | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ ² | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | |
| IVERMECTIN | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| MOXIDECTIN | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| PRAZQUANTEL | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | |

- No known resistance
- ✓ Licensed
- ⁵ 5-day course
- ² Double dose
- ✗ Not licensed

Pink - redworm or roundworm resistance commonly reported in published studies. Measured as no/low worm egg count reduction after wormer treatment

Yellow - shortened redworm egg reappearance period after treatment reported in all recent UK published studies.

Dark orange – resistance reported as measured by no/low redworm egg count reduction after treatment. Prevalence of pyrantel resistance in redworm varies between study populations in published studies.

Lime green – anecdotal reports of reduced wormer effectiveness in these species. No published efficacy studies.