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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Importance of Parasite Control

As we move into the winter months, the need for external pest control moves from the heavy fly populations we see during the warm months to issues with biting and sucking lice. The need to control these pests is very important to the well being of the animal and the well being of their performance which equates to your profit or maybe loss.

There are also issues with internal parasites. In both cases it is a good recommendation to discuss this with your veterinarian. Two things come to mind, what prevention program you should be using and how to reduce the risk of resistance in the coming years.

Here is some information about roundworm that was in a recent Beef Blog. If you would like to read the entire post, go to www.thebeefblog.com and look on December 2, 2019. These internal pests sometimes are not noticeable until they have caused serious problems.

Roundworm populations cause a great deal of irritation to a cow's stomach, often leading to suppressed appetite, reduced feed intake and a negative impact on overall herd performance.¹

“Internal parasites are not as top-of-mind as external parasites, likely because they leave no visible impacts,” says Joe Gillespie, veterinarian with Boehringer Ingelheim. “However, roundworms can significantly impact herd profitability, and are more prevalent than many producers may realize.”

“Although cow-calf and yearling operations have the highest risk levels for parasite populations, all beef herds can benefit from a strategic deworming program,” says Gillespie. “Using quality deworming products will pay off for producers, because it decreases inefficiencies caused by internal parasites, and increases the likelihood of cattle reaching their profit potential.”

In a recent study on a cow-calf operation over a two-year period, there was a 12% improvement in reproductive performance for cows that were free of roundworms. In addition, calves of treated cows had an average weaning weight of more than 40 pounds higher than the nontreated group.²

“Deworming is an absolute requirement, as things can really go wrong when there's a heavy worm load,” asserts Jim Seaton, veterinarian at Seaton Vet Clinic, Denison, Iowa. “When clients deworm properly, they save money in the long run.”

An effective deworming program will start by eliminating the adult worms in the system, rendering them unable to shed eggs into the environment and establish a cycle of pasture reinfestation.

“If we're deworming early on and can keep animals on pasture longer, we're going to see a bigger return on our investment, and calves will do better in the feedlot,” adds Seaton.

Gillespie recommends administering a long-lasting injectable dewormer in the spring or early summer, and following up with a quality topical dewormer as cattle come off pasture in the fall.



“Every beef herd is unique, and the timing of product administration will significantly impact the success of a deworming program,” concludes Gillespie. “Remember to work with a veterinarian to establish a cost-effective deworming program for your herd.”

Editor's note: This article is from broadhead on behalf of Boehringer Ingelheim.

†Gadberry S. and Powell J. Internal parasites in beef and dairy cattle. University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Research and Extension, Agriculture and Natural Resources. Available at http://www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/PDF/FSA-3045.pdf. Accessed May 24, 2018.

‡Stromberg BE, Vatthauer RJ, Schlotthauer JC, et al. Production responses following strategic parasite control in a beef cow-calf herd. Vet Parasitol 1997 Mar;68(4):315-322.

Adams County Steer Tag-In

The Steer Tag-In for the 2020 Adams County Fair has a new date. The tag-in will be on Saturday, December 14 at the Adams County Fairgrounds. The tag-in is required to show a steer at the Adams County Fair or the Ohio State Fair for youth of Adams County. The tag-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude at 10:00 a.m.

Farm Bill Meeting Opportunities

As we move into December, I felt it was important to run these dates, times and locations again for the Farm Bill meetings. OSU Extension is providing education about the options that producers have to choose from. There will be several meetings throughout the state with some being during the day and some in the evening. These are all that remain in our area.

The following meetings are a reasonable driving distance for producers in Adams County:

December 5 at 1:00 p.m. at the Hi-Tech Center in Hillsboro

December 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the 4-H Hall at the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville

Pesticide Re-certification

As always there will be several Pesticide Re-certification opportunities for private applicators in Southern Ohio. The Adams County Re-certification will include Fertilizer and Pesticide on Thursday January 9 at Frisch's in West Union. YOU MUST pre-register by calling Barbie at the OSU Extension Office and there will be a fee of \$10 for Fertilizer only, and \$35 for Pesticide including Fertilizer. Call the office at 544-2339 or stop by at the Adams County Government Annex to register.

Other locations and dates in surrounding counties include:

OSU South Centers on December 19 beginning at 5:00 p.m. call 740-354-7879

Highland County Extension Office on Jan. 15, in Hillsboro starting at noon, call 393-1918

Brown County Fairgrounds on March 19 at 5:30 p.m., call 378-6716

Dates to Remember

Dec. 16 Pesticide and Fertilizer Certification Exams for Private and Commercial Applicators at the Old Y Restaurant at noon. In January we will go back to the normal exam dates on the second Monday of each month.

Jan. 9

Pesticide Re-certification at Frisch's. You must pre-register at 544-2339.