

The RIGHT approach - follow the 5 R's

✓ The **RIGHT** product for the type of worm

✓ The **RIGHT** animal

✓ The **RIGHT** time

✓ The **RIGHT** dose rate

✓ Administered in the **RIGHT** way



COWS also has input from farmers and independent consultants

The COWS guide to the effective use of cattle wormers

Worming - Have you got it right?



COWS

Control Of Worms Sustainably

Promoting sustainable control of cattle parasites

@COWSworms

www.cattleparasites.org.uk

For more information contact us at

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COWS – Control Of Worms Sustainably

Who are we?

- COWS is an industry led steering group formed in 2010 consisting of a panel of technical experts
- COWS promotes sustainable control strategies for managing cattle parasites

What are the issues we're tackling?

- Anthelmintic resistance is now recognised as a potential threat to the cattle industry
- There's a knowledge gap in how to best treat and manage cattle worms on-farm

What are we doing to overcome this?

- COWS works with practising veterinary surgeons, SQP's (Suitably Qualified Person), field experts and farmers to promote evidence based, best practice in the control of cattle worms
- COWS provides the latest technical information for our stakeholders through a wide range of media including the website www.cattleparasites.org.uk, farming press and printed material

Get advice from your vet, SQP, farm adviser or vet pharmacist



The 5 R's to the effective use of cattle wormers

When it comes to treating cattle for worms make sure you speak to your vet, SQP, farm adviser or veterinary pharmacist for advice on implementing an effective on-farm control plan that's RIGHT.

✓ Use the RIGHT product for the type of worm

Anthelmintics belong to different classes and are active against different worms, and in some cases specific developmental stages of worms.

Products should be chosen to specifically target the worm, or stage of development that is most likely to occur or already identified as present on-farm.

Other considerations, such as withdrawal periods, and any known anthelmintic resistance issues, should also be taken into account.

Consult with your vet, SQP, farm adviser or veterinary pharmacist for detailed advice on choosing the right product for specific on-farm problems.

Only use products legally authorised for use against a particular host species or type of stock in the UK.

✓ Treat the RIGHT animal

There is little to be gained from any anthelmintic treatment before weaning. However, as grazing intake increases, youngstock will potentially be exposed to high levels of worm infestations.

Effective treatments in youngstock, when they are most susceptible to worm infections, will reduce egg contamination onto pasture and further reduce levels of infection in the environment.

Older cattle generally have a good level of immunity to gut and lung worms and therefore, depending on the farm situation, treatment may not be necessary. However, animals of all ages must be included in liver fluke control plans.

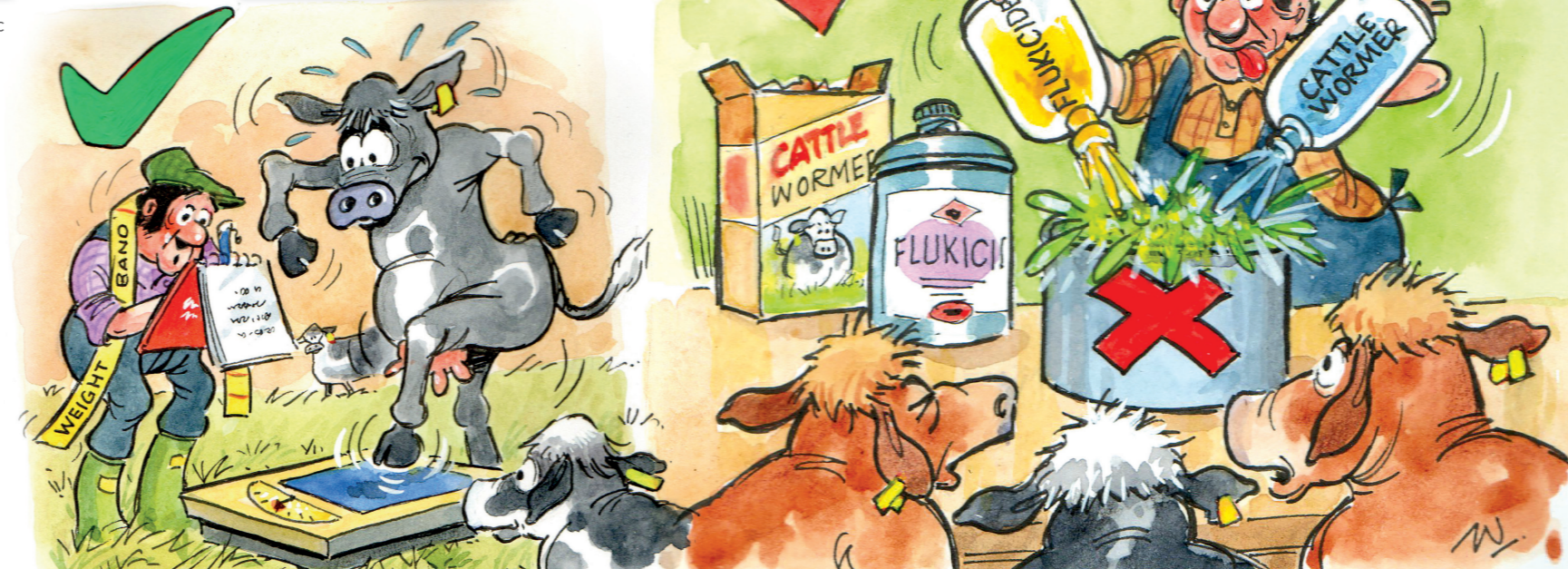
✓ Treat cattle at the RIGHT time

There is no one size fits all solution to parasite control. Treatment depends on assessing various factors, including pasture risk, animal type and time of the year.

For youngstock, monitoring growth is a good indicator of when to treat for worms. If daily live weight gain (DLWG) falls below target, generally 0.7 to 0.8kg/day after weaning, anthelmintic treatment should be considered.

The risk of disease in cattle is later in the season, post mid-summer, when worms have accumulated on the pasture. However, wormers can be used in the first two months of the grazing season to reduce pasture contamination with worm eggs. A group egg-count six to eight weeks post turnout and weight/condition monitoring can give a good indication of whether early season treatment is necessary.

Dose according to accurate live weight



✓ Dose cattle at the RIGHT rate

In most situations, anthelmintics are administered at a specific dose rate (ml) according to the animals' live weight (kg).

Therefore it's important to:

1. Read the product label or summary of product characteristics (SPC)
2. Ensure dosing equipment is well maintained, calibrated and clean
3. Weigh animals, or use a weigh band to calculate the correct dosage for each animal

✓ Administer wormer in the RIGHT way

Anthelmintics can be administered to cattle in different ways. These include; subcutaneous injections; ear injections; intra-ruminal boluses; pour-on products; and oral drenches.

Always read the product label to ensure the selected product is administered in the correct way. Anthelmintics should not be home mixed with any other products.

Don't home mix anthelmintics