

Quarantine treatment

The principle of quarantine treatment is to ensure stock coming on to your property do not bring on any resistant worms with them. All new stock, both sheep and cattle, brought onto a farm should be quarantine drenched and held off pasture for 24 hours. They should then graze contaminated pasture.

Animal welfare needs to be taken into consideration when holding animals off pasture, especially if they have travelled long distances.

A drench check by faecal egg counting is advised 10 days later. The choice of quarantine drench option for your farm may vary depending on the farming system. The following options are intended to minimise the risk of introduction of resistant worms.

However, seek up-to date expert advice regarding quarantine drench treatments as recommendations may change as the drench resistance profile on NZ farms changes.

Sheep

Option 1: Drenching with a combination of no less than four unrelated drench families, with at least one of these being the drench active monepantel or derquantel. An example of how this may be achieved is by drenching using two dual combination drenches i.e. up the race with one combination drench containing monepantel plus abamectin or derquantel plus abamectin, and then up the race again with a benzimidazole (BZ) plus levamisole combination drench. Do not mix different drench products in the same container unless the label states you can, or this is under veterinary advice, as different products may be incompatible.

This option provides the least risk for introduction of resistant worms, but requires more time, labour and cost. As possible interactions may occur between the individual drench actives when they are administered concurrently, approved meat with

holding periods (WHP's) for the chosen products no longer apply. It is your responsibility to ensure that drug residues are not present at slaughter so ask your vet for advice regarding appropriate WHPs. If no information is available for the combination you have chosen, the default meat WHP of 91days is applied.

Option 2: Drench with a registered combination drench that must contain either monepantel or derquantel. Currently there are dual combination drenches containing monepantel plus abamectin and derquantel plus abamectin available. This option provides less protection against introduction of resistant worms; however, the risk is still minimal at this time. Time, labour and product costs are reduced. As only a single product is administered the approved meat WHPs found on the product labels will apply.

Cattle

A product containing the drench active monepantel combined with abamectin is available for use in cattle. This is suitable for use

as a quarantine drench. If use of the monepantel plus abamectin product becomes routine, concurrent use of this product with

a BZ plus levamisole combination product will be recommended. Advice regarding concurrent administration of different drench products, as discussed in Option 1 above, will apply.

Deer

Pending the registration of a deer specific drench, quarantine drenching using products registered for use in cattle/sheep is recommended. Current best practice involves the concurrent administration of a macrocyclic lactone (ML), BZ and levamisole

drench. As products are used off label the default 91 day withholding period applies. Veterinary advice should be sought as to which products and dose rates are to be used.