

Resistance Status of the Five Main Wormers

available to treat horses in the UK



DRUG	Adult small redworm (Cyathostomins)	Encysted small redworm (Cyathostomins)	Large redworm (Strongylus vulgaris)	Larval large redworm (Strongylus vulgaris)	Ascarid (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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	
PRAZIQUANTEL	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	

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

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Pink - 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. Isolated cases of resistance now identified, measured by no/low egg count reduction.

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.

Horse Worm Treatment Prescribing Options

Based on tapeworm, worm egg count & small redworm test results



	ACTION	TAPEWORM TEST	WORM COUNT	SMALL REDWORM TEST	FIRST CHOICE TREATMENT	SECOND CHOICE OPTION	THIRD CHOICE OPTION
AUTUMN / WINTER	Test or treat for possible encysted redworm dependent on risk. Tapeworm test.	-ve	Consider reduction testing to measure efficacy of treatment choice *	Consider small redworm test to determine if moxidectin is required ***	moxidectin	5-day fenbendazole §*	
		+ve			moxidectin + praziquantel	praziquantel† <two week + gap> moxidectin	praziquantel† <two week + gap> 5-day fenbendazole §*
OTHER TIMES OF YEAR	Worm egg count every 6-12 weeks depending on risk. Seek advice from a vet or Suitably Qualified Person. Tapeworm test every 6 months.	-ve or N/A	-ve	N/A	no treatment required		
		-ve or N/A	+ve redworm	N/A	ivermectin	pyrantel (if no known redworm resistance or treat & reduction test*)	moxidectin (if circumstances dictate**)
		-ve or N/A	+ve roundworm	N/A	fenbendazole (reduction test after treatment*)	pyrantel (reduction test after treatment*)	
		+ve	-ve	N/A	praziquantel†	double dose pyrantel	ivermectin + praziquantel
		+ve	+ve redworm	N/A	ivermectin + praziquantel	double dose pyrantel (if no known redworm resistance or treat & reduction test*)	moxidectin + praziquantel (if circumstances dictate**)
		+ve	+ve redworm +ve roundworm	N/A	double dose pyrantel (if no known redworm resistance or treat & reduction test*)	ivermectin + praziquantel (if no known roundworm resistance or treat & reduction test*)	

N/A

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†

not applicable

ONLY if no known resistance

Single chemical option available only through a vet. N.B. Ivermectin combination products shouldn't be used at a similar time to moxidectin

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Seek advice from prescriber on efficacy testing after treatment

Seek advice from prescriber on use of moxidectin outwith autumn/winter

Seek advice from prescriber on whether your horse is a candidate for the small redworm test