Deworming of Exhibition Swine to Prevent Liver Condemnations

By

Marcia Shannon, PhD

University of Missouri

**Background**

Swine liver condemnations continue to be a problem for the swine industry and reduce the profitability of pigs marketed. Liver condemnations are caused by internal parasites such as roundworms (ascarid). Pigs will get internal parasite by ingesting the eggs.

These internal parasites can cause pigs to grow slowly and be unthrifty, and in severe cases can even cause death. However, there are various chemical dewormers available and combined with solid management, internal parasites can be controlled.

**Deworming Suggestions**

Deworm 5 to 10 days after being placed and again every 30 days. It is best to use at least two different types of deworming products such as ivermectin (*Ivomec*, Merial) followed by dichlorvos (*Atgard*, Boehringer Ingelheim) or fenbendazole (*Safe-Guard*, Hoechst-Roussel) which controls against a different type of internal parasite (ex. Whip worms). These products will get rid of most types of internal parasites.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Table 1. Commonly Used Swine Deworming Agents | | | | |
| **Product:**  **Active Ingredient** | **Trade Name** | **Generally considered effective against these swine parasites** | **Required**  **pre-slaughter withdrawal time** | **Route of administration** |
| Dichlorvos | *Atgard* | Round, Nodular, Whip | Zero days | Medicated feed |
| Doramectin | *Dectomax* | Round, Nodular, Lung, Stomach, Lice/mange | 24 days | IM injection |
| Fenbendazole | *Safe-Guard* | Round, Nodular, Whip, Lung, Stomach | Zero days | Medicated feed |
| Ivermectin | *Ivomec* | Round, Nodular, Lung, Stomach, Lice/Mange | 18 days | SQ injection\* |
| Levamisole | *Tramisol* | Round, Nodular, Lung | 3 days | Drinking water |
| Piperazine |  | Round, Nodular | Zero days | Drinking water |
| Pyrantel Tartrate | *Manminth* | Round, Nodular | 24 hrs. | Medicated feed |
| \*Available also as a feed additive | | | | |

**NOTE:** Please contact your local veterinarian for additional recommendations and follow the directions on the label regarding the use of all various dewormers suggested.