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“A Strategic Deworming Protocol for the Seasonal Control of Gastro-intestinal Parasites of Yearling Stocker Cattle (including Dairy and Beef Replacement Heifers on Pasture)”

One of many deworming protocols developed for use in grazing stocker cattle and replacement heifers. This is a unique protocol designed with strategically timed dewormings to reduce parasitism both in the animals themselves as well as in the animal's environment for an entire grazing season. It has been tested under field conditions at a number of locations across the country. The overall treatment cost for this protocol is less \$10.00 per year depending upon local purchase prices with an average improvement in gain of approximately 40-60 lbs. over non-treated cattle for the entire summer grazing season.

Treatment Timing:

- 1). Fall Deworming Regime (Includes Grub & Lice Control):** At the time of weaning or at end of the first grazing season (preferably after a hard frost), pour all overwintering cattle with generic ivermectin pour-or and drench with Safe-Guard® liquid drench or feed cattle Safe-Guard® Pellets at the rate of 1.0 lb per 1,000 lb of body weight (Safe-Guard® 0.5%) or 4 oz. per 1,000 lb body weight (Safe-Guard® 1.96%). If feeding area is limited, spread the dose over several days to makes sure all animals consume the pellets, otherwise, mix Safe-Guard® 1.96% flake meal in a weeks-worth of free-choice mineral.
- 2). Mid-Spring Strategic Timed Dewormings (0-4-8 program):** Make sure all cattle are parasite-free before spring grazing begins. A fecal check is recommended.
 - A).** Begin treatment four weeks (25-30 days) after turn out or four weeks after first spring grass growth. Using Safe-Guard 1.96% flake meal, mix correct dose (4 oz. per 1,000 lb of cattle treated) into four to six days of free-choice mineral mix, leave until mineral mix is gone. Other Safe-Guard® formulations will also work including medicated liquid feed or medicated cubes or cake mix. If cattle are run through a chute, the liquid drench or paste can be used.
 - B).** Repeat dose four weeks after first dose (If yearling cattle are on pasture longer than 90 days).
- 3). Fall Deworming:** Repeat fall program listed above for all animals overwintering on premise.

*Safe-Guard® (fenbendazole) is a product of Merck Animal Health. Ivermectin is a generic available from a number of companies.

