“A Strategic Deworming Protocol for the Seasonal Control Of Gastro-intestinal Parasites in Camelid (llama/alpaca)”

One of many deworming protocols developed for use in camelid. This is a unique protocol designed with strategically timed dewormings both to reduce parasitism in the animals themselves (especially encysted Haemonchus) 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.

Treatment Timing:

1). Fall Deworming Regime: At the end of the grazing season (preferably after a hard frost), feed Safe-Guard® Pellets or Flaked Meal during morning feed at the rate of 1.0 lb per 750 lb of body weight (Safe-Guard® 0.5%) or 4 oz. per 750 lb body weight (Safe-Guard® 1.96%). Spread total dose over three days. On the 4th day give Cydectin* (or Dectomax). **Note**: Multiple days of Safe-Guard® activates encysted Haemonchus larvae which are then killed by Cydectin/Dectomax. (Cydectin works best when given orally at the dose of 0.4-0.5mg/kg).

2). Winter Deworming: Conduct a fecal exam in late February to early March. If positive: repeat fall treatment regime to make sure animals are not shedding worm eggs at the beginning of the grazing season.

3). Spring-Early Summer Strategic Timed Dewormings: Begin treatment 3-weeks after turn out or 30-days after first spring grass growth.

   1st deworming = 3-day Safe-Guard® protocol given 3-weeks after grazing begins.
   2nd deworming = 3-day Safe-Guard® protocol given 3-weeks after the first treatment.
   3rd deworming = 3-day Safe-Guard® protocol plus Cydectin or (Dectomax) given on the 4th day given 3-weeks after the 2nd treatment.

4). Fall Deworming: Repeat fall program as listed above.

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*Safe-Guard® (fenbendazole) is a product of Merck Animal Health. Ivermectin is a generic endecticide available through a number of companies, Dectomax® (doramectin – Zoetis) or Cydectin® (moxidectin – Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health).

** If monthly or bimonthly (ivermectin or doramectin) treatments given for control of meningeal worm, deworm with Safe-Guard twice a year (fall and spring) to prevent parasite resistance.