

Intervet Newsletter



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Delaying tick resistance to daps

Dear Johann Breytenbach,

The impact that ticks can have on cattle herds needs no introduction. Probably the most important role that ticks play in South Africa is the transmission of tick borne diseases such as Red water (Babesiosis), Gall sickness (Anaplasmosis) and Heart water (Cowdriasis). As an Intervet client we are sending you this Newsletter so you can effectively control these ticks without causing unnecessary resistance in your tick population.



Chemical groups for external parasite control

Essentially there are 5 groups of chemicals registered for external parasite control in R.S.A.:

1. Amidines (eg. amitraz)
2. Pyrethroids (eg. deltamethrin)
3. Organophosphates (eg. chlorfenvinphos)
4. Insect Growth Regulators - IGR's (eg. diflubenzuron)
5. Macrocyclic lactones (eg. abamectin and ivermectin)

The correct dip for your farm

An accurate, simple test can determine which group of dips is the best for your farm. Intervet does the test free for clients.

100 engorged female blue ticks are exposed to the different parasiticide groups. Efficacy of each group and possible resistance is recorded.

Contact Intervet for more information.

Newsletter

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You are subscribed as Johann Breytenbach (m.breytenbach@iburst.co.za).

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and ivermectin)

Delaying the development of resistance

Once you have determined which group is most effective (more information in right column), a few basic principles must be followed to ensure effective tick control, and delay the development of resistance among the tick population on your farm.

Do not change chemical groups unnecessarily - keep using the same group for as long as it is effective, whether it be 60 days or 60 years - *only change when resistance is confirmed!*

Always use the parasiticide according to the manufacturer's instructions. By diluting the dip or applying less than the accurate dose you are potentially speeding up resistance to that particular active, thereby dramatically reducing the life span of that group's efficacy on your farm.

Ensure that spray race (or plunge dip) dip concentrations are at optimal levels. This analysis can also be done free of charge by Intervet. [Contact Intervet](#)

Do not over-dip. Try and extend the time between treatments to as long as possible. This extends the life span of the active group on your farm. The less exposure ticks get to the chemical, the less chance of resistance developing.

Select against animals with very high tick burdens when compared to other animals in the same group - susceptibility to ticks can be hereditary.

When all else fails, one should **use an active ingredient against which there is very little or no resistance amongst ticks (especially blue ticks)**, such as ABAMECTIN. Abamectin is a unique molecule that ticks have not yet recognised, therefore there are very few cases of proven tick resistance against abamectin. Examples of products that contain abamectin suitable for tick control are [Avotan Pour-On](#)(Reg.No.G3745 Act 36/1947) and [Solution 3.5%](#)

[Injectable](#)(Reg.No.G3689 Act 36/1947).
Click on the featured products to learn
more about the product's features.

Kind regards,

Intervet Sales and Marketing Teams

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