

Assessing Risk Factors for Parasites

Intermediate parasite risk



Higher parasite risk

Class and age of stock:

Weaners

Wapiti deer

Environmental factors:

Warm wet conditions

Autumn/spring

Unusually wet summer/autumn

Irrigated pastures

Lower altitude

Management factors:

Pre-rut weaning

High stocking rates

Deer only grazing

Lower parasite risk

Class and age of stock:

Adults

Red deer

Environmental factors:

Cold dry conditions

Winter/summer

Drought

Non-irrigated pastures

Higher altitude

Management factors:

Post-rut weaning

Low stocking rates

Cross-grazing deer and sheep/cattle

Advice:

Treat weaners earlier in summer/autumn and more frequently.

Rising yearlings likely to need treatment in spring.

Some adults may need targeted treatment.

Treat weaners in autumn and repeat when necessary.

Rising yearlings +/- treatment in spring.

Avoid treating adults if possible.

Treat weaners later in autumn and less frequently.

Rising yearlings unlikely to need treatment in spring.

Adults unlikely to need treatment.

Risk of anthelmintic resistance developing:



Increased Risk

Deer farming >10 years

Deer only grazing

Pour-on anthelmintics used often

Under-dosing – incorrect dose rate

Persistent use of single active anthelmintic

Adult deer treated regularly

No quarantine drench

Finisher only deer blocks

No refugia plan

Reduced Risk

Deer farming < 5 years

Cross-grazing deer and sheep/cattle

Only oral and injectible anthelmintics used

Correct dose rate

Triple Combination Anthelmintic

Adult deer never or rarely treated

Quarantine drench

Finisher block integrated with other classes/species

Refugia policy in place