



For the treatment and control of levamisole susceptible roundworms and lungworms including benzimidazole resistant strains and the treatment of tapeworms in lambs.

First Drench®



WHAT IS FIRST DRENCH®?

- ✓ A combination oral drench for lambs
- ✓ Contains levamisole
- ✓ Contains praziquantel
- ✓ Broad spectrum worm control, including tapeworms
- ✓ Highly effective against susceptible barber's pole worm
- ✓ Ideal for lambs
- ✓ Short WHP and ESI

WHY CHOOSE FIRST DRENCH?

1. Contains levamisole

Levamisole is a short acting clear drench. Levamisole is still highly effective against barber's pole worm and *Nematodirus* on most properties. *Nematodirus* is often a problem after drought or in lambing paddocks as the egg is resilient and can survive in hot, dry conditions for long periods.

2. Contains praziquantel

First Drench contains praziquantel, the only chemical that controls both segments and heads of tapeworm. It makes sense to remove tapeworms to reduce the overall worm burden of your lambs, giving them the best opportunity to achieve peak performance.

3. Broad spectrum worm control

First Drench is highly effective against levamisole sensitive gastrointestinal roundworms and lungworm. It also provides control of tapeworms (heads and segments).

4. Effect against barber's pole worm

Where levamisole is still effective against barber's pole worm, clear drenches provide a cost-effective, short acting option to treat this worm. This is especially important if barber's pole worm is the major worm on a property and an alternative to a macrocyclic lactone (ML) drench is required for the purpose of rotation.

5. Ideal for lambs

For a young lamb, life is a risky business. They're vulnerable to cold, predators and worms. As soon as lambs start to eat pasture, they

are developing a worm burden. Unlike older sheep, lambs haven't yet built up their immunity against worms. Worm infections lead to reduced wool production and lower bodyweights in sheep of any age; a high worm burden will have a far bigger impact on young sheep.

6. Short meat WHP and ESI

Only approximately 0.9% of the initial dose of levamisole can be found in the tissues. This enables First Drench to have a very short meat withholding period and export slaughter interval, giving you the flexibility to get your lambs to market at the optimal time.

WHEN TO USE FIRST DRENCH

1. At weaning

Drenching at weaning minimises the impact that parasites will have on your lambs at a time when the lambs are in a high growth phase, are undergoing nutritional stress and have little immunity to fight the worms themselves. Any set back to their growth at this stage can lead to stunting and permanent underperformance.

2. Post-weaning

Lambs remain vulnerable for several months post-weaning. They should be monitored regularly using worm egg counts, and treated if worms become a problem.

3. Strategic treatment of adult sheep

The source of infection for lambs is, in most cases, adult sheep. Although tapeworms are unlikely to have clinical impacts on adult sheep, strategic treatment of ewes can reduce pasture contamination and resulting infection levels in their offspring.

4. Worm testing

Worm egg counts provide valuable information to optimise drench timing. Egg counts will show if a drench is not required because of low worm numbers, but will also reveal production limiting worm infections long before clinical signs such as scouring or wasting are evident. A larval differentiation assay provides identification of the worm species present so that the optimal type of drench can be selected.

5. Drench resistance testing

It is essential to understand the level of resistance to the various drench families on a particular property. Faecal egg count reduction tests (FECRTs) provide objective measurements of which drenches are working and which fall below the level of efficacy required for good worm control (i.e. minimum 95% efficacy). FECRTs should be conducted every two to three years to monitor any changes in resistance levels.

HOW TO USE FIRST DRENCH

I. Administration

First Drench is applied orally using standard drenching equipment. Dose the mob according to the heaviest animal by bodyweight in the group (ewes, wethers, lambs, rams). Where there is a large variation in size within the group, draft into two or more lines based on bodyweight. A representative sample of animals should be weighed before treatment. Do not underdose. Do not drench in marking cradles due to the increased risk of aspiration into the lungs. Check accuracy of drenching equipment before and during use.

INDICATIONS

First Drench is effective against levamisole susceptible strains of the following types of roundworms and is effective against benzimidazole-resistant worms:

Barber's pole worm (Adult and immature)	<i>Haemonchus contortus</i>
Stomach hair worm (Adult and immature)	<i>Trichostrongylus axei</i>
Small brown stomach worm (Adult and immature)	<i>Teladorsagia (Ostertagia) spp</i>
Black Scour worm (Adult and immature)	<i>Trichostrongylus spp</i>
Small intestinal worm (Adult and immature)	<i>Cooperia spp</i>
Thin necked intestinal worm (Adult and immature)	<i>Nematodirus spp</i>
Intestinal threadworm (Adult)	<i>Strongyloides papillosus</i>
Hookworm (Adult)	<i>Bunostomum trigonocephalum</i>
Nodule worm (Adult)	<i>Oesophagostomum venulosum</i>
Large bowel worm (Adult)	<i>Oesophagostomum columbianum</i>
Large mouthed bowel worm (Adult)	<i>Chabertia ovina</i>
Large lungworm (Adult and immature)	<i>Dictyocaulus filarial</i>

First Drench also controls tapeworm (heads and segments) *Moniezia spp*

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Do not administer this product in dogs or horses.

PRECAUTIONS

Exercise care in handling weak, pregnant and young animals to avoid unnecessary stress. Avoid yarding animals off-feed overnight, and ensure animals have access to water when yarded prior to drenching.

COMPOSITION

- Levamisole 37.5g/L
- Praziquantel 18.8g/L

DOSAGE

First Drench is given orally at the recommended dose rate of 1mL/5kg bodyweight.

Bodyweight (kg)	Dose Volume (mL)	Sheep treated 5L
Up to 10	2	2500
11-15	3	1666
16-20	4	1250
21-25	5	1000
26-30	6	833
31-35	7	714
36-40	8	625

Animals in excess of 40kg bodyweight dosed at 1mL/5kg.

WITHHOLDING PERIODS/ESI

- Meat: 3 days
- Milk: Do not use in dairy sheep that are producing or will in the future produce milk for human consumption
- ESI: 7 days

PRESENTATION

Liquid: 5L

STORAGE

Store below 30°C (room temperature) in original container.

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ANIMAL HEALTH