Tips on Worm Control

Flubenvet® is licensed to treat roundworms, hairworms, caecal worms and gapeworms in pheasants and partridges, killing both mature and immature stages and will also kill any eggs in the gut at the time of treatment. It has no effect on the palatability of the feed or on egg-laying, fertility, hatching and embryo mortality.

Use at dose rate of 60ppm in the feed for 7 days, which is either:

- Flubenvet® 5% at 1.2kg per tonne of feed OR
- Flubenvet 2.5% at 2.4kg per tonne of feed.

These products should only be incorporated into feed by approved manufacturers.

Why a good preventative deworming program?

To combat the deadly gapeworm threat, deworm every 3 weeks e.g. week 3, week 7 and week 11, when rearing pheasants and partridges.

Poultry expert veterinarian Alan Beynon advises “Regular use of Flubenvet® will reduce the worm contamination on an infected range as the birds “hoover” up the eggs”

Use regularly to combat the threat of worms

References:
1. R Draycott Mortality in wild pheasants, GCWT BVPA 2012
3. Draycott and Armenteros Santos, Intestinal nematodes of shot grey partridges of Norfolk, England. Veterinary Record 2012; 171

Further information available:
Elanco Animal Health, Eli Lilly and Company Limited, Lily House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NL
Tel: 01256 353131
Email: elancouk@lilly.com

Flubenvet® is a licensed trademark.
Flubenvet 5% w/w Premix for Medicated Feeding Stuff contains flubendazole 50 mg/g
Vet 00006/1450. Legal category POM-VPS. UA/79300027
Flubenvet 2.5% Medicated Premixture contains flubendazole 25 mg/g. This medicated premixture is produced from Flubenvet 5% w/w premix for medicated feeding stuff and does not have a Legal Category. To be supplied only on veterinary prescription – from your veterinary surgeon or a suitable qualified person.

For full details on the use of these products including contra-indications and warnings, please refer to the SPC.
A major cause of death in gamebirds

All flocks are at risk of infection

Studies have found that all estates across the country are infected with worms, with young birds being particularly susceptible. It is almost impossible to keep infection off the premises as larvae or worm eggs can be brought on to the premises via clothing or footwear, materials, trucks, feed bags, insects, wild birds, cats, dogs, etc. Once a worm infection is established in a flock, the whole environment will become heavily contaminated with infective worm eggs.

Therefore a good preventative deworming programme should be a standard management procedure on any game farm.

Gapeworm reservoirs

When an earthworm, beetle or slug eats a gapeworm egg or larva, the larva remains inactive in this reservoir host for as long as it lives. This could be up to 5 years.

Super fast infection

When birds ingest an infective egg, larva or earthworm containing larvae, the lifecycle begins...

- In just 4 – 6 hours larvae can be found in the lungs after having burrowed through the gut wall into the blood stream, potentially causing lung damage
- 7 days later they can be found in the windpipe and have developed into adults, causing the bird to ‘gape’ or ‘snick’
- From 18 – 21 days after ingestion they have paired up and are shedding eggs, re-infecting their environment

Gamebird worm lifecycle

The main worms affecting game birds are:

1. **Roundworms** (Ascaridia galli) - the largest worms
2. **Hairworms** (Capillaria spp) - smaller (hair-like) but can cause significant damage and disease
3. **Caecal worms** (Hetarakis gallinarum) - can carry the deadly parasite Histomonas, the cause of Blackhead
4. **Gapeworm** (Syngamus trachea) - arguably the most important as they are a major cause of death and serious respiratory infections in both pheasants and partridges. The bird “gape” or “snick” as they struggle to breathe.

Non Infectious Worm Egg

Or

Infectious Larvae

Or

Worm Egg with Infectious Lava

Birds are infected by eating one of three things –

EARTHWORM WITH INFECTIOUS LARVAE

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