



Summer drenching – preparing your winter pasture

- Summer drenching is vital in minimising the level of larval pasture contamination responsible for winter worm burdens.
- The use of a short-acting, highly efficacious drench is recommended best practice.
- TRIGUARD® with its combination of three short-acting actives is an ideal summer drench.#



Why summer drench?

The use of a first summer drench is still recommended best practice in the winter dominant and uniform rainfall regions of Australia.^{1,2}

The aim of summer drenching is to remove the worms in the sheep when the numbers of infective larvae on pasture are low or in decline (due to summer weather conditions). This reduces the number of infective larvae on pasture the following winter, thereby reducing the production cost of worms and number of drenches needed at this time.

The predominant worm species of these winter rainfall regions are the black scour worm (*Trichostrongylus* spp.) and the small brown stomach worm (*Teladorsagia* spp.). These typically cause problems over the autumn and winter period when favorable conditions and susceptible livestock allow for a significant buildup of infective larvae on the pasture.

Work done by the CSIRO shows that a significant portion of infective larvae responsible for winter infections are deposited on pasture during summer by adult worms present in the sheep.⁴

Figure 1. shows the relative contribution of eggs deposited between the months October and March to the worm population the following winter.

The control of these worms over summer will significantly reduce the pasture larval burdens responsible for winter outbreaks.

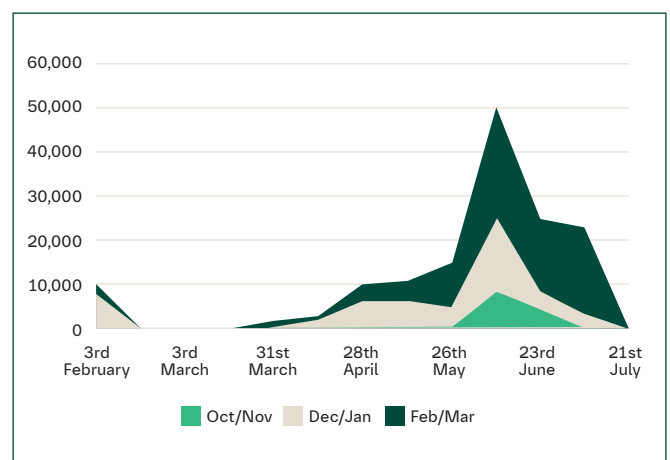


Figure 1. The impact of eggs deposited from October to March on winter worm burdens.⁴

When to summer drench

The timing of the first summer drench and the need for a second summer drench varies between regions based on what is most appropriate for worm control and drench resistance management.

Routine worm egg count monitoring after the first summer drench should be used to determine timing of subsequent drenches.

WormBoss.com.au provides a number of recommendations for various regions regarding the timing of the first drench (figure 2).

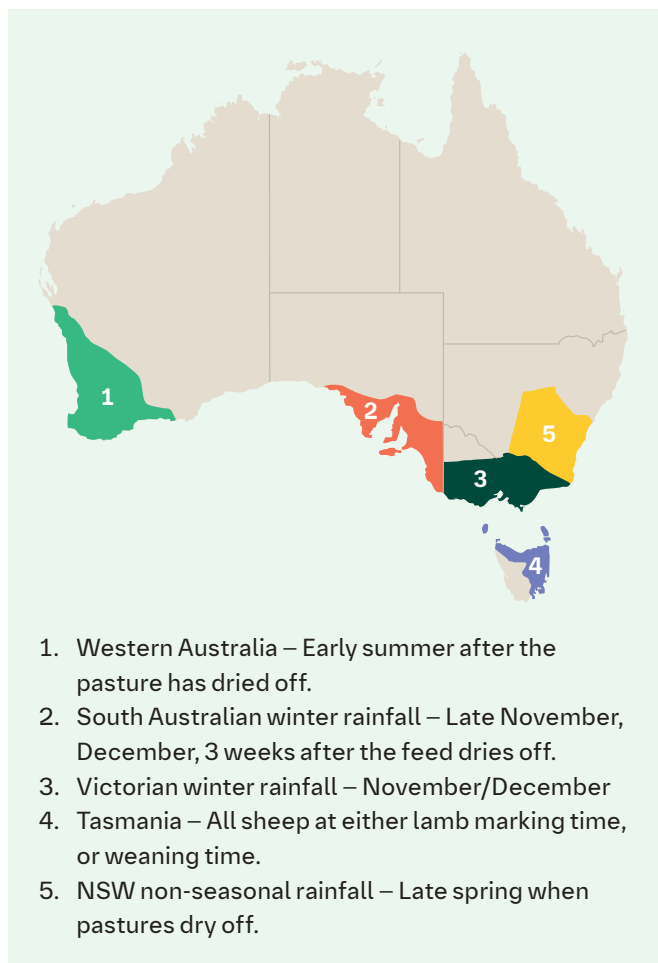


Figure 2. Recommended summer drench times by region.¹

Which drench to use

The summer drench of choice is one that:

- **Has an efficacy as close to 100% as possible** – any worms that survive this treatment will result in pasture contamination. A combination of highly effective actives such as TRIGUARD® is recommended best practice.^{2,3}
- **Has a short duration of activity** – that will apply less selection pressure for resistance at a time when there is less refugia (the proportion of worms not exposed to the drench) on the pasture to dilute contamination from resistant adults.

Persistent actives such as moxidectin are recognised for their potential to select more rapidly for resistance¹, and this effect can be exacerbated during times when there is less refugia on pasture.

Summer drenching

- A summer drench is vital in limiting production loss associated with severe worm infections in winter.
- TRIGUARD® is an ideal choice for summer drenching due to its combination of three actives and short duration of activity.



For more information, call Boehringer Ingelheim Customer Care on 1800 808 691.

References: 1. <https://tools.wormboss.com.au>. 2. Love (2007) Sheep worm control: summer vs winter drenching in southern NSW. DPI Prime facts. 3. Love (2007) Sheep drench combinations, resistance and 'refugia'. DPI Prime facts. 4. Anderson (1983) The availability of Trichostrongylid Larvae to Grazing Sheep after Seasonal Contamination of Pastures.

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