

Why?

As with all ground feeding animals there is always a risk of your poultry ingesting worms, larvae, or eggs. These kinds of parasites have complex life styles, designed to last year round and ensure re-infestation to continue their life cycle. Your poultry could become a "host", with the internal parasites living off of their food and in some cases off of the bird itself. Worming will always result in poor condition and will affect the bird's immune system, particularly during poor weather, and frequency and quality of lay.

Worm burdens affect the health of the bird greatly and this is the most important factor for worming. However just in case you weren't convinced, it should be known that in extreme cases worms can be transmitted through eggs, and who wants to find a worm in their omelette?? and that is why we worm.

Guide

Flubenvet Premix is a simple to use powdered wormer formulated for domestic poultry. It covers all the worm species shown here and suitable for most poultry including turkeys and geese. One tub will medicate 20Kg of feed and comes with a small 6g scoop to help you measure the correct amount for 2kg of food. You simply mix up a batch of medicated feed and feed to poultry over 7 days, making up more as and when needed. There is enough medication to treat all the flock when used over 7 day even the shy chicken who waits at the back! Flubenvet has been proven to be 99% effective. The good news is the eggs are still safe to eat throughout the dosing period.

- Measure out 2Kg of your normal poultry feed, eg mixed corn, layers pellets, etc. DO NOT FEED SCRAPS WHILST MEDICATING. Only feed medicated feed.
- From the amount you've measured, take out about a mug full and mix in 1 scoop of flubenvet. When you've mixed the medication into the mug of feed and the mixture is quite even, pour the mixture into the remainder of the 2KG of feed and mix evenly.
- Feed this 2kg of feed to the birds over 7 days, if you run out repeat the process.
- Only feed this medicated feed for the 7 dosing days. When the worming has finished continue feeding as usual.

When

It is usual to worm every 3 months as worms can be a burden any time of year. More frequently may be necessary if a worming issue re-arises (even after the worms have been killed, eggs live on and can be re-ingested. The life cycle of a worm can be between 2-8wks). You should also worm new birds before they join in with the rest, or if a flock is moved to new pasture. The general rule of thumb is, as ever, prevention is better than cure

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The 5 Main worms in poultry

- **Hair worms** - Found in the crop, oesophagus, proventriculus and intestine. Dangerous, can cause emaciation, weakness and in extreme cases death
- **Round Worms** - Found in the birds digestive system. Dangerous - causes emaciation, diarrhoea and anaemia
- **Gizzard Worm** - Found in the water birds. Causes damage to lining of bird so bird cannot utilise food efficiently. Can cause starvation and death in Goslings
- **Gape Worm** - Found in the trachea and lungs. Causes respiratory distress, gaping (gasping for air) leading to suffocation and death.
- **Caecal Worms** - Cause little damage but transmit blackhead to Turkeys. Found in the caecal.

You Will Need

Relevant amount of Flubenvet (1 box medicates 20Kg of feed)

Set of scales

Cup or mug

Other Guides in the Series relevant to this article

Lambing Season, Worm Control in cattle, Feather Pecking and bullying