

# Pighealth BYTES

Number: 137

## Worm control

Your own reference source on pig health



Animine

Ayurvet

Berg & Schmidt

Dupont/Danisco

ECM

Evans Vanodine

Innovad

J. Rettenmaier & Söhne

The control of worms falls into two categories – prevention and treatment

### Prevention

Worms with intermediate hosts can be effectively controlled by removing the contact with the intermediate host(s). For many worms this is effectively achieved by intensification, which brings the pigs indoors and onto concrete or slatted floors. Obviously outdoor pigs do not have concrete floors.

Taking pigs indoors helps with the control of those worms that need pasture conditions to complete their lifecycle. These include *Hyostromylus*, *Globocephalus* and *Trichostrongylus*.

Good cleanliness and sanitation are important in controlling parasites. Nowadays, the main mode of transmission is via contaminated food and water and, in the case of outdoor pigs, soil containing faeces or urine. Parasite eggs require moisture and warmth to develop. Direct sunlight and dry conditions shorten the lifespan of eggs and larvae.

Common disinfectants do not kill the eggs of parasites like *Ascaris*, but meticulous cleaning and steam cleaning can help to reduce the egg burden in a building.

A management system in which only gilts are breeders can be effective at eradicating kidney worms because only animals over two years of age pass kidney worm eggs in significant numbers.

### Treatment

Therapeutic treatment of pigs with wormers (anthelmintics) will only have a temporary benefit unless the conditions under which the parasites were acquired are removed or modified.

No one drug is effective against all parasites. A good management system will not use anthelmintics in isolation. The goal is to have the treatment reduce the number of egg-producing parasites, thereby minimising contamination of the premises.

LUBING

Perstorp

Wisium