



Fact Sheet - Canine Worming

There are four different types of worms seen in dogs.

- **Roundworms:** Long and white and look like spaghetti, their eggs cannot be seen with the naked eye.
Symptoms: Pot belly appearance, diarrhoea, vomiting and weight loss. They also can be transferred to humans, especially children.

- **Tapeworms:** Segments are white, short and flat and look like rice grains. They can be spread by fleas.
Symptoms: Abdominal pain, anal irritation, vomiting, weight loss. Some dog tapeworms can be passed onto sheep and can result in 'sheep measles', a carcass defect that is found at slaughter and is a significant cause of downgrading at abattoirs.

- **Hookworms:** Cannot be seen with the naked eye.
Symptoms: Bloody faeces, diarrhoea, low energy, can be transmitted to humans.

- **Whipworms:** Cannot be seen with the naked eye.
Symptoms: Weight loss, flatulence (wind), bloody diarrhoea, low energy.

Dogs can be infected with worms in different ways

- Consuming worms or eggs from the environment (eggs can live for up to 5 years in the ground)
- Eating a prey animal that is carrying developing worms
- Puppies infected in utero (from the bitch)
- Nursing puppies (from the bitch)

Prevention

- Puppies from 2 weeks of age: Worm every two weeks until 12 weeks of age, then monthly until 6 months. It is especially important to worm puppies as they are the most susceptible to the effects of worms.

- All dogs from 6 months of age: Worm every 3 months.

- Working dogs: Worm monthly to prevent transfer to sheep (different products available).

- Pregnant and lactating bitches: Worm prior to mating, 10 days before whelping, then every 3 weeks while lactating.

Worming must be part of a regular health program. Not only do these parasites affect your pet, they also have the potential to infect humans with children being most susceptible. It is therefore important you get the right product to do a thorough job – and not all tablets are created equally. Worm products should be an 'all-wormer' and contain the correct amounts of praziquantel,



febantel and pyrantel.

VetEnt only stocks products that are industry trusted. Research backs both their

efficacy and safety ensuring our confidence that the product we recommend for your dog is right.

Some tapeworms are spread by fleas. It is important to use a veterinary flea preventative product regularly to stop



transmission. Flea collars, flea shampoo, flea powders and some supermarket spot treatments do not kill all flea life stages. So whilst these products often seem more affordable at the time of purchase, the lack in product efficacy makes them poor value for money.

We recommend spending your money on a solution that works. Come into your local VetEnt branch and we can help you with the selection of a product that will work for you and your pets. This will not only save you in the long run, it will prevent frustrations which are often associated with flea problems.