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## UCD VET VIEWS

CALIFORNIA CATTLEMAN, APRIL 1999

### PESTICIDES FOR FLY CONTROL-1999

As sure as Spring is here, Summer will not be far behind and with that will come the flies. Horn flies that decrease production and face flies that carry the bacteria that causes Pinkeye. Now is the time to start planning the yearly battle against these pests. Horn flies causes cattle to have decreased weight gains and overall production in the herd is decreased. The horn flies cause these losses by biting through the skin of the cattle and sucking fluids from underneath the skin. Face flies irritate the cattles' eyes by using rasp-like mouth parts to stimulate tear production. The face flies feed off of these excess tears. More importantly, the face flies carry the causative agent of Pinkeye, *Moraxella bovis*. This bacteria (*M. bovis*) causes tremendous damage to the eye and also very large economic losses. So, one of the primary goals of face fly control is the prevention of Pinkeye.

Both face flies and horn flies develop resistance to insecticides over time. For maximum prevention, it is advisable to switch the class of drug you use each year or two. If you used an organophosphate eartag last year, use a pyrethroid eartag this year. Additionally, if you plan to use a pyrethroid eartag this year, use an organophosphate spray this year. Alternating the classes of drugs in this manner will increase the success of your preventive program. It will zap those flies harder, remember this is war! It is also recommended that application of eartags be delayed until the fly population is relatively high so that the possibility of them developing resistance is lowered. Sprays, back rubbers, face rubbers, and dust bags can be helpful in reducing the fly populations early in the season, before eartag application. Then, as the fly populations increase, apply the fresh eartags to achieve maximum benefit. Always follow the manufacturer's label directions for eartag application. If they call for two eartags—use two eartags! If they recommend eartags for calves or if eartags for calves are needed to prevent Pinkeye in the calves—use the tags in the calves. Remember, in the Fall, always remove the eartags. If the eartags are left in, the cattle the flies that overwinter—particularly the face flies that overwinter—will develop resistance to the drug you used and it will no longer be effective.

Face flies and horn flies lay their eggs in cow manure and the larvae only develop in cow manure. Therefore, some of the compounds that are fed or given in bolus form that kill the larvae in the manure pat can be very effective. Examples of this include the slow release bolus with diflubenzuron (Vilgilante®). This compound is an insect growth regulator (IGR) which is safe and cross-resistance does not develop. Another IGR that is used in "feed through" products is methoprene. Other products are available that can kill the fly larvae when used as a "feed through".

Some of the important items to keep in mind for fly control and pesticide use are:

1. Plan ahead for insecticide and eartag purchases: fly season always comes, even if delayed by cool weather or rain.
2. Consult with your veterinarian regarding the active ingredient(s) in these products and the history of effectiveness in your cattle.
3. Always follow the label instructions, warnings, and precautions: these products can potentially be toxic to you, your children, pets, and others working with them around the chute.
4. Follow label withdrawal times and keep records of treatment dates, products, and lot numbers.

### REGISTERED PESTICIDES for CATTLE-1999

#### EARTAGS for BEEF CATTLE

Product Name	Active Ingredient	Chemical Class	Manufacturer
Atroban Extra	Permethrin	Pyrethroid	Schering-Plough
BovaGard	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Y-Tex
Cutter Blue	Fenthion	Organophosphate	Bayer
Cutter Gold	Cyfluthrin	Pyrethroid	Bayer

Diaphos Rx	Diazinon+Chlorpyrifos	Organophosphate	Y- Tex
Ectrin	Fenvalerate	Pyrethroid	Fermenta
GardStar Plus	Permethrin	Pyrethroid	Y- Tex
MaxCon	Cypermethrin+Clorpyrifos	Pyrethroid+ Organophosphate	Y- Tex
New Z Diazinon	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Farnam
Optimizer	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Y- Tex
Patriot	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Fermenta
PYthon	Zeta-cypermethrin	Pyrethroid	Y- Tex
Super Deckem	Fenvalerate	Pyrethroid	Destron-Fearing
Terminator	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Anchor
Warrior	Diazinon+Chlorpyrifos	Organophosphate	Y- Tex
X-Terminator	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Y- Tex
ZetaGard	Zeta-cypermethrin	Pyrethroid	Y- Tex

	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Brand Names</b>
<b>Sprays</b>	Dichlorvos	Vapona
	Permethrin	Ectiban, Permectrin, Atroban, Permethrin, Insectrin
	Tetrachlorvinphos	Rabon
	Tetrachlorvinphos+dichlorvos	Ravap
<b>Pour On Applications</b>	Permethrin	DeLice, Expar, Hard Hitter
<b>Back rubbers and Face rubbers</b>	Permethrin	Ectiban, Insectrin
	Tetrachlorvinphos+dichlorvos	Ravap
<b>Dust Bags</b>	Tetrachlorvinphos	Rabon dust
<b>Feed-trough Insecticides</b>	Tetrachlorvinphos	Rabon oral larvicide
	Methoprene	IGR mineral, Starbar
<b>Slow release bolus with IGR (Insect Growth Regulator)</b>	Diflubenzuron	Vigilante

Note: Active ingredients are available under a number of brand names and those listed above are only examples and not specific endorsements or recommendations.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW THE LABEL INSTRUCTIONS.

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