

1973

4-H Dairying Letter

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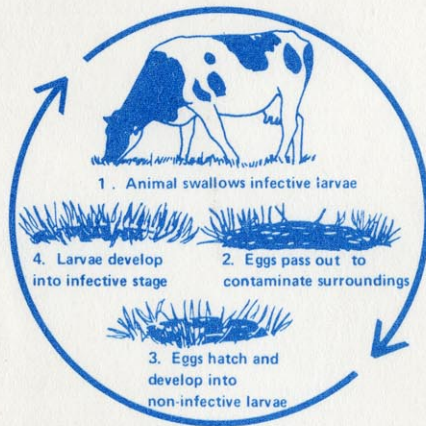
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4-H DAIRYING

February 1973

Many dairy animals in Mississippi are infested with internal parasites. These parasites cause young animals to be weakened, unthrifty and in some cases to die. They also cause cows to drop in milk production.

The internal parasite most commonly affecting dairy cattle is worms. These worms do the greatest damage to younger animals 4 to 18 months old.



Life Cycle of Cattle Roundworms

Some worms may complete their life cycle in as little as 21 days. Worms do not multiply inside the animal. Infections depend on cattle picking up young worms.

Most of these materials are available in bolus, drench, or powder form. CAUTION: Follow directions to the letter on all wormers, since an overdose may kill the animal. Obtain a body tape and accurately determine the weight of each animal you are worming, since dosage varies according to size and bodyweight.

How can you tell if cattle have worms? If you suspect worms, your veterinarian can examine a fecal sample for larvae. Ask your agent for a copy of the Dairy Guideline - "Controlling Parasites in Dairy Cattle," Information Sheet 531.

Sincerely yours,

Extension 4-H Youth Agent

Gerald T. Taylor
Gerald T. Taylor
Extension Dairy Science Specialist

