

Managing Coccidiosis

Coccidiosis poses a serious threat to the health and performance of calves & lambs. To prevent the high potential for financial losses, animal health professionals must accurately diagnose the disease and implement control measures that limit spread of the organisms.

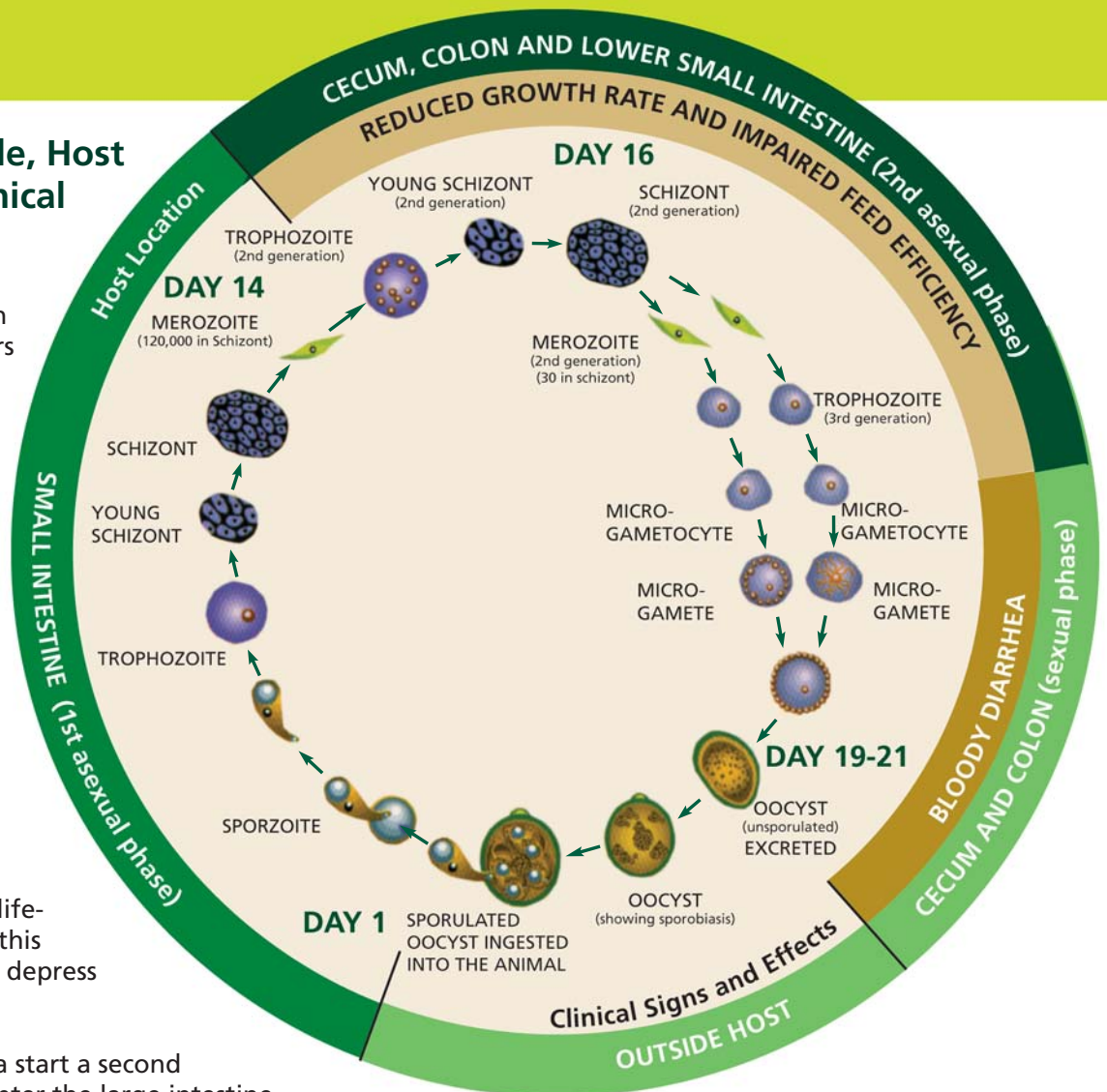
Coccidial Life Cycle, Host Location, and Clinical Signs & Effects

Calves & lambs are often non-symptomatic carriers of coccidiosis, actively shedding coccidial organisms and contaminating the production environment. As a result, exposure risk and infection severity are greatly elevated for younger animals.

Four Phases

(estimated timing):

- Day 1** - Oocysts are ingested and enter the small intestine where 71% of their life-cycle occurs. During this period, coccidia may depress the immune system.
- Days 16-17** - Coccidia start a second asexual phase and enter the large intestine.
- Days 19-21** - Coccidia start a sexual phase; blood can appear in clinical cases.
- Day 21** - Oocysts are excreted started the cycle again.



Determining whether coccidial infection was the cause of scour could sometimes prove difficult. "Oocysts will frequently not be found in the faeces of scouring calves." "So sometimes we don't find coccidiosis because we are looking for the wrong thing at the wrong time. Samples for examination need to be collected from several apparently normal calves in the same environment as the scouring animals."

Farmers may also help reduce coccidial challenge through the following changes in calf management: improve hygiene in the calf shed: have an 'all in-all out' management system with cleaning and disinfect between batches of calves: reduce stocking densities: improve ventilation and drainage: use more high quality bedding: and, raise feed and water troughs to prevent faecal contamination.

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Coccidiosis-Signs of the disease

The main signs of coccidial infection are:

- Diarrhoea
- Loss of appetite
- Check in growth rates
- Dry rough coat
- Weakness
- Abdominal pain

Calves & lambs that survive severe clinical coccidiosis may never fully recover and could end up as runts and remain in poor condition due to the damage done. A reduction in infection pressure is a key factor in preventing disease and production losses.



C-Guard Liquid

C-Guard liquid is a blend of herbs with natural vitamin C & E aiding the natural management of immunity and coccidiosis

Mode of Action:

- Essential oils: Oxidation of the cell wall
- Plant extracts: Improved digestibility of nutrients

Application:

- It is important that when coccidiosis is suspected all calves and lambs are dosed
- It is recommended all calves and lambs are dosed 14 days after moving into a high risk environment
- In cases of high challenge a repeat dose should be given after 6 weeks, if necessary.

Dose Rate:

2 x 5ml doses_ 5 days apart

Packed in 1 litre flexi pack
200 doses per 1 litre (100 calves or lambs)

- C-Guard is proven efficacious in trials conducted in research centres and in the field.
- C-Guard is a natural product, with plant extracts and essential oils.
- C-Guard is a feed supplement and not a medication. No prescription required.

Note:

One of the main reasons for an increasing problem with Coccidiosis is the reduction in the use of ionophores in feed. Monensin did not cure Coccidiosis however it did help keep down the level of infection in the environment down to the level of infection in the environment and made treatment easier.

Also available as management tools are Milkshake, C-Guard for calves and C-Guard mineral buckets for lambs and calves.



First in Animal Nutrition

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