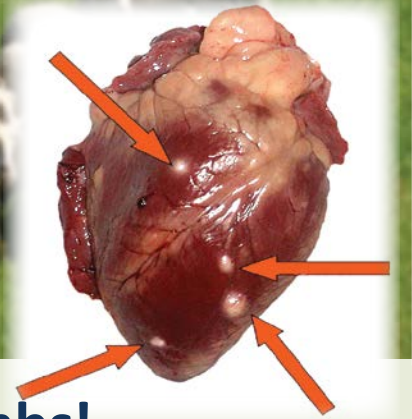


ALBERTA SheepSmart

RESOURCES FOR PRODUCERS

Photo: THagedorn, AARD

C. OVIS

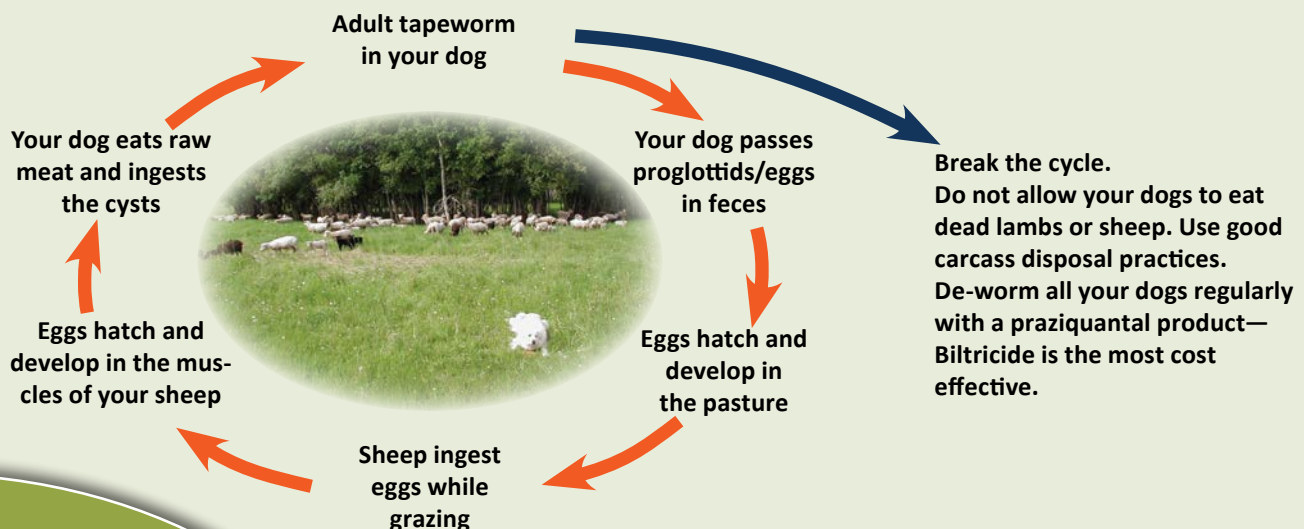


Don't risk zero income from your lambs!

C. ovis costs us all: producers, lamb feeders, lamb buyers, processors, consumers—the whole lamb industry.

- C. ovis is the intermediate stage of the *Taenia ovis* tapeworm in the dog.
- C. ovis is **not** a sheep tapeworm; it is a dog tapeworm that infects sheep.
- Once a lamb is infected, there is no treatment—worming your lambs does not help.
- 80% of the condemnations at some processors are due to C. ovis.
- Farms that allow scavenging of sheep carcasses by dogs have four times greater odds of C. ovis condemnation.
- Farms that don't bury, compost or incinerate deadstock have nearly 12 times higher odds of sheep C. ovis condemnation.
- Once the *Taenia ovis* eggs are on pasture, in feed or in water they may survive for up to a year.

You must deworm all dogs on a regular basis. **No** topical wormers are effective to control *Taenia* in dogs; you must use oral medications that require a prescription from your veterinarian. "Biltricide" works well and is the most cost-effective product on the market. It requires a prescription from your veterinarian which can be filled by your vet or at your human pharmacy.

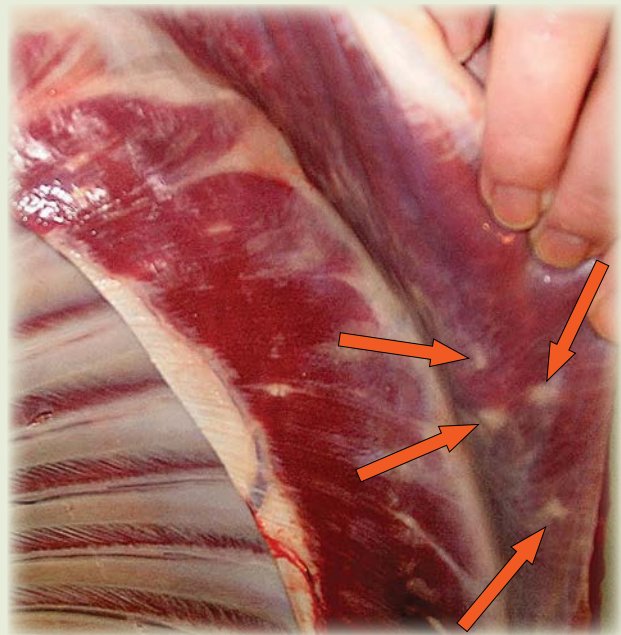


C. ovis is a cost to producers. There is nothing more discouraging than waiting for your lamb cheque, only to find that some of your lambs were condemned with *C. ovis* cysts! It's a big financial loss to have ewe costs, feed, labour invested in every lamb and no income.

C. ovis is a cost to lamb buyers and feedlot owners who pay for your lambs, feed them and then have condemnations and no income to cover their business costs.

C. ovis is a cost to processors who buy lambs, process them, have production lines shut down, carcasses condemned, have to pay for inspection and disposal of condemned carcasses—and then have to tell customers they don't have enough lamb to fill their orders.

C. ovis is a cost to the whole lamb industry. Those condemned lambs mean there is even less lamb for Canadian consumers.



What products should I use to worm my dogs and how much will it cost?

PRODUCT NAME	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	PRODUCT FORM	DOSAGE (for a 100 pound dog)	COST (7 is the most costly, 1 the least costly/treatment/dog)
Drontal Plus	Praziquantal Pyrantal pamoate Febantal	68 mg Tablet	3.5 tablets all at once	6
Droncit	Praziquantal	50 mg Tablet	3 tablets all at once	4
Panacur	Fenbenazole	222 mg per gram of powder	3x 4.5 gram packages each day for 3 days in a row.	7
Panacur granules 22.2%	Fenbendazole	222 mg per gram of powder	10 grams each day for 3 days in a row.	3
Lopatul	nitroscanate	500 mg Tablet	4.5 tablets all at once	5
Biltricide	Praziquantal	600 mg Tablet	0.25 of a tablet once	1 (by a huge margin)
Cestex	epsiprantel	25 mg tablet	4.5 tablets all at once	2

Why risk losing the value of your market lamb for the sake of regular treatments for your dogs, as low as \$8 a dose?

"We use Biltricide for our guardian dogs because I have a terrible time getting pills into them and I can fool them into eating a piece of meat (not lamb) with a quarter of a pill in it and because by far it is the cheapest way to worm guardian dogs against Taenia." (Dr. Kathy Parker)

Thanks for material and assistance provided by Dr. Kathy Parker, Dr. Paula Menzies and Brad DeWolf. Photo credits: THagedorn

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