

Livestock Insects—Horses

Black Flies

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Mosquitoes are a serious problem for horses because they transmit encephalitis (primarily eastern and western strains) and most recently, West Nile virus. Vaccinations are available for these diseases and should be given in the spring prior to the advent of mosquitoes. West Nile virus requires two shots about 14 days apart. Black flies attack horses in the ears and insecticides or salves can be used to treat in the ears. Horse and deer flies (Tabanids) would require the same treatments as do cattle but use only insecticides labeled for horses. Insecticides approved for use on horses are listed at the end of this chapter.

Insecticides Suggested for Treatment of Flies on Horses:

Insecticide	Application Method	Application Rate	Restrictions and comments
Coumaphos (Co-Ral)	Spray or Sponge	11.6 % ELI 1 pt/25 gal water	Restricted-use Pesticide
(Co-Ral Fly and Tick Spray)	Spray	6.5 % EC 2 qt/50 gal water or 10 oz/4 gal water	For horses not intended for slaughter. No more than 6 treatments per year, no less than 10 days apart.
(Co-Ral)	Spray	25 % WP 4 oz/12.5 gal water	
Fenvalerate (Ectrin)	Spray	10 % WDL 2 oz/12 gal water	Apply 8 oz of diluted spray per horse. Do not apply to horses intended for slaughter.
Methoxychlor	Spray or wipe-on	0.05 % Ready to use	Follow label instructions.
Permethrin (Atroban)	Spray	11 % EC 1 pt/25 gal water or 3 tbsp/2.5 gal water	Spray to thoroughly wet animal. Repeat every 10-14 days.
(Buss Off)	Wipe-on, Spray or Pour-on	7.4 % Permethrin + 7.4 % PBO	
(Ectiban)	Spray	5.7 % EC	Repeat application every 14 days.

		1 qt/25 gal water or 22 tbsp/1 gal water	
(Gardstar)	Spray	40 % EC 5-12.5 ml/2 gal water	Apply 30-60 ml per horse.
(Permethrin II)	Spray	10 % EC 2 oz/3 gal water	Spray thoroughly to wet horse. Repeat in 14-21 days.
Pyrethrins	Mist, spray or wipe-on	0.05-1.0 % Pyrethrins + Piperonyl Butoxide Many formulations of ready to use.	Follow label instructions.
Stirofos (Rabon)	Feed Additive	7.76 % ROL	Follow label directions. Horn and face fly control only.

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