



A third-pound gain per day in Safe-Guard® (*fenbendazole*) treated cattle makes a difference at market time.

Don Mays · Flying M Ranch · Ellensburg, Washington

A lifetime in the cattle business has taught Don Mays many things. But one of the most important lessons is that it takes a pro-active vaccination and deworming program to maintain a healthy herd.

Mays owns a 400 head commercial and registered Angus cow herd and also oversees a constant flow of 5,000 grazing yearlings. Most of these cattle are purchased in the northwest but each year his Flying M Ranch near Ellensburg, Washington imports 4,000 to 5,000 head from other parts of the country. A pasture rotation schedule, spot checks, systematic deworming and vaccination programs, plus conducting Fecal Egg Count Reduction Tests (FECRT) ensure Mays' cattle stay healthy.

Mays routinely gathers samples for FECRT testing, the industry protocol for parasite identification, to make certain his deworming regimen continues to be effective.

"We can tell by looking at the cattle if they have parasites, and the FECRT test is the proof we need that our deworming program works," he says.

Mays uses Safe-Guard® (*fenbendazole*) drench during vaccination times, but likes having the convenience of supplementing those doses by adding Safe-Guard to mineral receptacles in the pastures every 30 days.

"Safe-Guard has proven successful over the past 15 to 20 years. I can say our yearlings gain a third of a pound per day more with Safe-Guard," says Mays. "Also, parasite-free animals require less feed during the winter, gain more per day, graze more efficiently, and if parasite-free in the stocker phase – they consistently show enhanced performance in the feeding phase."

Keeping his eye on the cattle market, Mays knows that a third of a pound per day can make a big difference when gain is worth 40 to 60 cents per pound depending on market conditions. "The bottom line is at the end of the day you see the Safe-Guard difference when the cattle step on the scales," Mays concludes.

FECRT is the most accurate method of testing for parasite egg counts and offered at no charge by Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health. For more information on FECRT and how to determine the efficacy of a deworming program, cattlemen should contact their veterinarian, county extension agent, or call Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health at 800-441-8272.

The statements presented were provided to Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health by the producer. Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health did not contribute to or supervise any treatment mentioned in this document. When using an anthelmintic, results may vary. Consult your veterinarian for assistance in the diagnosis, treatment and control of parasitism.



Deworm with Safe-Guard® (*fenbendazole*)

Think strategically, Act decisivelySM

- Works differently than pour-on dewormers. Can be effective against worms resistant to pour-on and injectable dewormers.
- Applied directly to the cattle's gut, where the worms are. Pour-ons can be inconsistently absorbed.
- An essential part of a strategic deworming program to stop the cycle of re-infection.
- Available in convenient chute-side and feed-type formulations.
- Safe-Guard has a slaughter withdrawal of between eight and 13 days, depending on product formulation.
- Call 1.800.441.8272 or visit www.intervetusa.com.