

ANIMALS

PETS (COMPANION ANIMALS) EXTERNAL PARASITE CONTROL

Nancy Hinkle, Extension Veterinary Entomologist

Numerous external parasites infest our pets. Dogs and cats can become infested with fleas, ticks, and mange mites, and pet birds with mites and lice. Often these parasites infest our homes and yards. Control measures should focus on the infested pet and the pet's roaming area as well.

Pet owners should seek professional advice and assistance from veterinarians, professional-licensed pest control operators and UGA Cooperative Extension agents when dealing with external parasite control on pets and the home environment. This will help prevent problems when using chemicals to treat pets, as well as indoor and outdoor areas. Pets can be poisoned and even killed by insecticides improperly applied for external parasites. Rugs, carpets, and home furnishings can be damaged by the improper use of insecticides. Humans can be allergic to external parasiticides used on pets and insecticides used in the home. For these reasons, when treating pets and the home environment, always seek professional advice and adhere to instructions provided on drug and insecticide labels.

Many of the insecticides listed in this section will control or aid in control of other external dog parasites and offer temporary relief from flies. Mites are difficult to control and only those products labeled for mites can be expected to provide acceptable results. Only those insecticides that have labels specifically permitting feline treatment can be used to treat cats; exercise extreme caution when treating cats to avoid toxicity.

DOGS AND CATS – INSECTICIDES LABELED/APPROVED FOR EXTERNAL PARASITE CONTROL

PARASITE CONTROLLED	COMMON NAME BRAND NAME	FORMULATION	INDOOR	PETS	OUTDOOR
fleas, ticks	<i>allethrin</i>	Aerosol Shampoo	X	X	
fleas, mites	<i>amitraz</i> Preventic Tick Collar, Mitaban ¹	Collar Dip		X ² X ²	
fleas, ticks	<i>d-limonene</i> Flea and Tick Spray, Dip, and Shampoo	Aerosol Dip Shampoo	X	X X X	
fleas, ticks	<i>deltamethrin</i> Bayer Annihilator PolyZone	Residual Spray	X		X
fleas, ticks	<i>deltamethrin</i> Scalibor	Collar		X	
fleas, ticks	<i>deltamethrin</i>	Collar		X ²	
fleas, ticks	<i>fipronil</i> Frontline ¹	Spot-on Spray		X X	
fleas, ticks	<i>flumethrin + imidacloprid</i> Seresto	Collar		X	
fleas, ticks	<i>fluralaner</i> Bravecto	Oral Chew		X ²	
fleas	<i>imadacloprid</i> Advantage ¹	Spot-on		X	
fleas	<i>indoxacarb</i> Activyl for Cats	Spot-on		X	
fleas, ticks	<i>indoxacarb + permethrin</i> Activyl for Dogs	Spot-on		X	
mites	<i>ivermectin</i> ¹	Suspension		X	
fleas	<i>limonene</i>	Shampoo Dust	X	X X	
fleas, ticks	<i>linalool</i>	Spray Dust	X X	X	
fleas	<i>lufenuron</i> Program, Sentinel ¹	Suspension Tablet Injection	X	X X X	
fleas, ticks	<i>methoprene</i> Precor	Aerosol Spot-on Shampoo Collar Emulsifiable concentrate (Spray) Spray	X X X X X X	X X X X	

¹ Some formulations for veterinary application or prescription only. ² Treat dogs only.

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DOGS AND CATS – INSECTICIDES LABELED/APPROVED FOR EXTERNAL PARASITE CONTROL

PARASITE CONTROLLED	COMMON NAME BRAND NAME	FORMULATION	INDOOR	PETS	OUTDOOR
ear mites	<i>milbemycin oxime</i> Milbemite ¹	Suspension		X	
fleas	<i>nitenpyram</i> Capstar ¹	Tablet		X	
fleas, ticks, lice, mites	<i>permethrin</i>	Aerosol Spot-on Emulsifiable concentrate (Spray) Shampoo Spray	X X	X ² X ² X ²	
fleas, ticks	<i>phenothrin</i>	Shampoo Fogger Collar Spot-on Spray	X X	X ² X X ²	
fleas	<i>propoxur</i> Sendran	Collar		X	
fleas, ticks, lice mites	<i>pyrethrins + piperonyl butoxide</i>	Spray Shampoo Dip Emulsifiable concentrate (Spray) Dust Fogger Suspension	X X X	X X X X X	
fleas, ticks	<i>pyriproxyfen</i> Nylar	Spray Collar Shampoo Spot-on Fogger	X X	X X X	
fleas	<i>resmethrin</i>	Spray Emulsifiable concentrate (Spray) Shampoo	X	X X	
mites	<i>rotenone</i> ¹	Spray Suspension Cream		X ² X X ²	
fleas, ticks, mites	<i>selamectin</i> Revolution	Spot-on		X	
fleas	<i>spinosad + milbemycin oxime</i> Trifexis	Chewable Tablet		X	
fleas	<i>tetrachlorvinphos</i>	Collar Fogger	X	X	
fleas	<i>tetramethrin</i>	Spray	X		

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PET BIRD

PARASITE CONTROLLED	COMMON NAME BRAND NAME	FORMULATION	INDOOR	PETS	OUTDOOR
mites, lice, fleas	<i>pyrethrins + piperonyl butoxide</i> (Many Available)	Aerosol	X	X	

¹ Some formulations for veterinary application or prescription only. ² Treat dogs only.

FLEA CONTROL PRODUCTS

Nancy Hinkle, Extension Veterinary Entomologist

Adult fleas spend their entire lives on the dog or cat. As they are laid, flea eggs fall off the animal and collect in the environment (carpet or dirt). Flea larvae emerge from eggs within a couple of days and crawl around, eating their parents' feces. In about two weeks, the larva has completed its development and is ready to spin a cocoon within which it will change into an adult. Once this metamorphosis has taken place, the adult flea remains within the cocoon until it is stimulated to emerge. If a host is not present, an unemerged flea can remain within its cocoon for months, allowing a flea infestation to persist for long periods without an animal around. Cues that signal a nearby host include movement, heat, and carbon dioxide (exhaled by all mammals). Upon detecting one of these stimuli, the flea bursts from the cocoon and hops toward the host. It repeatedly flings itself against the host until its claws catch. To avoid being groomed off or knocked loose, the flea burrows into the host's coat. Adult fleas must suck blood once an hour, so they never leave the host. Once on the host, fleas live for two or three weeks.

Fleas can live on wild animals such as opossums, raccoons, foxes, skunks, etc, so it is important to discourage wild animals from visiting your yard and sharing their fleas. Do not leave pet food outside at night, and seal garbage cans to prevent attracting wildlife. Cover the openings to crawl spaces with screens, and do not allow wild animals to den under the house, in the attic, or in outbuildings.

Because flea eggs, larvae, and pupae are dispersed in the environment, they are very difficult to control. Daily vacuuming helps suppress fleas indoors. The most efficient flea control method is to treat the host (dog or cat) and kill adult fleas before they can reproduce. Pets should be treated early in the spring, before fleas become a problem, to prevent large populations becoming established in the environment. Over-the-counter products, while less expensive, do not contain the same ingredients as those obtained through veterinarians that may be more effective. Always read and follow label directions. Pesticides can sicken or kill pets and people if used incorrectly.

HOST-APPLIED FLEA PRODUCTS

COMMON NAME BRAND NAME	MANUFACTURER	FORMULATION	TREATMENT INTERVAL	PET	EFFECTIVE AGAINST
<i>indoxacarb</i> Activyl	Merck	Spot-on	Once/month	Cats	Fleas
<i>indoxacarb</i> Activyl	Merck	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Cats	Fleas
<i>indoxacarb + permethrin</i> Activyl	Merck	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks
<i>indoxacarb + permethrin</i> Activyl Tick Plus	Merck	Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas
<i>imidacloprid</i> Advantage	Bayer	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs & Cats	Fleas
<i>imidacloprid + permethrin</i> Advantix	Bayer	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks, Mosquitoes
<i>spinetoram</i> Assurity + Cheristin	Elanco	Spot-on	Once/month	Cats	Fleas
<i>etofenprox + methoprene</i> BioSpot Flea and Tick Spray	Farnum	Spray	Twice/month	Dogs & Cats	Fleas, Ticks
<i>fluralaner</i> Bravecto	Merck	Oral Chew	Once/3 months	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks
<i>nitenpyram</i> Capstar	Novartis	Tablets	Once/day	Dogs & Cats	Fleas
<i>fipronil + amitraz + methoprene</i> Certifect	Merial	Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks, Sarcoptes Mites
<i>spinosad</i> Comfortis	Elanco	Tablet	Once/month	Dogs & Cats	Fleas
<i>spinosad</i> Comfortis	Lilly	Tablet	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas
<i>fipronil</i> Frontline	Merial	Topical Spot-on Spray	Once/month Once/month	Dogs & Cats Dogs & Cats	Fleas, Ticks Fleas, Ticks
<i>amitraz</i> Preventic Collar	Virbac	Collar	Replace every 3 months	Dogs	Ticks
<i>lufenuron</i> Program	Novartis	Tablets Liquid Injectable	Once/month Once/month Once/month	Dogs & Cats Cats Cats	Fleas (immatures)
<i>selamectin</i> Revolution	Pfizer	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs & Cats	Fleas, Ear Mites, Heartworm, Intestinal Worms

FLEA CONTROL PRODUCTS

COMMON NAME BRAND NAME	MANUFACTURER	FORMULATION	TREATMENT INTERVAL	PET	EFFECTIVE AGAINST
<i>fipronil + methoprene</i> Pronyl	Sargeant's	Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks, Lice
<i>deltamethrin</i> Scalibor	Merck	Collar	Once/6 months	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks
<i>milbemycin + oxime + lufenuron</i> Sentinel	Novartis	Tablets	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas (immatures), Heartworm, Intestinal Worms
<i>flumethrin + imidacloprid</i> Seresto	Bayer	Collar	Once/8 months	Cats	Fleas, Ticks
<i>flumethrin + imidacloprid</i> Seresto	Bayer	Collar	Once/8 months	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks
<i>spinosad + milbemycin oxime</i> Trifexis	Elanco/Lily	Chewable Tablet	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas
<i>dinotefuran + permethrin + pyriproxyfen</i> Vectra 3D	Summit VetPharm	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Dogs	Fleas, Ticks, Mosquitoes
<i>dinotefuran + pyriproxyfen</i> Vectra	Summit VetPharm	Topical Spot-on	Once/month	Cats	Fleas

HONEY BEE DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL

Keith S. Delaplane, Extension Entomologist

PEST	MATERIAL AND FORMULATION	RATE	REMARKS AND PRECAUTIONS
American foulbrood (AFB)	<i>oxytetracycline hydrochloride</i> Terramycin Tetra Bee Mix (Dadant & Sons) Terra-Pro (Mann Lake Ltd.) Terramycin Pre Mix (Brushy Mountain)	Oxytetracycline is available for beekeeping use in several pre-formulated products. Use only according to label directions.	Antibiotics are strictly for preventing disease. Treat in February and September and never within 4 weeks of a marketable nectar flow. Diseased colonies must be burned. Dig a pit and burn all bees, combs and frames. Bottom boards, supers, and lids can be salvaged by scorching their interiors. With medicated extender patties, remove all uneaten portions after 4 weeks of treatment and never treat within 4 weeks of a marketable nectar flow. The use of genetically AFB-resistant queens expressing hygienic behavior can reduce or eliminate the need for antibiotic treatments.
	<i>tylosin</i> Tylan	Honey bee colonies should receive 3 applications of tylosin administered as a dust in confectioners/powdered sugar. Mix 200 mg tylosin in 20 g confectioners/powdered sugar. The 200 mg dose is applied (dusted) over the top bars of the brood chamber. Apply 3 single doses, each one week apart. For use in limited amounts, mix 1 Tbsp with 2 boxes (1.93 lbs) of powdered sugar. This will provide treatment for 44 colonies with single doses, or 15 colonies with 3 doses (for a complete treatment).	
Chalkbrood	None		Keep hives well-ventilated. Prop lid slightly to exhaust warm, damp air. Lean hive forward to drain rain water from interior. Use hygienic selected bee stock.
European foulbrood (EFB)	<i>oxytetracycline</i> Terramycin <i>tylosin</i> Tylan	Same as for American foulbrood.	These drugs are for preventing and treating disease. Treat in February and September and never within 4 weeks of a marketable nectar flow. Help infected colonies by adding unsealed brood and feeding 1:1 sugar syrup. Use hygienic-selected bee stock.
Nosema	<i>fumagilin B</i>	Dissolve 1 teaspoon of Fumagilin B in 1.1 gal of sugar syrup.	Feed medicated syrup in spring and fall and never immediately before a marketable nectar flow. Keep hives well-ventilated. Prop lid slightly to exhaust warm, damp air. Lean hive forward to drain rain water from interior.
Small hive beetles	For treatment inside colonies: Adult beetles can be trapped and drowned in vegetable oil with any of the numerous in-hive adult beetle traps available by bee suppliers.		
	<i>permethrin</i> GardStar 40% EC	For treatment outside colonies: Mix 5 millimeters GardStar concentrate with 1 gallon water. Thoroughly wet ground in an area 18-24 inches wide in front of each hive (1 gal/6 hives).	Product is designed to kill immature beetles when they leave hive in order to pupate in the soil. Product is highly toxic to bees. Avoid direct spray onto hive surfaces. Apply in late evening after bees become inactive. For pre-placement cleanup of new apiary site, apply thoroughly to ground surface 24-48 hours prior to hive placement.
	<i>Heterohabditis indica</i> Predatory soil nematodes (Southeastern Insectaries, Perry, GA)	For treatment outside colonies: Mix 1 million infective juveniles in 2 gallons water per colony. Strain out gelatin globules and trickle solution on ground in front of hive. Treat ground under hive if screen bottoms are used.	Management: Predatory nematodes have been shown to effectively kill SHB pupae in soil in front of hives.

HONEY BEE DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL

PEST	MATERIAL AND FORMULATION	RATE	REMARKS AND PRECAUTIONS
Tracheal mites	menthol	one 1.8 oz packet per colony	Do not use on hives containing marketable honey. Enclose 1.8 oz menthol in a 7-inch square plastic (or other porous) screen packet. Treat colonies in fall and early spring and only when daytime highs range from 60°-90°F. If daytime high is > 80°F, place packet on bottom board. If daytime high is 60°-79°F, place packet on top bars. Replace menthol as needed. Remove all menthol 10-12 weeks after first treatment and at least 1 month before nectar flows. Vegetable oil in the medicated extender patty described below helps control AFB, EFB and tracheal mites.
	oil patties	Mix patties with 2 parts sugar and 1 part vegetable cooking shortening. Each patty should be 0.5 lb.	Place oil patty on top bars of brood frames. Treatments applied February through April are most effective.
Varroa mites	Treatable threshold for varroa mite is 60-180 mites recovered in one 24-hour exposure with a bottom board sticky sheet, without use of miticide.		
	<i>fluvalinate</i> Apistan	1 strip for each 5 combs of bees in each brood chamber	Do not use on hives containing marketable honey. Hang one strip between frames 3 and 4, and another strip between frames 7 and 8. Leave strips in hive for 42-56 days. Apistan treatments are usually most effective when used in early fall. Supplement Apistan with Terramycin treatments as described above for AFB.
	<i>coumaphos</i> CheckMite+ Strip	1 strip for each 5 combs of bees in each brood chamber	Remove honey supers before application of CheckMite+ Strips and do not replace until 14 days after the strips are removed. Hang the strips within two combs of the edge of the bee cluster. If two deep supers are used for the brood nest, hang CheckMite+ Strips in alternate corners of the cluster, in the top and bottom super. Treat all infested colonies within yard. The treatment is most effective when brood rearing is lowest. Do not treat when surplus honey is being produced. Leave the strips in the hive for at least 42 days (six weeks), but do not leave strips in hive for more than 45 days. Do not treat more than twice a year for varroa mites.
	Apiguard	1 tray per colony, repeated after 2 weeks	<p>Open the hive. Peel back the foil lid of the Apiguard tray leaving one corner of the lid attached to the tray. Place the open tray centrally on top of the brood frames, gel side up. Ensure that there is a free space of at least 0.5-inch between the top of the tray and the hive cover board, for example, by placing an empty super on top of the brood box. Close the hive. After two weeks replace the first tray with a new one, according to the same instruction. Leave the product in the colony until the tray is empty. Remove the product when installing the supers on the colony.</p> <p>The efficacy of Apiguard is maximized if the product is used in late summer after the honey harvest (when the amount of the brood present is diminishing). However, in the case of severe infestations, Apiguard can also be used during springtime, when temperatures are above 60° F. Efficacy will vary between colonies due to the nature of the application. Therefore, Apiguard should be used as one treatment among others within an Integrated Pest Management program, and mite fall regularly monitored. If further significant mite fall is observed during the following winter or spring, use an additional secondary winter or spring treatment for varroa.</p>

HONEY BEE DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL

PEST	MATERIAL AND FORMULATION	RATE	REMARKS AND PRECAUTIONS
<p>Varroa mites <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>ApiLife VAR</p>	<p>1 treatment consists of 3 wafers over 2-32 days</p>	<p>ApiLife VAR: Applications can be made in any season (spring, summer, fall, winter) in which all applicable restrictions, precautions and directions for use can be followed. Do not use when surplus honey supers are in place. Use when average daily temperatures are between 59°-69°F. Do not use ApiLife VAR at temperatures above 90°F.</p> <p>Two treatments per year may be made. A treatment (3 tablets) consists of the following:</p> <p>Take one tablet and break into four equal pieces. Place pieces on the top corners of the hive body. Avoid placing pieces directly above the brood nest. After 7-10 days, replace with a fresh tablet broken in to pieces as above. Repeat procedure again 7-10 days later and leave last tablet for 12 days. After 12 days, remove residuals from the colony.</p> <p>To prevent the bees from gnawing the tablet either enclose each piece of tablet in an envelope of screen wire (8 mesh/inch) or place the uncovered pieces above a sheet of metal screen that prevents bees from contacting it.</p> <p>Remove ApiLife VAR tablets from hive at least 1 month (30 days) prior to harvesting the honey.</p>
	<p>Mite-Away Quick Strips</p>	<p>2 strips</p>	<p>Optimal treatment season is spring or fall corresponding to optimal temperature windows described below. Outside daytime temperature highs should be between 50°-92°F. Temperatures > 95°F during the first three days of treatment can cause excessive brood mortality and absconding. Remove strips from pouch. For hives with single brood chambers lay two strips across the top bars of the frames of the brood chambers, staggering them so they lay flat and across the full width of the hive body, with approximately 2 inches between strips and 4 inches between the ends of the brood chamber and the outer edges of the strips. For hives with two brood chambers place the strips as described above on the frame top bars of the lower hive body, so the strips are in-between the brood chambers. Put on honey supers if a honey flow is anticipated. The active ingredient dissipates after 3 days; however, do not disturb the colony for 7 days to allow it to recover from manipulation. Spent strips need not be removed after use.</p>
<p>Wax moths</p>	<p>PDB crystals</p>	<p>Stack stored supers, cover stack and make air-tight with newspaper or duct tape. At intervals equal to the height of 5 deep supers or 10 shallow supers, insert 6 tablespoons of PDB. Put crystals on a small piece of cardboard placed on top bars of frames. Replace crystals as they evaporate. Air-out supers before using on live bee hives.</p>	<p>Wax moths are secondary scavengers. Wax moths in living colonies indicate an underlying problem. Check for queenlessness, disease, or mites. Protect stored combs by: (1) storing them on top of strong colonies, (2) freezing combs and supers, then stacking them and taping shut all cracks to exclude moths, (3) stacking combs so they are constantly exposed to air and daylight, (4) operating an electronic “bug zapper” in the super storage room to kill adult moths, (5) using PDB crystals.</p>