

eclipse®



COMBINATION POUR-ON FOR CATTLE



Jim, Julia, Richard and Peter Young

PROPERTY:

Walcha, NSW

MAIN FARMING ACTIVITIES:

Angus Cattle and Prime Lamb Production

SIZE OF THE ENTERPRISE:

3,800 Hectares

NUMBER OF CATTLE:

1,600



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Some cattle producers in the Walcha district may be suffering significant production losses at the very time they can least afford it.

Walcha farmer Jim Young is prepared to go on the record in the interests of warning others who may be unaware that the drenches they've been using may no longer be offering the protection they used to.

"We drenched a mob of 1,600 or so steer weaner cattle earlier this year in the usual way, but they just didn't do any good over the 3 or 4 months between it being time to do them again. I couldn't put an exact figure on it, but I'd say each one might have been down 30 or 40 kilos on where they should have been. Whether it was seasonal, or a drench problem, I couldn't tell," Jim explains.

Situated on 3,800 hectares of land in a high rainfall area near Walcha, the Glen Collin Pastoral Company typically comprises several thousand mostly Angus cattle, and a further third of the operation focussed on prime lamb production. As such, Jim, his wife Julia and sons Richard and Peter are certainly no strangers to the perennial problem of worms.

However, having only just drenched using a product that had always appeared to work well in the past, Jim was puzzled and took his concerns to his local agent. This resulted in an immediate trial of different drenches being conducted on groups of Jim's weaner steers.

"We tested them after administering the drenches to see how the chemicals were working, and it showed very clearly that we had a

significant resistance problem to the straight single-active pour-on we'd been using. While it was good at killing some worms, others had built up a resistance to it and the problem was costing us dearly across that entire herd of about 1,600 cattle," Jim says.

We arranged to give one of the weaner trial groups the new combination drench – ECLIPSE, with abamectin and levamisole.

"ECLIPSE killed the full spectrum of worms present so we quickly went ahead and treated the entire herd and it's shown excellent results. It's as easy, or easier to use than anything I've tried. We'll certainly use ECLIPSE from now on because, even though it's marginally dearer to buy, the dearest drench is the one that doesn't work," Jim points out.

With the drench resistance episode now well behind him, Jim and the Glen Collins Pastoral Company team are now squarely focussed on supplying their premium 18 to 20 month old Angus beef cattle and tender lamb to Woolworths and other top buyers.

"I was well aware of the parasite drench resistance in sheep but not so much in cattle. It's well established in sheep but with cattle it's much more insidious. You suffer production loss gradually and it's not evident until they get to a critical point, by which time you've lost a lot of money though reduced weight gain. If you're currently using a single-active drench it's definitely worth getting some tests done," Jim concludes.

