

Steps to managing facial eczema using zinc

Making the decision to start programme

1. Monitor regional spore counts

When regional spore counts trend upwards to reach 20,000 spores/g pasture continue to Step 2.



2. Monitor farm spore counts

Choose 4 paddocks that are representative of the farm (e.g. flat/ hill, east/west, north/south, new/old pasture)

When spore counts on these paddock trend upwards to reach 30,000 spores/g pasture or more continue to Step 3.



3. Weigh a selection of cattle

A representative sample of at least 20 cows from each of the mobs to be treated to work out average and range of weights to calculate the dose of zinc required.



4. Dose cows with zinc at full rates

Refer to the product choice and individual protocols attached for details of different treatment options.



5. Check your management program is working

Select 10 cows to test for serum zinc and GGT 3-6 weeks after programme has started.



6. Monitor regional spore counts

When spore counts start to trend down to reach 30,000 spore/g pasture go to Step 7.



7. Monitor farm spore counts

When farm spore counts are consistently at 10,000 or less for three weeks and this is accompanied by cooler temperatures, you can stop your management programme.

Start again if the weather becomes suitable again for facial eczema.

Setting the correct dose rates

Is my programme working?

Making the decision to end programme