## Fact sheet 4. Drench and drench resistance

## wormwise

national worm management strategy

## Drench resistance is common, is increasing in all drench families (and combinations) and poses a real risk to the viability of livestock farming.

The balance of reducing the risk of drench resistance while still managing worms so production and animal welfare do not suffer, involves compromise.





The risk of drench resistance development can be evaluated and steps taken to minimise it:

- The concept of refugia refers to a worm population not exposed to drenching.
- Using undrenched animals of the same species to create refugia will ensure there are still non-resistant worms around and this can be a useful tool in delaying resistance.
- Knowing what drenches are effective on your farm is essential; poor efficacy means lost productivity.
- Continued use of a drench that is losing its efficacy carries a high risk of accelerating drench resistance development.
- Combination drenches likely provide higher efficacy and help delay anthelmintic resistance.



Drenching should be just one small part of a parasite management plan.

How resistant worms become dominant