

December 2023

## (Label and Off Label) Treatments for Bush Ticks in Beef Cattle

\*Note: There are very few acaricides (chemicals that destroy ticks) on the market with a label claim for bush tick. Those with a label claim for bush tick have been indicated in this guide where appropriate. Most of the commercially available tick products were developed for cattle tick. This means for bush tick control, acaricides are routinely used “off label” to reduce bush tick infestations. Off label means that the tick product is not actually registered to treat bush tick. This means you are using these products at your own risk in terms of treatment and efficacy against other tick species. Be aware that some tick acaricides also contain active ingredients (e.g. macrocyclic lactones or “mectins”) for worm control which may contribute to resistance to internal parasites. Consult your Local Land Services veterinarian or local veterinarian if you have any concerns regarding your internal or external parasite control program.

Chemical Class	Brand Name (Manufacturer)	Active Ingredients	Method	WHP	Label Claim
Synthetic Pyrethroid (SPs)	Bayticol™ Cattle Dip & Spray (Elanco)	Flumethrin	Dip or Spray	Meat: 0 days; Milk: 0 days; ESI: 0 days	Knock down; label claim for bush tick; treat at intervals of 10 days
Synthetic Pyrethroid (SPs)	Tixaflly® Cattle Dip & Spray (Coopers)	Deltamethrin & Ethion	Dip or Spray	Meat: 0 days; Milk: DO not use in lactating dairy cattle; ESI: 21 days	Knock down; label claim for bush tick; treat at intervals of 7 to 10 days
Synthetic Pyrethroid (SPs)	PYthon Insecticidal Ear Tags for Cattle (Y-TeX®)	Zeta-cypermethrin & Piperonyl Butoxide	Ear tag	Meat: 0 days; Milk: 0 days; ESI: 0 days	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for buffalo flies, lice, and paralysis tick). Aids in control of paralysis tick on suckling beef and dairy calves for up to 42 days after treatment. For buffalo fly and paralysis tick control, two tags should be applied per animal (one tag in each ear). For effective control, both cow and calf should be treated.

<b>Amitraz — Emulsifier Concentrate</b>	Amitik® EC Cattle and Pig Spray (Coopers)	Amitraz	Dip or Spray	Meat: 0 days; Milk: 0 days; ESI: 0 days	Knock down; label claim for bush tick; treat at intervals of 7 to 21 days
<b>Amitraz — Wettable Powder</b>	Amitik® WP Cattle Dip and Spray (Coopers) Exitraz WP Cattle Dip and Spray (Hunter River Co)	Amitraz	Dip or Spray	Meat: 0 days; Milk: 0 days; ESI: 0 days	Knock down; label claim for bush tick; treat at intervals of 7 to 21 days
<b>Organophosphates (OPs)</b>	Barricade® 'S' Cattle Dip and Spray (Zoetis)	Chlorfenvinphos & Cypermethrin	Dip or Spray	Meat: 8 days; Milk: DO not use in lactating cows or within 42 days of calving, where milk or milk products may be used for human consumption; ESI: 21 days	Knock down; label claim for bush tick; treat at intervals of 14 days
<b>Insect Growth Regulator (IGR) — inhibits tick development</b>	Oztik Pour-On Tick Inhibitor for Cattle (Jurox) Tick Off Pour-On (Independents Own) Similar brands available.	Fluazuron	Pour-On	Meat: 42 days; Calves which have suckled on treated cows must not be slaughtered less than 4 months after the last treatment of these cows. Milk: Do not use on cattle which are producing or may in the future produce milk for human consumption; ESI 42 days	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.) Kills ticks progressively. Starts working within 3 days. May take 2 to 3 weeks to be visibly free of ticks. No additional treatment necessary during that time, even on heavily infested animals. No need to treat calves as long as they suckle treated cows.
<b>Insect Growth Regulator (IGR) — inhibits tick development</b>	Acatak™ Duostar (Elanco) Tick Off Duo (Independents Own) Similar brands available.	Fluazuron & Ivermectin	Pour-On	Meat: 28 days; Calves which have suckled on treated cows must not be slaughtered less than 4 months after the last treatment of cows. Milk: Do not use on cattle which are producing or may in the future produce milk for	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.) Knock down. Retreat when you first see ticks but not before at least 6 weeks after the previous treatment. No need to treat calves as long as they suckle treated cows.

				human consumption; ESI: 42 days	
<b>Macrocyclic Lactones (MLs, mectins)</b>	Cydectin® Pour On (Virbac) Similar brands available.	Moxidectin	Pour-On	Meat: 0 days; Milk: 0 days; ESI: 0 days	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.) Knock down. Persistent activity. For strategic (cattle tick) programs, treatment at 21 day intervals is recommended.
	Cydectin® Injection for Cattle (Virbac) Similar brands available.	Moxidectin	Injection	Meat: 14 days; Milk: Do not use in lactating cows or within 60 days of calving where milk may be used or processed for human consumption. ESI: 28 days (single treatment) or 40 days (multiple treatments)	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.) Knock down. Persistent activity. For strategic (cattle tick) programs, treatment at 28 intervals is recommended.
<b>Macrocyclic Lactones (MLs, mectins)</b>	Dectomax® Pour On (Zoetis) Similar brands available.	Doramectin	Pour-On	Meat: 42 days; Milk: 0 days; ESI: 42 days	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.) Knock down. Persistent action.
<b>Macrocyclic Lactones (MLs, mectins)</b>	Dectomax® Injectable Similar brands available.	Doramectin	Injectable	Meat: 42 days; Milk: Do not use during lactation or less than 60 days before calving when milk or milk products are to be used for human consumption or processing. ESI: 42 days	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.) Persistent activity. Do not use within 28 days (4 weeks) of a previous treatment.

<b>Macrocyclic Lactones (MLs, mectins)</b>	Numerous brands available.	Abamectin	Pour-On, Injectable	See label.	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.)
<b>Macrocyclic Lactones (MLs, mectins)</b>	Numerous brands available.	Ivermectin	Pour-On, Injectable	See label.	No label claim for bush tick. (Label claim is for cattle tick.)

\*Note: This table is a guide only and does not include all trade names and/or all available registered tick products. This guide reflects the commonly available products for bush ticks and cattle ticks. Always check the active ingredients and consult the full label on the chemical container for further info. For information and guidance, consult your Local Land Services veterinarian, local veterinarian or chemical manufacturer supplier.

*Written by South East Local Land Services District Veterinarian Evelyn Walker.*

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