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STUDY OF THE EFFICACY OF DORAMECTIN IN BOVINE TICKS (*Rhipicephalus microplus*) COMPARED TO OTHER COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS

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The cattle tick *Rhipicephalus microplus*, is responsible for huge economic losses on livestock, resulting among other causes, in lower milk production, decrease in weight gain, leather injuries and retarded growth. The objective of the present study was to determine, by field study, Trucid® (doramectin 1% formulation) efficacy against its main competitors in cattle naturally infested with *Rhipicephalus microplus*, in a farm with a historical resistance to avermectins formulations.

A total of 60 male and female Holstein breed animals, weighing more than 120 kg, with good body condition, were allocated to 6 treatment groups, each one was composed of 10 animals. During the study, animals were kept on the pasture. The randomization considered the average counting on days D-3, D-2 and D-1. After the randomizations (on day D0), groups of 10 animals were formed: 10 animals in Trucid® group, 10 animals in 1% ivermectin group, 10 animals in doramectin 1% (product A) group, 10 animals in doramectin 1% (product B) group, 10 animals in high concentration ivermectin group and 10 animals in control group. For this study all product label recommendations were followed to compare products. The efficacy of each product was evaluated by counting all female ticks between 4.5mm and 8.0mm in length, present on the left side of each bovine on days 5, 9, 11, 13, 15, 20 and 30 after treatment. The counts were performed by the same technician and always at the same time of day.

The efficacy on the same period for all groups receiving the products Trucid®, ivermectin 1%, doramectin 1% (A), doramectin 1% (B), high concentration ivermectin and control group was 61.6%, 38.2%; 57.6%, 48.6%, 44.6% and 49.4% respectively.

Trucid® showed greater tickcide efficacy when compared to its main competitors, demonstrating the product action against ticks and greater action in comparison to the other groups.

Keywords: Cattle, Ivermectin, tickcide, holstein, parasites