Garlic: Anti-parasitic Herb and Immune Builder

Use: Organic Anti-parasitic Herb/Immune Builder
Garlic is a very important plant due to its medicinal and culinary features. This plant belonging to the onion family was developed in central Asia over 600 years ago. In addition, due to its diverse nature, garlic is now widely used in many countries to improve both human and animal health.

Garlic is accessible all year round as unique ways have been found to prolong its shelf-life. No longer is garlic only available in the single bulb form but is now processed in the powdered, flakes, oil, chopped and pureed forms.

Benefits of Garlic

- Numerous cultures have alluded to the superb health benefits of garlic. These health benefits include, but are not limited to, anti-parasitic effects, improved respiratory problems, improved digestion and increased energy production.
- Research has shown that garlic contains many active ingredients that protect against the effects of fungal infections especially in farm animals and parasites prevention. Garlic does this by detoxifying microbial toxin, killing or eliminating microbes due to its strong anti-microbial properties.
- When garlic cloves are crushed or cut in to small pieces this activates allicin, one of the active ingredients that work against the activities of parasitic organisms in the gastrointestinal tract of animals and humans.
- Garlic is especially effective against roundworms, fleas and ticks and also provides strong support for the immune system.
- Research shows that a sheep farmer in Idaho has been using garlic since 1992 along with other practices to restrain the influence of internal parasites, as well as to boost the overall health status of his animals. This practice has shown excellent results.
The animal fecal matter has shown zero or very low worm counts based on tests done by his veterinarian.

- Additionally, garlic is also used as an insect repellent due to its pungent smell.

**Packaging/Storage of Garlic**
Garlic can be packaged as dehydrated granules in a re-sealable pouch (4.4 lbs. or 2kg)

**Safety** - Continuous contact with the skin may lead to a slight irritation. Therefore, thorough washing of hands after handling garlic is always a good practice. In addition, if garlic comes in contact with the eyes use plenty of water to wash properly.

**Directions for Livestock Use**

- **Cattle:** 1-2 oz. or 30-50 g/day (1 oz./1,000 lbs. or 28 g/453 kg of animal weight).
- **Horses:** 1-2 oz. or 30-50 g/day (1 oz./1,000 lbs. or 28 g/453 kg of animal weight).
- **Sheep and Goats:** half a teaspoon/day for four to five days. Repeat every three to four weeks or use 0.5 oz. or 14 g garlic granules, 0.5 oz. garlic with 15 mL molasses, and add 15-30 mL water to thin mixture.
  - For lactating cattle administer garlic during the milking process or right after to avoid the taste of garlic in the milk
  - If you choose to administer in the ration ensure that it is damp so the flakes of the ration becomes adhesive thus sticking to the garlic granules.
  - Garlic should not be given all at once, and it must be introduced on a gradual basis until the full dosage can be administered.
  - It is recommended that farmers worm livestock five times per year prior to the start of the breeding and lambing seasons and also in middle and late summer.

**Conclusion**
Garlic is used extensively due to its antioxidant, antibacterial and anti-worm properties. Garlic exhibits a broad antibiotic spectrum against viral, fungal and parasitic infections and is more effective than most anti-parasitic drugs on the market today based on its broad mode of action against intestinal parasites. Garlic is also very active against organisms that have developed resistance to antibiotics thus the combination of garlic and garlic extracts with antibiotics has led to partial or total synergism. In addition, garlic is a very economical way for small farmers to keep their internal parasite load in check.