Control Flies with Kay Dee
Altosid® IGR Products

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What are Horn Flies?

- The adult horn fly is a biting insect that lives for 2-4 weeks and takes 20-30 blood meals a day.
- Horn flies have piercing, sucking mouth parts that irritate, stress, and infect cattle.
- Flies lay their eggs in fresh cattle manure and cling to the body of their host for most of their life.

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Damage to cattle herd

- Abundance of horn flies on cattle lead to
  - Stress
    - Decreased grazing, reducing gains in calves
    - Congregating cattle, increasing instances of foot rot
    - Elevated heart rate
  - Hide damage, reducing salvage value
  - *Staphylococcus Aureus*, a major cause of mastitis
    - Infected quarters mean less milk, lighter calves at weaning

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Horn Flies Cost to Producers

• Economic loss of nearly $1 billion each year because of horn flies reported by the USDA

• Horn flies can cause 15-50lbs of weight loss per head during the summer months
  – At $1.61 per pound average, a 30lb weight loss would result in a $48.30 average loss per head

• Reduced nitrogen retention, decreasing performance in cattle herds

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Fly Control

• Controlling the population of horn flies is critical for proper herd management
• The economical threshold for cattle is 200 flies per head
  – An infestation of over 200 horn flies per head will begin to negatively impact animal performance, reducing profits
  – Without any control, populations can quickly rise to levels as high as 4,000-5,000 flies per head
• Eradication is impossible but measures need to be taken to keep fly populations low
• Using the picture, fly numbers can be estimated by observing cattle early and late in the day

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Altosid® IGR is an insect growth regulator that breaks the life cycle of the horn fly

- Cattle consume Altosid® IGR with their mineral program and pass it through in manure
- Horn flies hatch and develop in manure patties, the IGR prevents them from further developing
- By stopping development of flies when they are in the pupa stage, IGR effectively controls fly populations

**Diagram:**
- Adult horn flies live 2 to 4 weeks, taking 20 to 30 blood meals per day.
- In 1 to 2 days, eggs hatch into larvae. After 3 to 5 days, the larvae molt into pupae.
- Female flies leave the animal for a few seconds to lay eggs in fresh manure less than five minutes old.
- Altosid breaks the life cycle here, preventing pupae from molting into adults.
- Altosid is ingested with cattle’s mineral or feed. As they graze, cattle disperse IGR via their manure.

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Unlike other insecticides, IGR passes through the animal and does its work in the manure.

IGR will not wash out of the manure and decomposes naturally with no effect on soils or plants.

IGR affects only the horn fly - will not harm beneficial insects.

IGR is not harmful to warm blooded animals and has no withdrawal for meat or milk.
Kay Dee Granular Mineral products with Altosid® IGR

- Start a fly control program by simply adding these products with Altosid® IGR to your mineral program and get season long protection from horn flies.
- Summer Mineral with CTC/IGR
- Super Ranger Kaydets 8.2 with CTC & Altosid® IGR
- Super Ranger Kaydets 6.0 with Altosid® IGR

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Summer Mineral Program

• Since flies don’t hatch everywhere at the same time, it is important for producers to know when they need to start supplementing Altosid® IGR in their mineral program.

• The map to the right indicates the appropriate dates to start supplementation.
Keep your herd, fly and stress free this summer by using Kay Dee Products with Altosid® IGR.

Contact your local dealer by using the dealer locator on our website or call Kay Dee Feed Company at 605-217-2072 to talk with your regional sales manager

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