



## **ABOUT**

Tapeworms (cestodes) are segmented intestinal worms that are flat, ribbon-shaped, and segmented. They're prevalent in the intestines of backyard or free-range chickens all throughout the world. Tapeworms are found in over 4,000 distinct species and harm a wide range of animals. Chickens can be infected by a variety of tapeworm species, the most frequent of which are *Davainea proglottina*, *Raillietina echinobothrida*, *R. tetragona*, and *R. cesticillus*. Unlike roundworms, which live freely in the chicken's digestive system, tapeworms use their hook-like mouthparts to anchor themselves to the small intestine wall. Tapeworms are further distinguished from roundworms by the way their bodies develop, which is in segments. Although most tapeworms do not cause physical damage to the intestinal wall, they nonetheless harm the bird's health by depriving it of all nutrients, resulting in stunted growth/weight loss, nutritional deficiencies, and an increased risk of infection or sickness.

## **SIGNS**

- **Emaciation**
- **Weakness**
- **Stunted growth**
- **Weight loss despite a good appetite**
- **Torticollis (wry neck)**
- **Paralysis**
- **Dull feathersLethargy**

- Rice-like grains in feces (tapeworm segments)

## **TREATMENT**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<b>Praziquantel</b>	7.5 mg/kg SC, IM, repeat in 2-4 weeks.	
<b>Albendazole (Valbazen)</b>	Albendazole is a benzimidazole anthelmintic which is used off-label in poultry. The drug is given to each bird orally. Measure out ¼ mL (per bantam) or ½ mL (per regular-sized breed). Repeat in 2 weeks.	G Damerow
<b>Safeguard 10% Liquid Dewormer for Goats</b>	Fenbendazole is used off-label in poultry. Add to the flock's drinking water source at a rate of 3 mL per gallon of water for 3 days. Repeat in 10 days.	G Damerow
<b>Panacur or Safeguard Equine Dewormer 25 g Paste 10%</b>	Fenbendazole is used off-label in poultry. Given individually to each chicken orally, squeezed out in a pea-size portion and placed inside their mouth. Repeat in 10 days.	G Damerow