



## Wellcome Film Project

### **Paste Dosing**

**Wellcome Trust, c.1955.**

**Presented by Cooper McDougall & Robertson Ltd.**

**A Cinechrome Film.**

**Colour**

**Duration: 00:11:37:15**

**00:00:00:00**

**<Opening credits>**

**<Shots of a country field with cattle sounds, a farmer and a dog>**

**<Unspecified narrator over above scene>**

For many years, medicaments to sheep and other livestock by means of drenching has remained basically unchanged. Certainly the equipment used has been subject to refinement from the days of the early drenching bottle but the technique has remained essentially the same.

**<Narrator over various shots of farmer treating sheep>**

There are however certain disadvantages associated with the administration of a liquid drench in this way, such as the risk of damage to the animal's throat, the possibility of inhalation pneumonia, the fact that the size of dose administered by the drenching gun is not easily varied from one animal to the next, and the necessity for thorough cleaning of the equipment at the end of the operation.

During the past few years, an entirely new method of dosing has become available – paste dosing; the administration of accurately measured doses of active ingredient

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dispersed in a paste of the correct consistency. These pastes are supplied in cartridges from which the appropriate dose is administered by means of a special dosing pistol called the Varidoser. The size of dose is easily controlled and may be selected according to the body weight of the animal being treated. The correct dose of paste is simply placed in the animal's mouth and is quickly swallowed. The simplicity of the method makes for rapid and easy dosing. Furthermore, the Varidoser requires no lubrication or maintenance whatsoever, apart from a wipe with a cloth.

### <Narrator over shots of Varidoser>

The way in which the paste is made is extremely important in that it must be sufficiently fluid to allow easy administration and yet of such a consistency that it cannot be rejected and will not run out of the animal's mouth when given.

### <Narrator over shots of farmer using Varidoser>

It can be seen that a dose placed upon the tongue or in the cheek of an animal is rapidly swallowed without wastage. There is therefore no fear of accidental under dosage.

### <Narrator over various close up shots of demonstration of Varidoser>

The way in which the Varidoser works can be seen in this cut away gun and cartridge. The trigger is held depressed while the cartridge is loaded by screwing it into the barrel and the paste just appears at the nozzle, indicating that the piston of the cartridge is in contact with the push rod of the gun. The trigger is released and the cartridge is rotated to measure the required dose. Thus the position of the cartridge predetermines the amount of the dose to be given by means of the push rod which has a fixed range of movement. Because of the precise machining of the gun, the measurement of the dose is made with great accuracy.

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The cartridge is protected by two caps, in the larger, the instructions for reference if necessary. The Varidoser is loaded by removing the two caps on the cartridge and then, with the trigger depressed, screwing the cartridge into the Varidoser until paste just appears at the nozzle, and the edge of one sector or stripe on the label is opposite the notch on the barrel. The trigger is then released. The size of dose is selected by turning the cartridge until the number of sectors required has passed the datum mark. Administration is effected by a single squeeze of the trigger.

When the cartridge is nearing the last dose, it will be well into the barrel but the label and thus the sector stripes can still be seen through the hole in the barrel, near the datum mark. When exhausted, the empty cartridge is simply removed by unscrewing the barrel of the gun and screwing the spent cartridge clear of the last few threads. A partly used cartridge may be removed by unscrewing it from the barrel and recapping it for use at a later date – there's therefore no unnecessary wastage of active material.

**00:05:18:00**

**<Narrator over various shots of countryside and cattle; detailed shots of farmers using the Varidoser on their sheep>**

Paste dosing is essentially easy. The size of dose can readily be selected, there's no cumbersome equipment to be used and the system can be seen to be both rapid and effective. The change from one particular form of paste to another can be done quickly and simply, there being no necessity to clean or adjust the equipment. Most users of the paste dosing system soon attain a degree of proficiency which allows a very rapid working without loss of accuracy or safety.

Whatever the size of the farm, whatever the system of husbandry practised, paste dosing provides considerable advantages. Whilst the farmer may have his own particular method of handling animals, paste dosing provides simplicity and ease of use.

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### <Narrator over farmers using Varidoser on cows and pigs>

Already extensively used for sheep, paste dosing is proving useful for other classes of livestock such as cattle and pigs.

### <Narrator over display of paste formulations, then a farmer buying the product from a local pharmacy then using it on his sheep>

A full range of paste formulations is available. These include Loxon Plus Paste for the worming of lambs and ewes. Frantin Paste for the worming of the unweaned lamb and Coopaphene for the control of fluke.

Pastes are handy in use, a single cartridge of Loxon Plus Paste is sufficient to dose up to 80 lambs or 26 adult sheep. No mixing is required and the gun and cartridge are ready for use in less than 60 seconds, whether you need to dose 1 sheep or 100.

Simple, safe, easy to use and providing variable accurate dosing, the paste system offers considerable advantages over existing methods. Paste dosing is here to stay.

### <End credits>

*<in addition to those given at the beginning>*

Thanks to The Farmers and Agents for the assistance so readily given during the production of this film.