

TREATMENT FOR LUNGWORMS

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A 4-month-old farm pet had diarrhea and cough for several weeks and became emaciated, weighing 5 lb. Piperazine citrate eliminated an earlier ascarid infection and antibiotics controlled the diarrhea, but coughing increased. Live larvae of *Aleurostrongylus abstrusus* were found in the feces. Diethyl carbamazine citrate was given p.o., 20 mg/lb/day for 7 days, then 14 times in the next 21 days. She vomited the drug periodically but improved in a week and stopped coughing. Larvae were reduced in a month from 2300/Gm to 100, and disappeared in another week. No side effects were noted, and there was no relapse.

Feline lungworms may be acquired from an intermediate host or a transport host, and both were available on the farm. The adults copulate and lay eggs while embedded in the mucosa of trachea, bronchi and bronchioles. The eggs may be coughed up and swallowed, or hatch first *in situ*, but either way larvae are eliminated in the feces. If the domestic cat is the only true host, as is said, identification, confinement and treatment of infected cats seem required for eradication.