SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Switch 40 mg/ml Pour-on Solution

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each ml contains:

Active substance:
Permethrin (cis:trans 80:20) 40 mg

Excipients:

Qualitative composition of excipients and other constituents
Butyl dioxitol

A clear, colourless to pale yellow liquid.

3. CLINICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Target species

Horses and donkeys

3.2 Indications for use for each target species

As an aid in the control of sweet itch on horses and donkeys

3.3 Contraindications

Do not treat the saddle area.

3.4 Special warnings

Sweet itch is believed to be caused by hypersensitivity to the bites of flying insects e.g. Culicoides spp. It may be appropriate for owners to seek veterinary advice in severe cases of sweet itch, and in cases of sweet itch which do not respond to treatment.

3.5 Special precautions for use

Special precautions for safe use in the target species:

For external use only.
A few horses, particularly those of the fine skinned Arab type, may react adversely to treatment with the product. In such individuals a small patch test at the base of the neck is recommended. If adverse reactions should occur, treatment should be stopped immediately. Any resulting skin irritation is short lived.

Take care to avoid eye contact. The product must not be applied forward of the ears. In case of accidental splashing into the horse's eye, the affected eye should be washed

thoroughly and immediately with copious quantities of clean water and veterinary attention sought.

Special precautions to be taken by the person administering the veterinary medicinal product to animals:

The veterinary medicinal product may cause neurotoxic effects and skin and eye irritation.
Personal protective equipment consisting of protective clothing, boots and chemically resistant gloves such as rubber, PVC or nitrile should be worn when handling and applying the veterinary medicinal product.
Wash splashes from the skin and eyes immediately.
If eye irritation persists, seek medical advice immediately and show the package leaflet or the label to the physician.
When using the veterinary medicinal product do not eat, drink or smoke. Wash hands and exposed skin before eating, drinking or smoking.
Use in a well-ventilated area.
Keep away from food, drink and animal feedstuffs.

Special precautions for the protection of the environment:

Not applicable.

3.6 Adverse events

Target Species: Horses and donkeys

None.

See section 3.5

Reporting adverse events is important. It allows continuous safety monitoring of a veterinary medicinal product. Reports should be sent, preferably via a veterinarian, to either the marketing authorisation holder or its local representative, or the national competent authority via the national reporting system. See the product label for respective contact details.

3.7 Use during pregnancy, lactation or lay

Pregnancy and lactation:

No special precautions required.

3.8 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Care should be taken when applying this product, as it may have an adverse effect on certain plastics.

3.9 Administration routes and dosage

Horses and donkeys 1ml per 10 kg body weight up to a maximum of 40 ml on horses and donkeys.

Apply the measured dose in approximately equal portions to the mane and rump avoiding the saddle area. Treatment should be started at the start of the sweet itch

season and should be repeated as necessary – treatment once weekly should be sufficient for most horses.

If horses and donkeys are to be groomed, apply Switch after grooming.

3.10 Symptoms of overdose (and where applicable, emergency procedures and antidotes)

Toxic signs in mammals are tremors, hyperexcitability, salivation, choreoathetosis and paralysis. The signs disappear rapidly and the animals recover, generally within a week. There is no specific antidote but symptomatic therapy can be given if considered necessary.

3.11 Special restrictions for use and special conditions for use, including restrictions on the use of antimicrobial and antiparasitic veterinary medicinal products in order to limit the risk of development of resistance

Not applicable.

3.12 Withdrawal periods

Not to be used in horses and donkeys intended for human consumption.

Treated horses may never be slaughtered for human consumption.

The horse must have been declared as not intended for human consumption under national horse passport legislation.

4. PHARMACOLOGICAL INFORMATION

4.1 ATCvet code: QP53AC04

4.2 Pharmacodynamics

Permethrin is a neuropoison acting on the axons in the peripheral and central nervous system by interacting with the sodium channels in insects. Synthetic pyrethroids are generally metabolised in mammals through ester hydrolysis, oxidation and conjugation and there is no tendency to accumulate in tissues.

4.3 Pharmacokinetics

Permethrin is classified as a photostable synthetic pyrethroid and acts topically.

5. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

5.1 Major incompatibilities

None known.

5.2 Shelf life

Shelf life of the veterinary medicinal product as packaged for sale: 2 years.

5.3 Special precautions for storage

Store in original container tightly closed.
Do not store above 25°C.

5.4 Nature and composition of immediate packaging

250ml natural high density polyethene (HDP) bottles, with integrated graduated dispensing chamber. Closure is a white opaque urea formaldehyde screw fit cap.

Each bottle of Switch is supplied in a cardboard carton directly on to which are coloured printed product details.

5.5 Special precautions for the disposal of unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived from the use of such products

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

Dangerous to fish and other aquatic life. Do not contaminate ponds, waterways or ditches with the veterinary medicinal product or used container.

Use take-back schemes for the disposal of any unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived thereof in accordance with local requirements and with any national collection systems applicable to the veterinary medicinal product concerned.

6. NAME OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

VetPlus Ltd

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

Vm 18182/5001

8. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION

21 November 1994

9. DATE OF THE LAST REVISION OF THE SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

August 2026

10. CLASSIFICATION OF VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Veterinary medicinal product not subject to prescription.

Find more product information by searching for the ‘Product Information Database’ on www.gov.uk.

Gavin Hall
Approved: 02 September 2026