



**BioMonde**<sup>®</sup>



# Veterinary Wound Care

How Larval Therapy can assist

Making healing possible

# Larval Therapy

Larval Therapy has been available in the UK for almost 20 years and the therapy is backed by a wealth of credible clinical evidence.

The term Larval Therapy describes the use of maggots, precisely the larvae of the green bottle fly *Lucilia sericata*; to remove necrotic, sloughy and/or infected tissue from the wound surface. Larvae can also be used to maintain a clean wound after debridement if a particular wound is considered prone to resloughing.



## When should Larval Therapy be used?

The primary goal of wound management is to achieve healing as quickly as possible to minimize pain, prevent infection and restore normal function<sup>1,2</sup>. When assessing an animal wound, it is possible to categorise most open wounds as<sup>3,4</sup>:

### Clean

Non traumatic wounds with no contamination or debris

### Clean – Contaminated

Minimal debris or inflammation

### Contaminated

Moderate debris or inflammation

### Dirty / infected

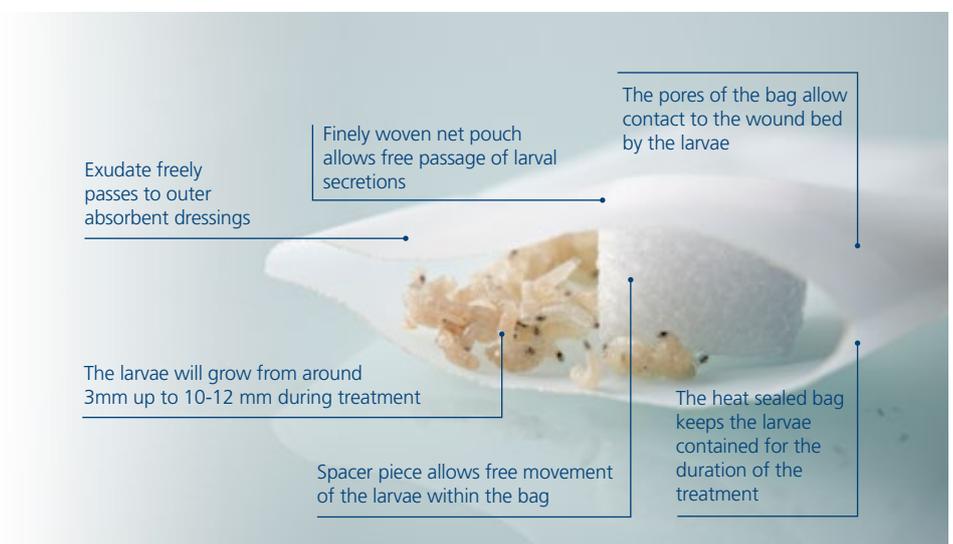
Significant debris or marked devitalisation or wound >6 hours old

A fresh, clean wound bed for closure can be achieved through debridement, where necrotic and devitalized tissue is removed from the wound<sup>3</sup>. Through debridement and disinfection, Larval Therapy is regarded as a safe, effective, and controlled method of healing wounds<sup>5</sup> and Veterinarians who currently use Larval Therapy are likely to be influenced by the main reported actions which larvae have on chronic wounds;

- **Removal of dead tissue**<sup>6,7,8</sup>
- **Reduction of bacterial burden**<sup>6,8</sup>
- **Acceleration of healing**<sup>6,8</sup>

The range of Larval Therapy dressings available make the treatment appropriate for a variety of wounds. Typical animal wounds to consider include<sup>9</sup>:

- **Lacerations**
- **Pressure wounds**
- **Degloving injuries**
- **Bite wounds**
- **Surgical sites**
- **Abscesses**
- **Panniculitis**
- **Laminitis**
- **Quittor**



# How can help with animal wound care

Wound care in veterinary medicine has changed significantly over the past 25 years owing to an enhanced understanding of the cellular processes of wound healing<sup>10</sup>.

Larval Therapy has been used by Veterinarians on a range of animals including horses<sup>11</sup> and smaller animals (cats and dogs)<sup>12</sup> with the therapy offering numerous clinical benefits as a form of debridement:

## ✓ Rapid debridement

By removing dead and devitalised tissue from the wound bed rapidly<sup>7</sup>, larvae can assist in progressing wounds towards healing<sup>6</sup>.

## 📍 Flexible location

Larvae can be applied in any location ensuring that the animal isn't restricted to a veterinary clinic or the indoors during application and throughout the entire treatment.

## 🐾 Suitable for fragile animals

Larvae are suitable to be used on a range of animals, including those considered too fragile for surgery.

## 🎯 Selective debridement

The secretions produced by larvae only impact on dead tissue leaving any healthy tissue underneath undamaged. This ensures that there will be no trauma to the wound bed and makes larvae ideal for use around microstructures<sup>6, 13</sup>. Healthy tissue in some species of animal including sheep and rabbits does break down in the presence of larvae, and we would not recommend usage on these species.

## ✓ Simple application

Larval therapy dressings come in a range of sizes and packs and are very simple to apply. This ensures that specialist clinicians are not required to be present during application and removal, and that the therapy can be used on a variety of animals.

## 🦠 Antimicrobial properties in vitro

A high bacterial burden and the presence of biofilms can have a detrimental effect on wound healing. By reducing levels of bacteria<sup>14, 15, 16</sup> and disrupting biofilms<sup>17, 18, 19</sup> it is likely that a wound will progress quicker, odour levels will reduce, exudate levels are likely to be normalised and less tissue will become devitalised.

### Case study

## Infected bone implant in a Labrador

Dr. Schwalfenberg, Dr. Kuhn,  
Wahlstedt Veterinary Clinic, Germany



### 01 | 26th September

Before: BioBag applied two days later



### 02 | 2nd October

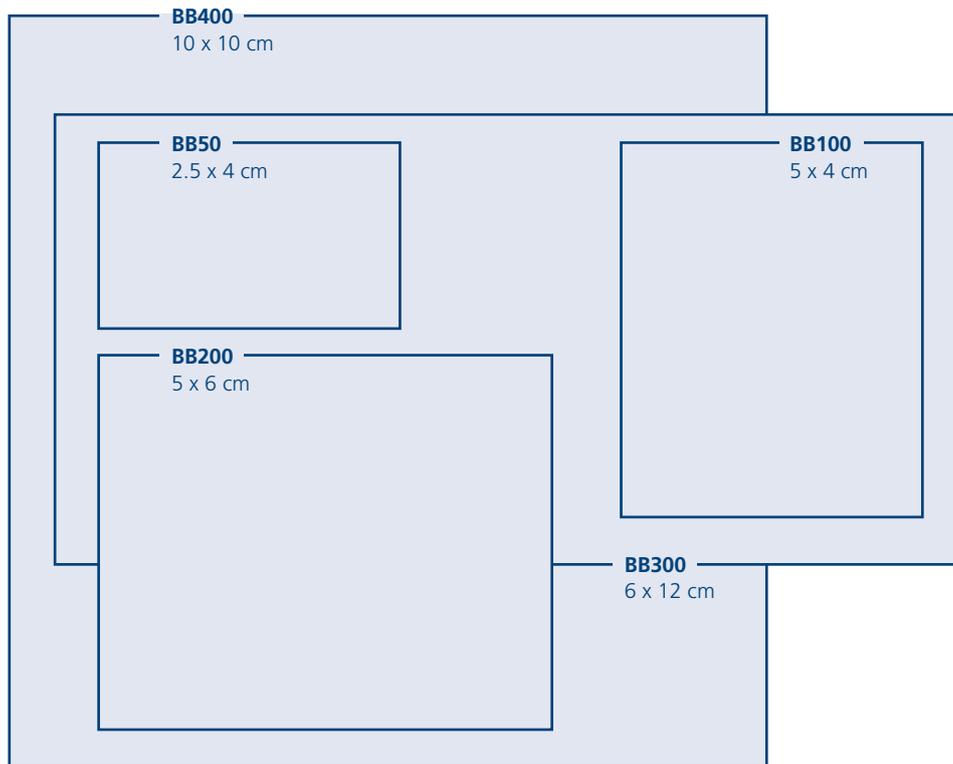
During: BioBag is fixed at the corners



### 03 | 6th October

After: Wound is debrided after one application

## BioBag® Size Guide



## References

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## Ordering larvae

Orders received by us before 2pm will qualify for inclusive next day delivery, or a future planned date of your choosing.

Please allow time for your own internal procurement/pharmacy to process the order.

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Fax: 01656 668 047

### Office Hours

Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

