

Chapter 1 : Eisenia fetida - Wikipedia

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There are different types of tapeworm. One fish tapeworm can cause anemia because it absorbs vitamin B12, which helps make red blood cells. This can lead someone to feel tired, short of breath, or notice other signs of anemia. In severe cases of B12 deficiency, a person can have numbness or other problems with their nervous system. Getting rid of the tapeworm usually makes vitamin B12 levels normal again. The eggs of another type of tapeworm pork tapeworm can hatch into larvae in the intestine. These larvae go through the intestinal wall and enter the bloodstream. From there they can travel to different organs in the body, such as muscles, eyes, or brain, where they form cysts. This disease is known as cysticercosis. It is rare in the United States, but common in many developing countries. With cysticercosis, a person might develop lumps under the skin. If the cysts are in the brain, someone might have seizures. Cysts in the eyes can cause vision problems; cysts in the heart can lead to an abnormal heartbeat; and cysts in the spine might cause weakness or trouble walking. They are found in feces and around the anus. Cysticercosis happens when someone eats food that has been contaminated with feces. It can be any kind of food – all it takes is for that food to come into contact with feces. When Should You Call a Doctor? Tell a parent or call a doctor if you see worms in your feces or if you have abdominal pain or other symptoms that might suggest a tapeworm infection. People with masses or lumps under the skin who develop a fever, headache, or any of the symptoms of cysticercosis need to call a doctor right away. What Do Doctors Do? To diagnose a tapeworm infection, doctors usually examine a for tapeworm segments. Doctors can easily cure a tapeworm infection with prescription anti-parasite drugs. Often, just one dose is enough. Most people have no complications. This can lead to things like appendicitis or inflamed gallbladder. Cysticercosis is a much more serious condition. If the doctor thinks you may have this condition, he or she might order a CT scan also called CAT scan or magnetic resonance imaging MRI of the brain to look for cysts. In some cases, anti-parasite drugs can help shrink cysts and keep them from causing problems. Doctors may also prescribe anti-inflammatory drugs like steroids for cysticercosis infections. If someone has seizures, doctors may give that person anti-epilepsy medications. If someone gets because of cysticercosis, doctors may put a shunt, or tube, in the head to drain excess fluid. Surgeons will remove cysts if they pose a threat to the eyes, liver, lungs, heart, or other organs. Can I Prevent Tapeworm Infection? You can protect yourself by always following these tips: Wash your hands well and often with soap and warm water, especially after using the bathroom and before touching food. If you ever need a reminder to wash your hands carefully, this may be it: Tapeworm eggs can be found near the anus. Thoroughly cook meat until juices run clear and the centers are no longer pink. Cook fish until it is solid in color no longer clear and flakes when separated with a fork. Freeze meat for 24 hours before cooking to kill tapeworm eggs. Wash and cook all fruits and vegetables with safe water. Wipe the top of cans and bottles before you drink from them or use a straw. Avoid fountain drinks and ice cubes. Most tapeworm infections are harmless.

Chapter 2 : US salmon may carry Japanese tapeworm, scientists say - CNN

heavy infestation by Hymenolepis nana, a rat tapeworm that may cause abdominal pain, bloody stools, and disorders of the nervous system, especially in children.. Contaminated food spreads the disease, which is endemic in the U.

If a human ingests pork tapeworm eggs there is a risk of larvae infection. The larvae can exit the intestine and infect tissues and organs elsewhere in the body, resulting in lesions or cysts. This is a dangerous complication of pork tapeworm infection. The brain and nervous system are affected. The patient may have headaches, vision problems, seizures, meningitis, and confusion. In very severe cases the infection can be fatal.

Echinococcosis, or hydatid disease: The echinococcus tapeworm can cause an infection called echinococcosis. The larvae leave the gut and infect organs, most commonly the liver. The infection can result in large cysts, which place pressure on nearby blood vessels and affect circulation. In severe cases, surgery or liver transplantation is required.

Treatments Treating tapeworm larvae infection is more complicated than treating an adult tapeworm infection. While the adult tapeworm stays in the gut, the larvae may settle in other parts of the body. When a larvae infection finally produces symptoms, the infection may have been present for years. In some rare cases, larvae infection can be life-threatening.

Oral medications Oral medications may be prescribed. The digestive system does not absorb these drugs well. They either dissolve or attack and kill the adult tapeworm. A doctor may advise the patient to take a laxative to help the tapeworm come out in the stools. If the patient has a pork tapeworm infection, they may be given an anti-emetic medication, which prevents vomiting. These medications, if procedures are followed properly, are 95 percent effective.

Anti-inflammatory medication If the infection affects tissues outside the intestine, the patient may have to take a course of anti-inflammatory steroids to reduce swelling caused by the development of cysts.

Cyst surgery If the patient has life-threatening cysts that have developed in vital organs, such as the lungs or liver, surgery may be required. The doctor may inject a cyst with medication, such as formalin, to destroy the larvae before removing the cyst.

Causes The *Taenia solium* pork tapeworm Most people become infected after ingesting tapeworm eggs or larvae. The common methods of infection include:

Ingestion of eggs Eggs get into humans via: These drop onto the soil. Each segment may contain thousands of eggs. A human can become infected by: This type of infection is most common with tapeworms that come from infected pigs, and much less common if the original host was cattle or fish.

Eating infected meat or fish If the meat or fish have larvae cysts and is undercooked or raw, the cysts can reach the intestine where they mature into adult tapeworms. An adult tapeworm can: Undercooked or raw freshwater fish such as salmon, are the most common sources.

Human-to-human transmission The dwarf tapeworm can be transmitted from human to human. It is the only tapeworm that can go through its entire life cycle in one single host. Dwarf tapeworm infection is the most common tapeworm infection globally.

Insect-to-human transmission Fleas and some types of beetles may pick up the eggs by eating the droppings of infected rats or mice. These insects can infect humans. The insects are referred to as intermediate hosts and the tapeworm transitions from egg to the adult stage. This type of infection occurs with dwarf tapeworms and is much more common in areas where hygiene practices are poor.

Reinfecting yourself During treatment, humans can reinfect themselves if they do not follow good hygiene practices. The eggs will be present in human stool. If the individual does not wash their hands after going to the toilet, there is a risk of reinfection.

Ignoring risk factors for tapeworm infection Risk factors include:

Working with or exposure to animals: This is especially the case in areas where feces is not disposed of effectively.

General lack of hygiene: If you wash your hands infrequently, the risk of transferring infection into your mouth is greater.

Traveling to or living in certain parts of the world: In some countries, and parts of some countries where sanitation practices are poor, the risk of becoming infected with a tapeworm is much greater.

Consuming raw or undercooked meats and fish: Larvae and eggs present in meats and fish may infect people if eaten raw or undercooked. Experts say that sushi is safe if it has been frozen beforehand. The risk of contamination from fish mainly lies with freshwater fish.

Types In human beings, tapeworm infection is most commonly caused by the following species:

Chapter 3 : Lyrics containing the term: red worm

*THE RED TAPEWORM. [C Mackenzie] on racedaydvl.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. A comedy set among British politicians, featuring such characters as the Minister of Waste Apsley Howe and Oliver Huffman.*

Angleworms Bandlings Angleworm is also a common name for the larger earthworm species such as the Canadian Night crawler in northern regions. That is why using the scientific names for worms are less confusing! Eisenia fetida are recognized by their alternating red and buff stripes, thus the common name "Tiger Worm". The Eisenia fetida is an Epigeic worm. Epigeic worms live on the surface of the soil or in the top 10 inches or so of the topsoil under the litter layer. Worms such as the common night crawler L. Anecic species build permanent, deep, vertical burrows in cool soils and feed in decaying organic matter and are difficult to raise domestically. Earthworms are hermaphrodites , meaning they possess both male and female reproductive organs. Sexually mature Eisenia fetida have a swollen area approx. More information from the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse: Worm Anatomy Zoology Lab nightcrawler segmentation and nightcrawler organs labeled. When worms mate they lay side by side with their heads pointed in opposite directions and secrete a mucous that "seals" their bodies together. They then exchange sperm which is deposited on the surface of the skin and then moves to a pore a few segments above the clitellum where it is temporarily stored. Each worm also excretes its own eggs into pores on its skin surface not far from the sperm pore. Once sperm is exchanged, the worms move apart and secrete another thick mucous around their clitellum, which then dries to form a hardened band encircling its body. Once formed, the worm backs out of this mucous band sliding it from its body like a ring being slipped from your finger. As the band passes over the pores holding sperm and egg they are picked up on the sticky underside. Once the worm backs completely out of the mucous band the ends close, forming a tough little cocoon with sperm and egg inside. Fertilization takes place inside this cocoon. The worms will continue to produce cocoons until the sperm they received from their mate is completely used up. Redworm cocoons in compost The average incubation period for E. Newly hatched worms take about 8 to 10 weeks to sexually mature and begin producing cocoons. Once it breeds and starts laying cocoons, it can lay two to three cocoons per week for 6 months to a year. All of this is dependent upon the environment, i. If you begin with 1 pound of worms approx. Red worms are marketed by the pound, not by the numbers. Yes, worms mature in 8 to 10 weeks and begin reproducing, but those numbers are not marketable. Taxonomist identification characteristics External Structures of Eisenia fetida:

Chapter 4 : Tapeworms | Pets & Parasites: The Pet Owner's Parasite Resource

Tapeworms are flat, segmented worms that live in the intestines of some animals. Animals can become infected with these parasites when grazing in pastures or drinking contaminated water. Eating.

Complications of a tapeworm diet Dangerous complications that may occur with a tapeworm diet, potentially resulting in death, include: There are many sources that scam people by saying they sell tapeworm diet pills. You cannot get these pills from a reputable medical professional. The Food and Drug Administration have banned these pills. The medications commonly used for an intestinal tapeworm infection depend on the type of tapeworm you have, which includes: Albendazole Albenza Praziquantel Biltricide Nitazoxanide Treatments used for an invasive tapeworm infection outside your intestines may include prescribing Albendazole to treat cysts in addition to other treatments as well. These treatments may include: History of the tapeworm diet If the tapeworm diet is so unhealthy, then where did it come from? The tapeworm diet started with women in the Victorian Era who wanted to achieve what that society viewed as beautiful. This was done in the hopes of attracting a husband. At that time, the standard for beauty was to look as if you had tuberculosis. They wanted pale skin, eyes that looked dilated, red cheeks and lips, and, of course, a tiny waist. To achieve this standard of beauty, women went through extremes. They wore corsets so tight that they changed their bone structure and internal organs, took small doses of poison, and more. Ingesting tapeworms was one of the radical measures that were used to lose weight. This diet is still being used by some people today because, in theory, it seems like an easy way to lose weight without dieting or exercising regularly. However, the reality is that its result may be far less than magical. Takeaway There is no magic pill to weight loss, even if it comes in the form of a tapeworm. The tapeworm has dangerous complications as well as a lack of proof that it can effectively help you lose and keep off weight. However, there are a number of healthy strategies you can do to improve your health that may also help you lose weight. Some of these healthy methods include:

Chapter 5 : Purify Tapeworm Cleanse. Help rid tapeworms today, with the premium % natural tapeworm

Hymenolepiasis is infestation by one of two species of tapeworm: Hymenolepis nana or H. diminuta. Alternative names are dwarf tapeworm infection and rat tapeworm infection. The disease is a type of helminthiasis which is classified as a neglected tropical disease.

Causes[edit] Lifecycle of H. The worms mature into a life form referred to as a " cysticeroid " in the insect; in H. Humans and other animals become infected when they intentionally or unintentionally eat material contaminated by insects. When this happens, H. These infections were previously common in the southeastern USA, and have been described in crowded environments and individuals confined to institutions. However, the disease occurs throughout the world. Also known as the rat tapeworm, H. Once inside the beetle, the eggs mature into a cysticeroid. The juvenile tapeworms claw their way out of the beetle gut into the circulatory system by means of their three pairs of hooks. There, they wait for a rat to ingest the host beetle, where they mature to adult form, lay eggs, and restart the entire cycle. Beetles prefer to ingest rat droppings infected with tapeworm eggs, because of their odor. It is not known if the odor is produced specifically by the eggs or the droppings. This is so the beetle does not waste energy in its reproductive system, allowing H. It consists of a linear series of sets of reproductive organs of both sexes; each set is referred to as a genitalium and the area around it is a proglottid. New proglottids are continuously differentiated near the anterior end in a process called strobilation. Each segment moves toward the posterior end as a new one takes its place and, during the process, becomes sexually mature. The proglottid can copulate with itself, with others in the strobilla, or with those in other worms. When the segment reaches the end of its strobila, it disintegrates en route, releasing eggs in a process called apolysis. Lifecycle[edit] H. The most common intermediate hosts for H. When an egg is ingested by the definitive host, it hatches and releases a six-hook larva called the oncosphere hexacanth which penetrates the villi of the small intestine and develops into a cysticeroid. It also occurs by accidental ingestion of an insect containing the cysticeroid. Screening for activity against H. Human infection is easily maintained in mice. Its armed scolex is similar to other pathogenic tapeworms. It corresponds to other tapeworms in its sensitivity to standard anthelmintics, Method: Mature worms are collected from infected mice. Terminal gravid proglottids are removed, crushed under coverslips, and eggs are removed. Eggs containing hooklets mature are counted. Adult worms develop in 15â€”17 days. The test drug is given orally; mice are necropsied on the third day after treatment. A standard drug is given. The intestines are examined under a dissecting microscope for worms or scolices. The response is measured by the number mice cleared. Symptoms[edit] Hymenolepiasis does not always have symptoms, but they usually are described as abdominal pain, loss of appetite , itching around the anus, irritability, and diarrhea. However, in one study of 25 patients conducted in Peru, successful treatment of the infection made no significant difference to symptoms. Light infections are usually symptomless, whereas infection with more than worms can cause enteritis , abdominal pain, diarrhea , loss of appetite, restlessness, irritability, restless sleep, and anal and nasal pruritus. Rare symptoms include increased appetite, vomiting, nausea, bloody diarrhea, hives, extremity pain, headache, dizziness, and behavioral disturbances. Occasionally, epileptic seizures occur in infected children. Examination of the stool for eggs and parasites confirms the diagnosis. The eggs and proglottids of H. Proglottids of both are relatively wide and have three testes. Identifying the parasites to the species level is often unnecessary from a medical perspective, as the treatment is the same for both. Pathology and clinical manifestations of hymenolepiasis[edit] H. In human adults, the tapeworm is more of a nuisance than a health problem, but in small children, many H. Usually, the larvae of this tapeworm cause the most problem in children; they burrow into the walls of the intestine, and if enough tapeworms are present in the child, severe damage can be inflicted. This is done by absorbing all the nutrients from the food the child eats. Usually, a single tapeworm will not cause health issues. In some parts of the world, individuals who are heavily infected are a result of internal autoinfection. Treatment[edit] The two drugs that have been well-described for the treatment of hymenolepiasis are praziquantel and niclosamide. Praziquantel, which is parasiticidal in a single dose for all the stages of the parasite, is the drug of choice because it acts very rapidly against H. Although structurally unrelated to other

anthelmintics, it kills both adult worms and larvae. In vitro, the drug produces vacuolization and disruption of the tegument in the neck of the worms, but not in more posterior portions of the strobila. Repeated treatment is required for H. In an unusual complication was noted in a man whose immune system had been compromised by HIV. He developed multiple tumors of malignant cell nests within his body that had originated from a tapeworm in his intestines. Preventing fecal contamination of food and water in institutions and crowded areas is of primary importance. General sanitation and rodent and insect control especially control of fleas and grain insects are also essential for prevention of H.

Chapter 6 : Hymenolepiasis - Wikipedia

The Red Tapeworm by Compton Mackenzie and a great selection of similar Used, New and Collectible Books available now at racedaydvl.com

Tapeworm Basics Tapeworms are parasites. As you probably remember from biology class, parasites are organisms that live in, or on, other organisms called "hosts". Parasites take their nutrients from the host, sometimes depriving the host of nutrition. Once inside the body, the tapeworm head attaches to the inner wall of the intestines. The tapeworm feeds off the food that the host is digesting. It uses this nutrition to grow. Tapeworms are made up of segments, and they get longer by growing new segments. Each segment can reproduce by making thousands of eggs. They can grow to more than 82 feet 25 meters and live as long as 30 years. New segments grow at the head of the tapeworm, pushing older segments to the end of the line, where they break off. Tapeworm segments can live for months in the environment, waiting for a host to come along. Animals like cows or pigs that eat grass or nose around in the soil can pick up tapeworm segments or eggs. This is one reason why tapeworm infections are rare in places that have good sanitation. Flush toilets, sewer systems, and water treatment plants help keep feces out of the water and food supply. Tapeworm eggs in feces can easily spread into food or onto surfaces like doorknobs. If you ever need another reason to get your kids to wash their hands, this might do it! It can take months or years to notice any symptoms. Some of the things a child might complain of are: If your child has an infection, you may see a tapeworm segment in his or her feces. There are different types of tapeworms. One fish tapeworm can cause anemia because it absorbs vitamin B12, which helps make red blood cells. This can lead kids to feel tired or short of breath. More severe cases of vitamin B12 deficiency can lead to feelings of numbness and other signs of damage to the nervous system. Curing the tapeworm infection usually makes vitamin B12 levels get back to normal. The eggs of another type of tapeworm pork tapeworm can hatch into larvae in the intestine. These larvae go through the intestinal wall and enter the bloodstream. From there they can travel to different parts of the body such as muscles, eyes, or the brain , where they form cysts. This disease is known as cysticercosis sis-tuh-sir-KO-sus. It is rare in the United States, but common in many developing countries. With cysticercosis, kids might develop: They are found in feces and around the anus. Cysticercosis occurs as a result of eating food that has been contaminated with feces. It can be any kind of food – all it takes is for that food to come into contact with feces. Call a doctor right away if your child has masses or lumps under the skin and develops a fever, headache, or any of the other symptoms of cysticercosis. If your child has seizures or trouble moving, walking, or talking, go to the emergency room right away. **Diagnosis and Treatment** To diagnose a tapeworm infection, doctors usually examine a stool sample for tapeworm segments. Doctors can easily cure a tapeworm infection with prescription anti-parasite drugs. Often, just one dose is enough. This can lead to things like appendicitis or inflamed gall bladder – not pleasant, but they can be treated. Cysticercosis is a much more serious condition. If a doctor thinks a person has cysticercosis, he or she might recommend a CT scan also called CAT scan or magnetic resonance imaging MRI of the brain to check for cysts. Doctors also may prescribe anti-inflammatory drugs, like steroids, for cysticercosis infections. If a child has seizures, doctors may prescribe anti-epilepsy medications. If a child gets hydrocephalus because of cysticercosis, doctors might put in a shunt to drain excess fluid. Surgeons will remove cysts if they pose a threat to the eyes, liver, lungs, heart, or other organs. **Prevention** You can protect your family from tapeworm infections by always following these tips: Wash your hands thoroughly and often with soap and hot water, especially after using the bathroom and before touching food. Teach your kids to do the same. Thoroughly cook meat until juices run clear and the centers are no longer pink. Cook fish until it is solid in color no longer clear and flakes when separated with a fork. Freeze meat for 24 hours before cooking to kill tapeworm eggs. Wash and cook all fruits and vegetables with safe water. Drink only water boiled for a least a minute, bottled water carbonated is more reliable than regular , or other beverages in bottles and cans. Wipe the top of cans and bottles before you drink from them or use a straw. Avoid fountain drinks and ice cubes.

Chapter 7 : How to Get Rid of Tapeworms in Humans: 12 Steps (with Pictures)

The tapeworm diet is the same thing as a tapeworm infection, which is incredibly dangerous and can cause more harm than good. It's also still considered an infection even if ingesting a tapeworm.

I needed to post this I needed to get the word out the red worm is real and it will get you. I first discovered the red worm on April 21, after Mat Pats gt live stream. I had never heard of the game before he played it and after the stream was finished, I decided to give the game a try I booted up the servers and named my worm then the game started it was surprisingly fun. The game so laggy so I decided to switch the game to low quality. I eventually met a red border and stayed there eating the glowing orbs I was immersed in the game. In already learned a lot about the border if you went over you would die so I just hung there for along time. To be honest I was surprised that there were so many players at this late hour of Occasionally one or two worms would meet me at the border but they would just go away from me. All of the Game Theory related nicknames had cleared. I was alone again at the border. Suddenly the silence was interrupted a sound started playing that was weird I thought, I turned off the sound. At the end of the life stream, I checked my sound sure enough it was off. I knew the sound had to becoming from my house, it did sound like a gas leak. Now I could identify the that the squeaky sound was coming from my computer. I glanced at the screen, and then I saw it coming from outside, the border, the red wormâ€¦ there was a worm it was a fuzzy red I assumed this was because I had put the game on low quality. The worm had black eyes with small white pupils and he came from outside the border. I imaged how confused the guy on the other end must be. The squeaky became louder as he appeared his eyes glowed white and he disappeared I laughed because the game was so glitchy. An unexpected file downloaded to my drive. I thought that was weird because he was big but not big enough to be number 1. Suddenly a chill went down my spine and I began to remember something. But one day on march 27, he began to act strange. Nobody seemed to know the reason. He deleted all of his friends from social media. Could this be the red worm he spoke of? I sprinted away and started freaking out the squeaky noise grew louder and it began to irritate my ears. Players started losing and less and less people were playing the game the red worm now had so much mass he began to follow me. The game over screen was different it was bright red and the red worm was staring back at me I closed the tab and it worked. I went to check the files and suddenly virus went on to my computer. Google seemed distorted and red the squeaking sound was now ear shattering a popup came up it read. I decided to go to bed. When I woke up, my family was home and I had to go to school I told my friends what happened but they diced I was a crazy as billy was but that day billy was back at school. The red worm was just another terrifying form of agent.

Chapter 8 : Tapeworm infection - beef or pork: MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia

Red Worm Food. A worm farm full of red wigglers is an excellent way to compost food scraps, left overs, garden waste, and leaves. Feeding redworms is pretty easy, but there are some basic but important things to remember in order to keep you worm farm healthy.

A tapeworm body consists of multiple parts, or segments, each with its own reproductive organs. There are several different kinds, or species, of tapeworms that can infect your dog, each with stage s in a different intermediate in-between host, which the dog eats to become infected. Dipylidium caninum is a tapeworm that uses fleas as its intermediate host, whereas Taenia and Echinococcus species use small rodents mice, rats, squirrels , rabbits, or large animals such as deer or sheep as their intermediate hosts. How will tapeworms affect my dog? Dogs with tapeworm infections usually are not sick and do not lose weight from the worms. How do I prevent my dog from getting tapeworms? Try to keep your dog from coming in contact with intermediate hosts that contain tapeworm larvae. Because fleas are an intermediate host for the most common kind of tapeworm, consistent, safe, and effective flea control is an essential prevention measure. If you think your dog is infected with tapeworms, call your veterinarian for an appointment to get an accurate diagnosis and safe, effective treatment options. To prevent Taenia and Dipylidium tapeworm infections in dogs, administer a monthly heartworm preventive that contains a drug specific for tapeworm infections. For more information about human infections, please visit www.cdc.gov. Can humans be harmed by tapeworms? Certain tapeworms found in dogs or cats may cause serious disease in humans. Fortunately, these tapeworms Echinococcus species are uncommon in the United States and are readily treated by prescriptions available from your veterinarian. There are rare reports of Dipylidium a common tapeworm in pets infections in children, but these infections are not associated with significant disease. Dogs can get tapeworms from fleas, mice, or other rodents. Flea control is an important step in protecting your dog from tapeworms. People rarely are affected by dog tapeworms. Other kinds of worms that dogs can get include heartworms, hookworms, roundworms, and whipworms. Learn More about Specific Parasites.

Chapter 9 : Colonial Papers: The Red Tapeworm - Edward Forbes

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Red worms go by many names. Both first time and experienced worm farmers choose the red worm for many reasons. But before you go out and buy pounds of red worms there are some things you need to know. Our red worm facts page will tell you everything you need to know to successfully raise red worms. Advantages of Redworms Red worms have many properties which make them ideal for the compost bin. Of all the worms suitable for worm farming the red worm is the most adaptable and hearty. Red wigglers can withstand a wide range of environmental conditions and changes that would kill most other breeds. Unlike common earthworms that borrow deep into the soil red worms thrive in the first several inches of topsoil directly beneath decomposing vegetative organic matter. Decaying leaves, grasses, wood, and animal manure are all favorites of red worms. Red worms are fairly small, generally getting no larger than 5 inches. It is estimated that red worms eat nearly 3 times their weight each week. Maintaining this close contact makes them prolific breeders and an ideal breed to raise in your worm farm. A 24" x 24" worm bin can easily house over red worms. When given more room red worms will plump up into excellent fishing worms. Another advantage of red worms is their ability with stand a wide range of temperature extremes. Typically red wigglers thrive in temperatures between 65F and 80F 18 C - 27 C. When the temperature dips red worms need to be protected from freezing weather. Even red worms kept outside can easily survive the frigid temperatures of northern North America. Of course you need to provide them with shelter and insulation. That can be as simple as keeping them in trench filled with aged manure and covered with straw or leaves. Similarly; when temperatures spike keep your worm farm cool. If your bedding gets over 85 degrees red worms will try to escape your bins for cooler areas. So provide them with shade or if possible move them into your basement. Red worms are prolific breeders and 9 weeks after birth red worms are mature. Baby red worms hatch from small lemon shaped cocoons. So if you purchase 1 pound of red worms in about four month you will have 2 pounds, and in nine months 4 pounds. However these are just basic guidelines. Many factors influence reproduction of red worms. Red worms are content to remain working for you in conditions are to their liking. Provide them food, moisture, and suitable bedding material and they will happily stay in their bins or outdoor colonies. However if their bedding gets dry or too acidic they will try to escape. Like all worms red worms breathe oxygen through their skin. In order to breathe they require a moist, but not saturated bedding material. A moist environment also facilitates the breakdown of organic matter in their bedding material by microbial life forms. Since worms have no teeth it is this mushy mixture of decaying food and microbes that red worms feed on. Red Worm Food A worm farm full of red wigglers is an excellent way to compost food scraps, left overs, garden waste, and leaves. This list is not all inclusive but it will give you some ideas. Learn more about feeding worms here. Coffee Grounds Filters too - An excellent worm food, but again in moderation Cardboard - Yes, shredded cardboard doubles as food and bedding. Commercial worm food, Worm Chow etc Just start sparingly Do Not Feed: