
NEW YORK STATE BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE GUIDELINES

(Based on National Cattlemen's Beef Association BQA Guidelines)

PROCESSING/TREATMENT AND RECORDS

- Use unique, individual identification for all animals.
 - Following all FDA/USDA/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines for product(s) utilized.
 - All products are to be used according to label directions.
 - Extra-label drug use shall be kept to a minimum, and used only when prescribed by a veterinarian working within a valid Veterinary-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR).
 - Strict adherence to extended withdrawal periods (as determined by the veterinarian within the context of a valid VCPR) shall be employed.
 - Treatment records will be maintained with the following recorded:
 1. Individual animal identification
 2. Date Treated
 3. Product administered, lot/serial number and expiration date
 4. Dosage used
 5. Route and location of administered
 6. Earliest date animal will have cleared withdrawal period
 7. Name of person administering product
 - When cattle are processed as a group, all cattle within the group shall be identified as such, and the following information recorded:
 1. Individual identification
 2. Date treated
 3. Product administered, lot /serial number and expiration date
 4. Dosage used
 5. Route and location of administration
 6. Earliest date animal will have cleared withdrawal period.
 7. Name of person administering product
 - All cattle including dairy beef shipped for harvest will be checked by appropriate personnel to assure that animals that have been treated meet or exceed label or prescription withdrawal times for all animal health products administered.
 - Copies of processing and treatment records should be transferred with cattle to next production level. Original copies should be retained for two years after sale. Prospective buyers must be informed of any cattle that have not met withdrawal times.
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CARE AND HUSBANDRY PRACTICES

- All cattle will be handled/transported in such a fashion as to minimize stress, injury and/or bruising.
- Facilities (fences, corrals, load-outs, equipment, etc.) should be inspected regularly to ensure proper care and ease of handling.
- Provide appropriate nutritional and feedstuff management.
- Strive to maintain an environment appropriate to the production setting.
- Biosecurity should be evaluated.

INJECTABLE ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS

- Products labeled for subcutaneous (SQ) administration should be administered ahead of the shoulders.
- All products labeled for intramuscular (IM) use shall be given in the neck region only **(no exceptions, regardless of age.)**
- All products cause tissue damage when injected IM. Therefore all IM use should be avoided if possible.
- Products cleared for SQ, IV or oral administration are recommended.
- Products with low dosage rate are recommended and proper spacing should be followed. **(4 inches apart or one hand width between injections.)**
- No more than 10 cc of product is administered per IM injection site.

FEED ADDITIVES AND MEDICATIONS

- Only FDA approved medicated feed additives will be used in rations.
 - Medicated feed additives will be used in accordance with FDA Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) regulation.
 - Extra-label use of feed additives is illegal and strictly prohibited.
 - To avoid violative residues, withdrawal times must be strictly followed.
 - Complete records must be kept when formulating or feeding medicated feed rations. Records are to be kept a minimum of two years.
 - Operators will assure that all additives are withdrawn at the proper time to avoid violative residues.
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FEEDSTUFFS

- Maintain records of any pesticide/herbicide use on pasture or crops that could potentially lead to violative residues in grazing cattle or feedlot cattle.
 - Assure that adequate quality control program(s) are in place for incoming feedstuffs. Program(s) should be designed to eliminate contamination from molds, mycotoxins or chemicals of incoming feed ingredients. Supplier assurance of feed ingredient quality is recommended.
 - Suspect feedstuffs should be analyzed prior to use.
 - Ruminant-derived protein sources cannot be fed as stipulated by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations.
 - Feeding by-product ingredients should be supported with sound science.
 - Pesticides and herbicides should be clearly marked and stored separately from feed additives to avoid accidental mixing or contamination of feed.
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