



Beef Quality Assurance National Guidelines

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.
- 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 per FDA regulations.
- Feeding by-products ingredients should be supported with sound science.

Feed Additives and Medications:

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- Operator will assure that all additives are withdrawn at the proper time to avoid violative residues.

Processing/Treatment and Records:

- Following all FDA/USDA/EPA guidelines for product(s) utilized.
- All products are to be used per label directions.
- Extra-label drug use shall be kept to a minimum, and uses only when prescribed by a veterinarian working under 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 or group identification.
 2. Date treated.
 3. Product administered and manufacture's lot/serial number.
 4. Dosage used.
 5. Route and location of administration and who administered the product.
 6. Earliest date animal will have cleared withdrawal period.

- When cattle are processed as a group, all cattle within the group shall be identified as such, and the following information recorded:
 1. Group or lot identification.
 2. Date treated.
 3. Product administered and manufacturer's lot/serial number.
 4. Dosage used.
 5. Route and location of administration and who administered the product.
 6. Earliest date animal will have cleared withdrawal period.
- All cattle (fed and non-fed) shipped to slaughter 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.
- All processing and treatment records should be transferred with the cattle to next production level. Prospective buyers must be informed of any cattle that have not met withdrawal times.

Injectable Animal Health Products:

- Products labeled for subcutaneous (SQ) administration should preferably be administered SQ in the neck region.
- All products labeled for intra-muscular (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 rates are recommended and proper spacing should be followed.
- No more than 10 cc of product is administered per IM injection site.

Care and Husbandry Practices:

- Follow the 'Quality Assurance Herd Health Plan' that conforms to good veterinary and husbandry practices.
- All cattle will be handled / transported in such a fashion to minimize stress, injury and/or bruising.
- Facilities (fences, corrals, load-outs, etc.) should be inspected regularly to ensure proper care and ease of handling.
- Strive to keep feed and water handling equipment clean.
- Provide appropriate nutritional and feedstuffs management.
- Strive to maintain an environment appropriate to the production setting.
- Bio-security should be evaluated.
- Records should be kept for a minimum of 2 years (3 for Restricted Use Pesticides)