DID YOU KNOW?

- Most drug residues can be prevented by using good systems for treating animals and documenting treatments.
- Animal identification and marking are key parts of preventing residues.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ANIMAL TREATMENT PROTOCOL CHECKLIST FOR MEAT ANIMALS

Drug residue prevention begins before you even treat an animal. Preparation and consistency are keys to ensuring you can effectively treat an animal and protect against residues in meat. Use the checklist below to ensure you are using best practices for residue prevention.

Before you treat any animals:

☐ Establish the identity of the animal as soon as the animal is born or within a few days of birth.

- Use ear tags or tattoos, number tagging, branding, ear notching, or RFID tags.

☐ Develop written treatment protocols with your veterinarian using products that are approved by the FDA for use in meat animals.

- Use the **Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) Animal Health Treatment Protocols Form** if you don't have your own.
- Keep your protocols current! Review every 6 months or whenever you make a change.

☐ Determine how you will segregate any treated animals.

When you are ready to treat an individual animal:

☐ Decide what drug you will use to treat the animal, how it will be administered, and the duration of treatment. FOLLOW your protocols!

☐ Gather your supplies:

- Treatment equipment
- Marking tools, such as brightly colored paint or ear tags

☐ Move the animal to a treatment area, if possible, for treatment.

☐ Document the treatment using a complete record-keeping form.

☐ Capture all necessary information. Refer to the **MDA Daily Treatment Record Form** or **MDA Treatment Record Book**, if you don't have your own system.

☐ Mark your animal BEFORE you administer the treatment.

Treating your animals:

☐ Use appropriate injection sites, such as neck muscles or the base of ear, in order to minimize injection site lesions and tissue damage.

☐ Follow instructions as stated on the drug label, including injection site limitations.

☐ Calculate your withdrawal time for slaughter. If a veterinarian gives permission to use the drug in a way that is not stated on the label – extra-label drug use (ELDU) – ensure you follow your veterinarian's labeled instructions and document the new ELDU withdrawal time.

☐ Segregate and/or ensure adequate identification of treated animals either individually or as a group.

After treatment:

☐ Retain treatment record for at least two years.

☐ Use a premarketing review process such as the **MDA Pre-marketing Checklist** or **MDA Marketing Log** before marketing an animal for meat.

For further information go to www.mda.state.mn.us/residue-prevention

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651-201-6000. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

3/2024