DID YOU KNOW?

There are several ways to identify treated dairy animals such as:

- Using paint to mark an animal that has been treated where it can be easily seen by milking staff (hind leg, udder or tail)
- Using two methods to mark an animal that has been treated such as leg bands AND paint
  - Moving treated animals to a separate pen

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Follow the 5R's to Prevent Veterinary Drug Residue in Dairy Animals

R1 RELATIONSHIPS

Develop good relationships with people involved in the process

- Establish a good Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)
- Review veterinary recommendations with employees/family members who work on the farm
- Provide employees/family members with regular training on the prevention of milk residues as well as farm protocols for handling animals that have been treated

R2 RESPONSIBLE USE: Use and handle veterinary drugs responsibly

- Minimize use of veterinary drugs to times when they are medically necessary (less use = fewer chances for a residue)
- Store veterinary drugs for lactating and non-lactating animals separately to prevent mix-ups
- Store medicated feeds in a way that would prevent accidental use
- Properly label and store over the counter, prescription, and extra-label drugs, including information with appropriate milk and meat withdrawal times
- Develop animal treatment protocols with the help of the farm veterinarian

R3 RECORDKEEPING

Maintain good records to document treatments

- Use a good system to identify individual animals
- Maintain a recordkeeping system to document all treatments given
- Identify the animal before it is treated
- Record the treatment before it is administered
- Keep treatment records for at least THREE years
- Establish a system for identifying and separating treated animals

R4 RESPECT

Withdrawal times and usage limitations

- Use only veterinary drugs that are approved by the FDA for use in the species and animal class you are treating
- Use the drug only as the FDA label specifies UNLESS your veterinarian prescribes the drug for extra-label usage
- Follow withdrawal periods set by the drug manufacturers and your veterinarian (if using extra-label)

R5 REMOVE DOUBT

- Test milk from treated, fresh and newly purchased cows for drug residues BEFORE commingling into the bulk tank
- Test bulk tank prior to milk leaving the farm, every day, every time
- Review treatment records prior to selling an animal or her milk

For additional information visit **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.

7/2020