

# Beef Quality Assurance

## A Checkerboard for Recommended Guidelines

### Choose The Correct Injection Site Location

Keep all injections in front of the shoulder. Never inject into the top butt or top of the rump. The triangular mass of the neck muscle is the preferred site for both intramuscular and subcutaneous injections.

### Select Subcutaneous Products

Choose products formulated and labeled for subcutaneous injections. All products cause tissue damage when injected intramuscular. Therefore, all IM products should be avoided if possible.

### Always Read The Label

Check for and become familiar with proper dosage, timing of injection, route of administration, warnings, withdrawal times, storage requirements, proper disposal and expiration date.

### Choose The Correct Needle Size

Use 16- or 18-gauge, 1/2 to 3/4 inch for subcutaneous injections. Use 16- or 18-gauge, 1 to 1 1/2 inch for intramuscular injections. Change needles often. Discard burred, bent or broken needles.

### Properly Restrain Animal

Cattle-handling facilities are required to ensure that cattle management practices can be performed properly and in a manner that will minimize the possibility of injury to animals.

### Use Multiple Sites

Never inject more than 10 cc in any one site. Keep injection sites at least 4 inches apart, about 1 hands breadth. Avoid administering injections to wet or manure-covered areas to minimize the risk of injection-site reactions.

### Mix Modified Live Vaccines Correctly

For reconstituting modified live vaccines, use a transfer needle. Mix the vaccine thoroughly before using and shake the bottle periodically. Mix enough vaccine for about 30 minutes use. Keep the vaccine cool and out of the sunlight.

### Different Syringes For Modified Live And Killed Products

Use and mark different syringes for modified live and killed products. If traces of bacterin are left in a syringe that is later used for a modified live product, the bacterin could destroy the modified live virus.

### Keep Equipment Clean

Clean modified live virus syringes using only hot water. Disinfectants can leave residues, which will destroy vaccines. Clean bacterin syringes with hot water or mild disinfectant. Never combine different products.

### Keep Detailed Records

Treatment records should contain animal or group identification, date treated, product administered and manufacturer's lot/serial number, dosage used, route and location of administration, who administered the product and withdrawal date.

### Refrigeration Is Required

Biological products should be kept under refrigeration between 35° to 45° F unless stated differently on the label. Clean refrigerator coils and vents, clean drip pan, defrost if necessary, and check gaskets and seals for leaks.

### Valid Veterinary Client Patient Relationship

Have a good working relationship with a veterinarian. Consult with your veterinarian on the selection and use of antibiotics and on other animal health related issues.

For more information on Beef Quality Assurance contact your local county agent.

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