

Topic of the Month

Veterinary Feed Directive

The FDA's Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) rule will become law on January 1, 2017. This rule means that you will be required to have authorization from a veterinarian to use feeds containing antibiotics for animal use that have been deemed medically important for humans. As such, it will impact crumbles such as terramycin and AS700, and also some water-soluble antibiotics such as lincomycin. It will not impact antibiotics that are not considered medically important, such as rumensin, as well as feed grade medications that are not antibiotics, such as Safeguard.

We have been working to ensure that we will be in compliance with the law. The VFD is similar to a prescription but applies only to drugs that are fed, not injectable medications. After the first of the year, you will need to have this veterinarian issued form to get these drugs from the feed mill. A copy of the form must be maintained by the veterinarian, the feed mill, and the producer for two years. It will also be illegal to feed any feed grade drugs you have left over without the proper documentation. Finally, the VFD document must be issued in the context of a valid VCPR or veterinarian-client-patient relationship, meaning that we can only authorize use of these drugs for our clients when we are overseeing treatment of their animals, and only according to the label directions.

Commodity Futures

Corn(Dec) as of Nov 30	\$3.36
Soybeans(Jan) as of Nov 30	\$10.32
Soybean meal(Dec) as Nov 30	\$316.40
Cheese (Nov) as of Nov 30	\$1.90
Class III(Nov) as of Nov 30	\$16.76
Class III(Dec) as of Nov 30	\$16.94
Class III(Jan) as of Nov 30	\$16.52

Practice News

White Oak Veterinary Clinic will be hosting 2 senior veterinary students in January 2017. We appreciate your patience as we help mold the future of the veterinary profession. While we would never jeopardize the health or safety of your livestock, if you have any concerns about the students that are with us, please bring it to our attention in private.

Winter Preparedness on the Dairy Farm

From Dairyherd.com

Weather this time of year can change in a hurry. "So how many of you as dairy producers have heeded the warning and taken the time to prepare for the upcoming winter?"

Animal Shelter & Health

As we examine the shelter and health side, what is necessary to keep the animals healthy and protected on the dairy?

1. Move calf hutches to areas that are easily accessible in the winter and provide wind protection for young livestock.
2. Have a two-week supply of veterinary supplies commonly used on the dairy such as intra-mammary mastitis treatments, antibiotics, electrolytes, calcium solutions, antiseptics, bandages, unused needles, and syringes.
3. Start utilizing calf coats on newborn calves till they are weaned.
4. Provide adequate bedding for all livestock making sure it is deep enough for them to nest in to help maintain body heat.
5. Examine body condition and hair coat of various groups of livestock, adjust rations appropriately for cold weather.
6. Evaluate housing for livestock in open lots, making sure there is adequate wind protection and the ability to get bedding pack built up for them prior to poor weather.

Upcoming Events

Technology Tuesday Webinar: FARM Program Version 3.0

When: December 13, 2016, 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Where: [Online](#) (Contact Somerset Ext Office for link)

Join our Technology Tuesday Webinar Series to learn about some of the most recent technologies available to dairy producers as well as to revisit some new information on older technologies. All webinars run from 8:30am - 10:30am.