Best Management Practices

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4. Prevention and Processing
5. Pesticides
6. Recordkeeping and Inventory Control
7. Action in Case of a Violation
8. Cattle Handling
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10. Carcass Quality
11. Care, Husbandry and Other Considerations
12. Contamination/Adulteration
Feedstuffs and Sources

- Ruminant By-products
  - Do not use ruminant derived protein sources

- Feed toxins and contaminants
  - Receive/store feeds to prevent mold/mycotoxin formation
  - Analyze suspect feed

Feedstuffs and Sources cont'd

- Handle, store, and use chemicals properly
- Maintain feed-handling equipment
- Clean up spills
- Utilize diagnostic laboratories
- Monitor ingredients for potential contamination
Feed Additives and Medications

- Medicated Feeds
  - Use only FDA-approved medicated feed additives
  - Feed only at recommended rates
  - Follow FDA-approved label
  - Extra-label use of feed additives is illegal
    - No one has the authority to adjust the usage and/or dose as labeled, including a veterinarian

Feed Additives and Medications cont’d

- Monitor every withdrawal time to avoid violative residue

- Follow FDA current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs)
  - Formula record of all medicated feed rations
  - Production records medicate batches of feed produced that contain medicated feed additives
  - Don’t cross-contaminate medicated and non-medicated

- Register an FDS FD-1900 permit if necessary

- Identify treated individuals or groups
Animal Treatments and Health Maintenance

• Broken Needles
  • Follow a protocol/SOP that includes proper restraint of animals and actions for bent or broken needle

• Antibiotic Use
  • Use antibiotics properly
  • Follow label directions for use of product, or extra-label direction from veterinarian with a VCPR
  • Accurately calculate dose requirements
  • Never administer more than 10 cc per injection site
  • Do not mix products prior to administration

Animal Treatments and Health Maintenance cont’d

• Identify individually treated cattle and keep proper records

• Identify groups of treated cattle and keep proper records

• Examine withdrawal records before marketing cattle

• Extended withdrawal times should be expected in some cases, test animals if unsure

• Train all employees on withdrawal times
Prevention and Processing

• Handle cattle gently

• Don’t use chemical disinfectants while using a modified live virus (mlv) product

• Use the proper needle size proper for the situation

• Provide proper restraint to avoid breaking needles

• Purchase high quality needles, change needles often and discard damaged needles

Prevention and Processing cont’d

• Administer injections in front of the shoulders

• Administer less than 10 cc per IM injection site

• Use SQ or IV routes of administration if allowed

• Place implants properly

• Ensure injection site and needle/syringe is clean
Prevention and Processing cont’d

- Wet the area around the chute
- Overall sanitation of equipment is important
- Train sick pen and processing crews

Pesticides

- Chemical Residues
  - Use only agricultural chemicals approved for grazing/feedstuff removal
  - Follow label directions and observe grazing restrictions
  - Prevent accidental exposure
  - Do not use the same sprayer to apply agricultural chemicals that you use to apply livestock pesticides directly to cattle
  - Only use products approved for control of internal and external parasites of cattle
Pesticides cont’d

• Apply topical, oral and/or injectable livestock pesticides at label dose rate

• Document usage and observe all appropriate withdrawal times before marketing cattle

• Prevent consumption of hazardous chemicals and heavy metals

• Separate and properly store chemicals and feedstuffs

• Keep proper records

Recordkeeping and Inventory Control

• Animal Treatment Records
  • Keep animal treatment records for at least three years from the date of transfer or sale of the cattle
  • Provide a copy of the appropriate records to buyer/transferee

• Feed Records
  • Keep feed records for at least two years (an industry standard) from the date of transfer or sale of the cattle
  • Require detailed invoices for all feed products

• Chemical Records
  • Keep chemical/pesticide records per applicable state/federal requirements
Action in Case of a Violation

- If an unacceptable residue is found by FSIS, it is preferable for a joint assessment by the beef operation, the veterinarian, the nutritionist, FSIS, FDA and BQA Program personnel
- Adjustment in the BMP and corrective action taken to prevent reoccurrence of such violation
- All violations should be reported to the BQA Technical Advisory Committee for review and potential adjustment or updating of BQA Guidelines

Cattle Handling

- Use cattle’s natural flight zone
- Use curved chutes and round crowding pens if possible
- Use two or more sorting pens in front of the squeeze chute
- Never fill a crowding pen more than three-quarters full
- Cattle should move easily up the chute
- Cover the sides of the squeeze chute to reduce balking
- Minimize use of cattle prods
- Reduce stress
Culling Management

- Do not market cull animals that pose a public health threat
- Ensure ALL marketed animals have cleared proper withdrawal times
- Do not market cull animals that have a terminal condition
- Do not send cull animals to market that are disabled
- Market cull animals BEFORE they become severely emaciated
- Do not market cull animals with advanced eye lesions

Carcass Quality

- Prevent bruising during animal handling
- When possible, bruising rates will be monitored at the packing/harvest plant
  - Also buckshot, injection site damage
Care, Husbandry and Other Considerations

- Vaccinations
  - Determine target pathogens and select the most effective vaccine
- Prevent exposure of vaccine to heat and UV light
- Always read and follow label directions
- Booster all vaccines when label requires it
- Draw from bottle with sterile needle

Care, Husbandry and Other Considerations cont'd

- Use quality syringes and proper needle size
- Inspect and maintain all working components
- Change needles often
- Administer proper dose
- Administer via recommended route and site
Contamination/Adulteration

• Microbial Contamination
  • Evaluate ways to prevent fecal contamination of cattle feed or oral cavity

• Avoid high-risk feed sources and protect feed supplies from fecal contamination

• Observe septic leach fields and fix any broken pipes

• Train workers about the importance of personal hygiene near feedstuffs or feed bunks, water tanks or even pens where cattle could come in contact with tapeworm segments or eggs spread by infected humans

Contamination/Adulteration cont’d

• Birdshot/Buckshot
  • Never use a shotgun to gather cattle

  • Work with hunters to prevent shooting cattle with any weapon, remove cattle from hunting areas when possible
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