Veterinary Feed Directive

There is only one thing for certain in our lives: change. And if you are a producer who uses antimicrobial medicated feed for prevention or treatment of disease in livestock, a modification to how you currently purchase this feed is looming on the horizon.

developed to protect public health and limit the development of antimicrobial resistance.

Under the veterinary feed directive rule, all medically important antimicrobial feed medications will be used with veterinary supervision.

Producers should not wait to initiate a conversation with their veterinarian and feed supplier and/or distributor regarding the VFD.

The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) and Guidance for Industry 213 took effect on October 1, 2015. It will be fully implemented on January 1, 2017. The VFD is not a new rule. It was originally based on the FDA Guidance for Industry 209 established in April 2012, which delineated policy for the judicious use of medically important antibiotics in food production animals. These policies were

Producers will need a written and valid VFD issued from their valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) veterinarian in order to purchase proper feed-additive medications from their feed supplier and/or distributor.

Also, companies will remove labeled production and performance claims for medically important antimicrobials.

Medically Important Antibiotics

- Penicillins
- Glycopeptides
- Cephalosporins
- Tetracyclines
- Macrolides
- Quinolones
- Sulfas
- Fluoroquinolones

Feed Antibiotics No Longer Allowed For

- Enhanced growth
- Improve feed efficiency

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In order to have a valid VFD, you will need to work with your veterinarian with whom you have established a valid VCPR. Your VCPR veterinarian will examine and diagnose the animal's condition and determine if the use of feed-additive medication is necessary. The veterinarian-issued VFD is for any producer who would like to purchase feed containing antimicrobials that are medically important. Records will need to be maintained by the veterinarian, feed distributor and the producer for two years.

Antimicrobials have been used for years for the treatment of diseases in food production animals; those same medications are also used for treatment of human disease. The use and/or overuse of antimicrobials may have human health concerns as they may lead to the development of resistance of once susceptible organisms, rendering the medication ineffective.

The licensed veterinary professional—and only the veterinary professional, not an owner—is allowed to use a FDA-approved drug in a manner that does not conform with the product label. This is also known as extra-label drug use (ELDU). Extra-label drug usage occurs when there is divergence from the label by usage in a different species, indication, dose, frequency and route of administration.

The Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act of 1994 (AMDUCA) and FDA regulations provide extra-label drug use in all species, not just food producing animals. In addition, an algorithm is used to justify the usage of any approved FDA drug for extra-label drug use. However, certain medications are FDA prohibited and either may not be used at all or in an ELDU manner.

The Veterinary Feed Directive is a departure of previous practice and will take time to establish. The FDA has mandated the deadline for full VFD compliance to be January 1, 2017. Producers should not wait to initiate a conversation with their veterinarian and feed supplier/distributor about the logistics of the VFD rule as it will take time to streamline the process.

Resources

United States Food & Drug Administration (FDA)

http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm071807.htm

Information Provided By:

Sarah Mills-Lloyd
Agriculture Agent
UW-Extension Oconto County
301 Washington Street
Oconto, WI 54162
(920) 834-6845
sarah.millslloyd@ces.uwex.edu

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Author: Sarah Mills-Lloyd, DVM, is an Agriculture Educator in Oconto County with the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension.

PRODUCER GUIDE TO THE VETERINARY FEED DIRECTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF DAIRY SCIENCE
University of Wisconsin-Madison

VETERINARY FEED DIRECTIVE

Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program
Extension

Veterinarian _____
Clinic/Company _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email _____

Client _____
Business/Premise _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell _____
Fax or Email _____

Drug(s) Name _____ Drug(s) Level _____ g/ton Duration of Use _____

Species and Production Class _____ Number of Reorders Authorized _____
(if permitted by the drug approval)

Indications of Use (as approved) _____

Caution (related to this medicated feed, if any) _____

USE OF FEED CONTAINING THIS VETERINARY FEED DIRECTIVE (VFD) DRUG IN A MANNER OTHER THAN AS DIRECTED ON THE LABELING (EXTRALABEL USE) IS NOT PERMITTED

Approximate Number of Animals _____ Other Identification (age, weight, etc.) _____

Premises Description _____

Special Instructions (if any) _____

Affirmation of intent (for combination VFD drugs) (check one box)
For VFD drugs for which there are no approved VFD combinations, only the first affirmation statement should be included

☐ This VFD only authorizes the use of the VFD drug(s) cited in this order and is not intended to authorize the use of such drug combination with any other animal drug

☐ This VFD authorizes the use of the VFD drug(s) cited in this order and is not intended to authorize the use of such drug combination(s) in medicated feed that contains the VFD drug(s) as a component:

Drug(s)	Drug Level(s) and any Special Instructions

☐ This VFD authorizes the use of the VFD drug(s) cited in this order in any FDA-approved, conditionally approved, or indexed combination(s) in medicated feed that contains the VFD drug(s) as a component

Withdrawal Time (if any): This VFD Feed must be withdrawn _____ days prior to slaughter

VFD Date of Issuance _____ Month/Day/Year

VFD Expiration Date _____ Month/Day/Year
(As specified in the approval; cannot exceed 6 months after issuance)

EXAMPLE!