Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) for Youth Livestock Exhibitors

Joe W. Mask, PhD.
Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist
Youth Veterinary Science



How does FDA Classify Drugs?



• There are 3 categories of Veterinary drugs regulated by FDA:

- Over-the-counter (OTC)
- Prescription (Rx)
- Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD)

VFD Time Line (Final Rule)



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Most antibiotics intended for use in <u>feed</u> that are currently available "over-the-counter" will become VFD drugs.

VFD Focus



Current focus is on antibiotics delivered in feeds and water.

For example:

Lincomycin-(swine feed)

Tetracycline-(poultry water)

Veterinarian-Livestock Exhibitor-Patient Relationship (VCPR)



For a VFD order to be written by a Veterinarian, the Livestock Exhibitor must establish a working relationship with his or her Veterinarian similar to what one would have with their family doctor. This relationship is referred to as a Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR)



When should Livestock Exhibitors begin the VCPR?

Prior to getting their youth livestock project

What are the changes to the VFD rule?



Transitions most antibiotics found in the feed that are currently available "over-the-counter" (OTC) into the VFD drug category.

What are VFD Drugs?



- VFD drugs are FDA-approved for use in animal feeds under veterinarian supervision and under written VFD orders.
- Antibiotics delivered in feeds that have been deemed by FDA to be medically-important to human medicine.
- A label for the feed must state if the additive is a VFD drug or not.



Livestock Exhibitors need written authorization from a licensed veterinarian whom they have an established relationship (VCPR)

As a Livestock Exhibitor can I feed a VFD feed past the VFD expiration date?



No. A VFD feed or combination VFD feed must not be fed to animals after the expiration date on the VFD.

My VFD order is set to expire before I can complete the duration of use on the order, what should I do?



A VFD feed must not be fed to animals after the expiration date on the VFD. You should contact your veterinarian to request a new VFD order.



Medicated feed can ONLY be fed as per the label.

Steps to obtain a VFD order



- (1). Contact your veterinarian with whom you have a working relationship (VCPR). If a Livestock Exhibitor does not have a VCPR with an veterinarian, then the preliminary step is to establish that relationship.
- (2). In consultation the veterinarian and livestock exhibitor determined whether conditions warrant use of a VFD drug.
- (3). If warranted, the veterinarian issues a written and signed VFD order containing information specified by regulations. Verbal orders are not allowed but electronic orders are acceptable. Incomplete and unsigned orders are invalid and cannot be filled.

Once a VFD order is written



The veterinarian retains the original VFD order and gives the completed copies to the Livestock Exhibitor.

The Livestock Exhibitor keeps a copy and gives a copy of the VFD to the feed mill or feed distributor supplying the VFD feed.

The VFD order allows the feed to be released to the Livestock Exhibitor.

The VFD must be retained for 2 years.

Basic Livestock Exhibitor Responsibilities



- Contact your veterinarian for consultation and guidance.
- Establish a VCPR with your veterinarian.
- Follow your veterinarian's recommendations.
- Administer the VFD medicated feed according to the directions on the VFD order.

Basic Livestock Exhibitor Responsibilities



- Keep copies of your VFD orders for at least two years.
- Keep Accurate Records (not to just have records but to have records that focus on what is necessary)

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