

Injection Site Placement

Any injection in muscle decreases meat quality and tenderness. ALWAYS use the neck for injections. Injections in the hind-quarter can damage numerous high priced cuts.



All SQ and IM injections must be given in the triangle area in front of the slope of the shoulder.

Needles and Syringes

- 1. Use only quality, sterile needles and syringes.
- 2. Change needles every 10-15 head.
- 3. For subcutaneous (SQ) injections, use a 16- or 18- gauge B-Bevel needle.
- 4. 1/2- to 3/4-inch long.
- 5. For intramuscular (IM) injections, use a 16or 18- gauge B-Bevel needle 1-inch long.
- 6. NEVER use a bent or contaminated needle.
- 7. Mark syringes and keep them separate: modified live products in one, bacterins or killed products in another.

The Product

- 1. Choose low-dose, low-irritant, subcutaneous (SQ) products whenever possible.
- 2. ALWAYS read the label!
- 3. When in doubt on instructions or administration ask your veterinarian.
- 4. Protect vaccines from exposure to heat and UV light.
- 5. Calculate the proper dose based on label directions.
- 6. Booster all vaccines as directed by the label.
- 7. NEVER mix products.
- 8. Modified live vaccine begins to lose effectiveness 60 minutes after mixing.



Herd Health Plan

Developing and following a herd health plan helps to reduce your economic losses through prevention and/or early intervention. General herd health guidelines include:

- 1. Offer animals safe, well-managed feedstuffs.
- 2. Practice "Low Stress" cattle handling techniques.
- 3. Keep records for at least three years from the transfer of cattle and make available to the next production sector.
- 4. Control external and internal parasites.
- 5. Establish a veterinary/client/patient relationship.

Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR)

- For the health and well-being of cattle, it is critical for a veterinarian-clientpatient relationship (VCPR) to exist between veterinarians, their clients, and their patients.
- A valid VCPR is required for all prescription medications, extra-label use of non-prescription medications and all FDA feed medications that require a "Veterinary Feed Directive" (VFD).

Needle Selection Recommendations

Route of Administration

Injectable viscosity	S Q (1/2 to 3/4 inch needle) Cattle weight			I M (3/4 to 1 inch needle) Cattle weight			I V (1 to 1 1/2 inch needle) Cattle weight		
	< 300	300 700	> 700	< 300	300 700	> 700	< 300	300 700	> 700
Thin	18	18-16	16	20-18	18-16	18-16	18-16	18-16	16-14
Example: most vaccines	gauge	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	gauge	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}
Thick	18-16	18-16	16-14	18-16	18-16	16	18-16	18-16	16-14
Example: thick antibiotics	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	gauge	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}	_{gauge}

SELECT THE NEEDLE TO FIT THE CATTLE SIZE (USE THE SMALLEST PRACTICAL SIZE WITHOUT FEAR OF BENDING)

Gauge – The diameter of the needle, needs to fit the viscosity and be adjusted to the cattle weight. Length – should fit the route of administration IM or SQ and be adjusted to cattle weight.









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