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FDA Regulations Will Reduce Livestock Industry's Use of

Feed-Additive Drugs

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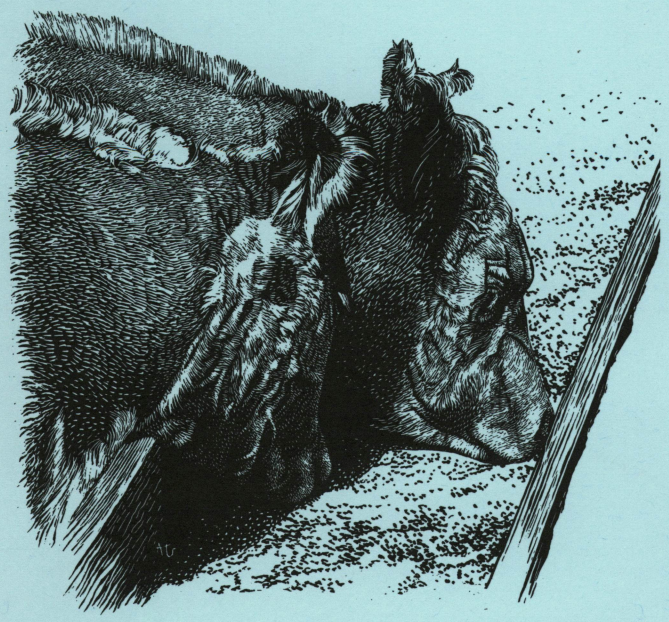
For several years, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has been taking a close look at drugs used in animal feeds. A task force was organized to make an investigation. Comments were received from interested people and organizations. As a result of the investigation and comments, FDA recently issued an order that will affect quite a number of our feed additive drugs.

Briefly, the FDA action means that subtherapeutic levels of antibacterial drugs — levels used to **prevent** disease — will not be allowed after April 20, 1975, unless data are submitted that definitely show the drugs are safe for man and animals and are effective for the intended purpose.



There are two reasons for concern over antibacterial drugs fed at low levels over long periods of time. One is that bacteria develop a resistance to a particular drug. Thus the drug becomes ineffective for treating disease caused by that particular bacterial strain in humans as well as animals. The other is that humans who consume drug-contaminated animal products may possibly become sensitized to the drug itself. This sensitization can lead to allergic or anaphylactic reactions that may be serious, even fatal.

Drugs used for short periods of time to treat specific diseases are not as great a concern because bacteria do not have as much opportunity to build resistance.

Because of these concerns and the FDA actions, each of us must take full responsibility for feed-additive drugs supplied to food-producing animals. Follow manufacturer's recommendations carefully. Be alert to changes in recommendations. Common drugs used in feed and the current recommendations for withdrawal times in principal food-producing farm animals are listed on the following page.

From time to time, drugs are added or taken off the list of those allowed for feed additive use. Withdrawal times may be changed. Be sure always to read and follow the directions. Consult with your veterinarian if in doubt. Very few drugs can be fed to lactating dairy cattle. Because of the limited market many drugs withdrawal times have not been established for sheep.

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Pre-Slaughter Withdrawal Times for Some Commonly Used Drugs and Chemicals in Food-Producing Animals

Food or Water Additive	Cattle	Swine	Sheep
Arsenicals	--	5 days	--
Aureomycin & sulfa	7 days	7 days	--
Bacitracin	0	0	--
Carbadox	--	10 wks	--
Chlormadinone Acetate (Skedule) (Matrol)	28 days	--	--
Chlortetracycline (Aureomycin)	(None up to 350 mg. per ton. Over 350 mg. per ton. 2 days. For anaplasmosis carriers feed 5 mg. per pound, 10 days.)		
Ethylenediamine Dihydriodide (Organic Iodine)	Do not use at treatment levels in animals whose milk is used for human consumption.		
Furazolidone	--	0	--
Hygromycin B	--	5 days	--
Irradiated Dried Yeast	0	--	--
Levamisole Hydrochloride (Tramisol)	2 days	3 days	--
Melengestrol Acetate	2 days	--	--
Neomycin	*	*	*
Nitrofurazone	--	5 days	--
Oxytetracycline (Terramycin)	*	*	*
Penicillin	**	2 days	--
Phenothiazine	(Do not use milk for human consumption for 4 days after discontinuing.)		
Piperazine	--	0	--
Poloxalene	0	--	--
Propylene Glycol	0	--	--
Ronnel	10 days	--	--
Sulfonamides	10 days, unless otherwise declared.		
Thiabendozole	3 days	30 days	30 days
Tylosin (tylan)	--	5 days	--
Tylan and sulfa	--	5 days	--

-- Not listed for use in this species.
* Withdrawal time not listed
** None when used for bloat prevention

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