

Assessing Your Risks: A Tool to Help You Manage Your Dairy Beef

Print this form and answer these questions for your dairy as best you can. This is for YOUR use but you may want to share information with your advisors if you need to address some risky areas.

What can you do to ensure quality dairy beef? MANAGE – MONITOR – MARKET*
Go through this checklist and assess your risks. Those answers in NON-BOLDED form indicate a RISKY PRACTICE.

Managing Feedstuffs and Additives

* Chemicals housed in area remote from feed storage?	YES	NO
* Chemical storage labeled with large letters?	YES	NO
* Restricted access to chemical storage area?	YES	NO
* Feeding ruminant-derived protein?	YES	NO
* Feed suppliers have quality control testing? (Bonded suppliers test for PCBs, CHCs, OPs, heavy metals Salmonella, pesticides and herbicides)	YES	NO
* Do a visual inspection of all new feedstuffs? (color, odor, moisture, temperature, foreign material)	YES	NO
* Check feed handling equipment for fluid leaks?)	YES	NO
* Have separate feed and manure handling equipment? (Or cleaned before using for feed)	YES	NO
* Treated seed grains kept separated from feed area?	YES	NO

Managing Individual Treatments and Health Maintenance

* Individual ID on every cow?	YES	NO
* Identification on treated cattle?	YES	NO
* Record of treatment (ID, drug, date, withdrawal time)?	YES	NO
* Follow drug withdrawal times?	YES	NO
* Follow vaccine withdrawal times?	YES	NO
* Follow dewormer withdrawal times?	YES	NO
* Have a written set of treatment protocols from your veterinarian?	YES	NO
* Use products with extended withdrawal times? (gentamicin, kanamycin, neomycin)	YES	NO
* Have a veterinarian's label on each extra-label drug use? (Includes drugs used at higher dosages: label has veterinarian's name, address, phone, revised directions for use and revised withdrawal time)	YES	NO
* If drug used extra-label, was a diagnosis made by vet?	YES	NO
* Have one person responsible for checking withdrawal times before marketing the cow or milk?	YES	NO
* Provide regular worker training on treatment protocols?	YES	NO

Managing Injections

* Give IM injections in the neck?	YES	NO
* Give no more than 10cc per IM injection site?	YES	NO
* Animals well-restrained when receiving injections?	YES	NO
* Try to use Sub-Q injection if possible (on label)?	YES	NO
* Send animals with broken needles in them to slaughter?	YES	NO
* Use appropriately-sized needle(14-18 gauge)?	YES	NO
* Re-use needles and syringes?	YES	NO
* Needles stored in drug bottle top?	YES	NO
* Give injections according to label directions?	YES	NO
* Give injections in clean, dry site on the cow?	YES	NO

Cattle Handling to Reduce Bruising

* Solid walls for loading chutes and ramps?	YES	NO
* Lighted loading areas?	YES	NO
* Avoid loud noises when loading cattle?	YES	NO
* Employees trained in moving cattle?	YES	NO
* Use electric prods when moving cattle?	YES	NO

Managing Diseases

* Check for cancer eyes early and treat?	YES	NO
* Marketing sick cows or cows with fever?	YES	NO
* Marketing lame cows?	YES	NO
* Marketing downer cows?	YES	NO
* Have a herd health program?	YES	NO
* Working with a veterinarian?	YES	NO
* Market cows with body condition score < 2?	YES	NO
* Market cows with body condition score > 4?	YES	NO

Managing Culling

* Have a plan for culling and marketing cows?	YES	NO
* Is culling based on production or relative value?	YES	NO
* Would personally eat the meat from <u>all</u> your market cows?	YES	NO

TOTALS (add up the total number of risky practices) =

* This risk assessment tool for dairy producers and their market cattle was adapted from the National Cattlemens Beef Quality Assurance – Good Management Practices.