

SOP No: ATT 059

SUBJECT: Dairy cattle vaccination

POLICY: Minimum number of 2 operators required

Demonstrator: Experience in these procedures.

Students: Basic understanding of anatomy, familiarity with the technique using non-living material, familiarity with handling animals.

Procedures should be clearly demonstrated before student's attempt them and students should be supervised when they do attempt this procedure. Students should also be aware of the requirements for sterile technique.

PRECAUTIONS:

- Wear steel-capped rubber boots and appropriate sun protection.
- Cattle should be handled quietly before, during and after the procedure.
- Understood the flight zones of the animal.
- Cattle should not be overcrowded in yards.
- Wash hands and exposed body parts thoroughly with soap and water after handling animals.
- Vaccination must be carried out strictly according to label directions. Note expiry date, batch number and date of vaccination.
- Vaccination should only be carried out at the frequency specified on the label. If a 'skills' mob is used for student training purposes, stock should only be vaccinated once per week, and then only with sterile normal saline. Do not vaccinate on wet days.
- To avoid injection site residues and damage to prime cuts of meat, intramuscular injections should be administered into the neck. No more than 10mL should be administered intramuscularly into any one site.

EQUIPMENT:

Sterile needles
Auto vaccination gun
Drafting yards
Sterilising solution

PROCEDURE:

Stock may be restrained in a crush/head bail or race.

Vaccination of stock should be avoided if they are wet from rain.

Appropriate needle length and gauge should be used. Needles should be disinfected between injections and replaced as required.

Product label instructions should be followed. Note expiry date of vaccine.

Subcutaneous injections should be given on either side of the neck, just below and behind the ear, in keeping with Cattle Care Quality Assurance guidelines.

On completion of procedure note the date of vaccination and observe animal for signs of distress.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: 24.06.2009

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/research-teaching/policies/sop/cattle/vaccination>