



Cooperative Extension Service
LaRue County
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NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

LARUE COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S

Meeting: 4/11 at 7pm

Speaker: Phyllis Gentry, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association Regional Vice President

Topic: What KCA does for you



LaRue County Cattlemen will meet on *Tuesday, April 11th at 7pm* at the LC Extension Office. There will be a meal provided and we ask that you please bring a

SHEEP & GOAT MEETING

Meeting: 4/25 at 6:30pm

Speaker: KSU Vet., Dr. Jessie Lay

Topic: Vaccine Protocols in Small Ruminants

There will be a Sheep & Goat meeting on Tuesday, *April 25th at 6:30pm* at the Extension Office.



Sincerely,

Marla Stillwell
LaRue County Extension Agent for
Family & Consumer Sciences Education
Email: marla.stillwell@uky.edu

Misty Wilmoth
LaRue County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth
Development Education
Email: mwilmoth@uky.edu



FARMERS MARKET

 Cooperative
Extension Service

2023

LARUE COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

opening day
June 8th at 10 am

LaRue County High School Parking Lot



NOW ACCEPTING VENDORS

Contact the Extension Office for more information, 270-358-3401.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

LC Cattlemen's scholarship applications are now available. Scan this QR code or stop by the Extension Office for an application. Deadline is **April 21st**.



LARUE
COUNTY
CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

Scholarship

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 21, 2023

LaRue County Extension Service, 807 Old Elizabethtown Rd., Hodgenville - (270) 358-3401

\$500

BEEF IRM CALENDARS

There are a limited number of **2023 Beef Integrated Resource Management Calendars** available at the Extension Office.



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ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP - WHAT TO DO NOW TO PREPARE FOR CHANGES AHEAD

DR. MICHELLE ARNOLD, UK VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

On June 11th, 2021, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) finalized a Guidance for Industry (GFI) #263, which outlines the process for animal drug manufacturers to change all remaining antibiotic formulations used in animal health care from over-the-counter (OTC) to prescription status. Products commonly used by beef producers such as injectable penicillin and oxytetracycline (for example, LA-300) will no longer be available without a prescription from a veterinarian as of **June 2023**. Specifically, all dosage forms of medically important antimicrobials approved for use in animals will only be available from, or under the supervision of, a licensed veterinarian, and only when necessary for the treatment, control, or prevention of specific diseases. Producers will need to consult a veterinarian to obtain all antibiotics in any form (injectable, bolus, topical, intramammary) or to request a prescription to purchase them from a distributor.

FDA's goal through GFI #263 is to curb the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria and, in turn, reduce the risk of human infections that are difficult to treat due to ineffective antibiotics. To accomplish the goal, FDA is promoting the implementation of "responsible antibiotic stewardship practices in veterinary medicine" which are defined as "actions that preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics while maintaining animal health". Examples of responsible practices include **1) only using antibiotics when necessary to treat a sick animal; 2) establishing vaccination protocols and other disease prevention plans to reduce the need for antibiotics; and 3) livestock owners and veterinarians working together to make decisions to improve the overall animal health and welfare of the herd over the long term.**

Given that this change is less than 6 months away, what can a livestock producer do now to prepare for it? For a veterinarian to legally sell or prescribe prescription products, FDA states, "A licensed veterinarian may legally use or dispense a prescription animal drug only within the course of her/his professional practice where a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists. Veterinarians employed by drug manufacturers or distributors may not legally dispense prescription drugs to laypersons unless they meet the above criteria. Similarly, practicing veterinarians or their employees may not legally sell prescription animal drugs to walk-in customers unless the same criteria are met." Therefore, the first step to do now is establish a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR). Kentucky has its own definition of a VCPR (**see Box 1**). Although the rules are straightforward, how to build a VCPR first requires communication with a veterinarian and asking the question "What do I need to do to establish and maintain a VCPR with you?"

The law requires the veterinarian to be familiar with the client, the livestock, and the management of the animals on the farm through "medically appropriate and timely visits" to the place the animals are kept. Scheduling routine veterinary visits to the farm at intervals established by the veterinarian is a perfect way to meet this requirement. At a minimum, the veterinarian needs to know the livestock business you are in (commercial cow/calf; stocker/backgrounder; seedstock

Box 1

KRS Sec 321.185 Veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR)

(1) In order for a veterinarian to practice veterinary medicine, a relationship among the veterinarian, the client, and the patient shall be established and maintained.

"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that:

(a) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for veterinary treatment, and the client, whether owner or other caretaker, has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;

(b) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and

(c) The practicing veterinarian is readily available or shall provide medical service for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. A new regimen of therapy shall be contingent only upon cooperation of the client and availability of the subject animal.

(2) The veterinarian shall maintain records which document patient visits, diagnosis, treatment, and other relevant information.

operation), what vaccines are routinely given and when, what diseases are recurring problems at the farm and how you typically treat them (for example, pinkeye, foot rot, bronchopneumonia, calf scours, etc.) and any health concerns that may be on the horizon. Some veterinarians will execute a written VCPR agreement although it is not required.

Once the VCPR is established and recognized by both the client and the veterinarian, then the discussions can begin regarding how to obtain prescription antibiotics after June 2023. Working with the veterinarian to establish when antibiotics are necessary before illness occurs is crucial to having the drugs on hand when needed. Setting up treatment protocols in advance with the veterinarian for common problems on your farm, including a written plan of when to treat an animal (also known as a “case definition”), what drug to use (dose, route of administration, how often to give it), what treatment records should be kept, and how withdrawal times will be recorded and observed will reduce the need for emergency veterinary visits and expedite treatment. An important piece of the protocol is to establish when an antibiotic treatment should be considered a failure and what the next step should be when failure is recognized. The treatment protocol needs to be discussed with every person on the farm who may be involved in identifying, pulling and treating an animal in the herd.

Although producers express frustration if a veterinarian does not honor a request for a prescription medication or veterinary feed directive (VFD), it is important to understand that any violative antibiotic residue detected at slaughter will result in an investigation of the veterinarian who prescribed the drug, even if the drug was administered improperly by the producer and/or instructions were not followed. In addition, if a drug is used in any manner differently from what is written on the label (known as Extra label drug use or ELDU), the meat withdrawal time usually must be extended. For example, if a higher than label dose is used, it changes when the residue concentrations will fall below the drug testing tolerance. Bear in mind that any drug delivered with a dart is considered extra label use and may require an extended withdrawal period, even when all other label directions are met. The only way a drug can legally be used extra label is when it is prescribed by a veterinarian, who must also issue an extended withdrawal interval. Veterinarians can contact the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) for guidance in establishing the required withdrawal time.

Bottom Line: Talk to your veterinarian, sooner rather than later!

Off the Hoof– 2/6/2023

Questions to Ask Your Vet

- What do we need to do to establish and maintain a VCPR?
- What should my treatment records include?
- What illnesses and conditions should we establish a protocol for?
- How can I improve antibiotic stewardship on my operation?
- How will I get a prescription for an antibiotic?

FDA

Figure 1: Excerpted from FDA “Antibiotic Stewardship in Veterinary Medicine” brochure; accessed 1/10/2023

BACKYARD POULTRY

Series

**THURSDAY
3/30**
-6:30 PM-
**Backyard
Poultry Basics
& Incubation**

**THURSDAY
4/6**
-6:30 PM-
**Backyard
Layers**

**THURSDAY
4/20**
-6:30 PM-
**Backyard
Meat Birds**

**SATURDAY
4/29**
-10 AM-
**Chicken
Tractor
Construction
Workshop**

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University of Kentucky
 College of Agriculture,
 Food and Environment
 Cooperative Extension Service

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



AGENT VACANCY

We are hopeful that the Agriculture and Natural Resources Education agent position will be posted soon. Keep an eye out & help us spread the word when it does!



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 Extension Service

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