



TALK LEADER INSTRUCTIONS

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize your talk to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the participants.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and the date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.

WORK ACTIVITY

Livestock farming commonly requires the handling and administration of veterinary medicines such as antibiotics, vaccines, injectable or inhalation anaesthetics, disinfectants and perhaps even steroids. If you have a specific risks to any of these—such as an allergy to penicillin—tell me / your supervisor.

BACKGROUND

Medicines should be protected from changes in temperature, sunlight, dust, moisture, animals and insects. Product labels will indicate the recommended storage temperature. Ideal storage for farm medicine is a clean, dry, frost-free area such as a farm office, utility room or refrigerator set at between 2 to 8°C. Lock the medicine storage area to prevent access by children or unauthorized individuals.

Key Points

Our farm has Standard Operating Practices for handling medicines and use additional protective clothing and equipment as specified. If you don't remember them, review them—you can find them: _____.

HANDLING PRACTICES

Treat all medicinal products as potentially harmful.

Be aware of the type of medicine you are handling and the hazards associated with it. Read the label to find out what to do if it is inhaled, you are pricked by a needle, sprayed in your eye, etc.

Wear disposable gloves when handling any open or loose products.

Inform me / your supervisor if you are or expect to become pregnant.

In the case of pregnancy be aware of and avoid handling medicines as they

may harm your unborn child or cause miscarriage.

Inform me / your supervisor if you experience any allergies or adverse effect thought to be caused or made worse by the handling of, or exposure to, veterinary medicinal products.

Wash your hands after handling medicines, even if disposable gloves have been worn.

Document which animal was treated for what, and with what medicines, as required by our on-farm record keeping practices.

Our veterinary medicines are stored: _____.

Our vet medicine records are kept: _____.

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CAUTION

When administering treatments and needles to animals, be sure to do so in an area with proper animal restraints (e.g. a chute or pen) and ensure you have plenty of help with you.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES / CONTACTS

In case of incident or injury, call 911 or your local emergency services and me / your supervisor.

MORE RESOURCES

Proper Storage of Veterinary Medicines (April 2002), by National Ag Safety Database, available at <http://nasdonline.org/document/1674/d001555/proper-storage-of-veterinary-medicines.html>.

INVENTORY MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL

Purchase drugs in quantities which will be used in a reasonable amount of time. Check product expiry dates before purchase. Use products with older expiry dates first. Discard expired products.

- Many veterinarians and manufacturers will accept expired products at the purchase location.
- In some municipalities, medicines can be disposed of on “Household Hazardous Waste Days.”
- Animal pesticides (e.g. dewormers, louse control products, etc.) must be disposed of in an identical manner to crop pesticides.

“Sharps” refers to used needles, scalpel blades and syringes with needles attached. Sharps should be stored in a leak-proof, puncture-proof

plastic container with a resealable lid. Clearly label the sharps container as “Bio-Medical Waste” and “Do Not Use For Treatment.” Never fill these containers to the top! Keep the sharps container in a dry, safe area to prevent access by children or pets, and where the contents will not be accidentally used again. Our sharps container is kept:

_____.

Never reuse livestock medicine containers. Store containers for discarding in a way that prevents access by children, livestock and pets. Most washed containers (with the exception of pesticide containers) may be disposed of in landfill sites. In our municipality, disposal is done by:

_____.

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS

(Use extra pages to write further comments or suggestions)

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

TOOLBOX TALK PARTICIPANTS

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____



CanadaFarmSafe
SécuriFermeCanada

This Producer Tool was developed by the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA). Conducting regular Toolbox Talks, or safety meetings, with farm workers is one component of establishing a comprehensive farm safety plan as outlined in the Canada FarmSafe Plan, CASA's business-risk management tool for health and safety on the farm. To download the core Canada FarmSafe Plan, visit www.casa-acsa.ca/CanadaFarmSafePlan, or contact CASA to learn more at 1-877-452-2272.

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