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www.farad.org

The Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) is supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and is staffed by highly-trained veterinary pharmacologists, toxicologists and food animal specialists. FARAD provides open access to comprehensive up-to-date information and data resources for food animal drugs and science-based estimates of safe withdrawal intervals for food-producing animal species that have been treated with or exposed to drugs or other chemicals.

[agriculture.ks.gov/
drugresidueavoidance](http://agriculture.ks.gov/drugresidueavoidance)

Find more information on the Kansas Drug Residue Avoidance program, which promotes the prevention of illegal drug residues in food producing animals through educational outreach and training, improved communication, and effective management practices. Resources include species-specific presentations and videos.

vfdinfo.org

Find the latest information regarding Veterinary Feed Directives (VFDs) for producers, feed mill employees, veterinarians, or distributors. Resources include sample VFD forms and sector-specific informational modules, which answer many common questions about VFDs.

Kansas Department of Agriculture

**Division of Animal Health
1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 564-6601
agriculture.ks.gov/animalhealth**

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Drug Residue Avoidance Small Ruminants



INTRODUCTION

The small ruminant industry, which includes sheep and goat producers, is committed to generating safe and high-quality products. Consumers are able to benefit in many ways from this industry by the production of meat, wool, milk and other by-products.

Quality assurance programs have been created to maximize consumer confidence and acceptance of these products. Standard operating procedures are a key implementation of these programs that help to increase the effectiveness of proper management practices and decrease the potential for disease introduction and drug residues.

DRUG RESIDUE

Drug residue refers to the presence of veterinary pharmaceutical products such as antibiotics, antimicrobials, and deworming products in meat or other animal products. The risk of violative drug residues is minimized when treatment protocols are carefully followed and approved drugs are used for the animal being treated.

Well-defined goals and standards are paramount for quality assurance programs to ensure each product is suitable for its intended use.



ILLEGAL DRUG RESIDUE

An “illegal drug residue” is any drug found above the allowable range in milk or an animal sent to slaughter.

IMPORTANCE OF DRUG RESIDUE

Contaminated meat and milk is a major concern for human health. Any adulterated product may result in drug residue allergies or other adverse effects in humans.

Detection of drug residues may result in milk or meat rejection. Producers found guilty for illegal drug residue may face the following:

- financial penalties,
- criminal penalties,
- refusal at sale barns and packing facilities, or
- negative public perception.



There are very few medications approved for use in goats and sheep. Producers can both stay within the law and treat their animals if they abide by extra-label drug use (ELDU) procedures and work closely with a licensed veterinarian within a valid veterinarian client patient relationship (VCPR).

Milk-producing animals that are treated should be removed from the milking string in accordance with the drug's withdrawal time, or for the duration of lactation if there is no published withdrawal time, to prevent drug residues in the milk.

PREVENTION PRACTICES

Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship

It is important for a producer to have an ongoing relationship with a licensed veterinarian. This helps to ensure the veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and need for medical treatment.

Keep Good Records

Proper record keeping is a good business practice. Thorough records will inspire consumer confidence and demonstrate control over potential residue risk factors. Should your operation get cited for a residue violation and you believe it is a case of mistaken identity, good records are your best evidence that the animal in question does not belong to you.

Avoid Extra-Label Drug Use (ELDU)

ELDU is the use of an animal drug in a manner different from label instructions regarding the disease being treated, route of administration of the drug, dosage of the drug, or recommended treatment regimen. It is important to follow all label directions and withdrawal dates. All ELDU must be under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

Injection Technique

Administer shots in a clean area on the neck. Always read label directions. Take into account route of administration, size of animal, location of injection, volume of injection and thickness of fluid when selecting a needle size. Use disposable syringes, and do not use bent needles.