



Drug Residue Update

Animal drug residues in cull dairy cows are a real problem for the food industry. Seventy percent (70%) of the illegal residues are found in dairy carcasses.

Bad news like this from one of your animals may:

- Establish a pattern whereby you may lose your ability to sell milk
- Jeopardize your ability to sell cull cows
- Put entire dairy industry at risk to market all cull cows for food
- Create a black mark which adds to the critics' claim that the drug should be taken off the market

What can you do?

- Keep accurate drug records
- Follow these records and label instructions to the letter

A recent check of refrigeration used by producers, retail stores and veterinarian clinics found:

- 76% were not fit for drug storage (temperature must be between 35° - 45°)
- Location of the refrigerator was the major factor (refrigerator in barns were too cold!)
STORING DRUGS TOO COLD IS WORSE THAN TOO WARM

Check your refrigerator:

- Most vaccines need to be in the refrigerator.
- Many antibiotics should not be kept in the refrigerator. If a room temperature product is refrigerated often they can not be used and the drugs may be more painful for the animal.

Schedule time for you and your consulting veterinarian to review, inspect, and monitor your drug storage practices. We all have a "steak" in this issue. Verified Premium Plus Beef is a premium meat niche market. Thank you for your extra efforts.

Sincerely,

Keith R. Earlson *Pamela Clancy* *Colette Johnson*

and your friends at Caviness Beef Packers, Ltd.