

THE DAIRY PARTNER



A NEWSLETTER FOR
DAIRY FARM EMPLOYEES

HERD HEALTH

MAY/JUNE 2018

Proper Handling of Vaccines in Hot Weather

Lyssa Seefeldt, Agriculture Agent,
Marquette County UW-Extension

Vaccines are a cornerstone of a good herd health plan. With summer approaching, now is the time to make sure vaccines are handled appropriately in hot weather.

Vaccines need to be handled properly to ensure the effectiveness of the product. If the vaccine isn't at peak efficacy, there is a greater chance that the vaccine doesn't fully protect the animal, leading to an increased chance of contracting an illness.

Most vaccines need to be stored at 35-45° F. This means when a vaccine is out of the refrigerator for vaccinating cattle, the product must be kept at 35-45° F.

Keep a cooler and ice packs around when you are vaccinating a large group of cattle in warm weather so the product stays at the proper temperature. Be sure *not* to let the vaccine freeze. Another part of the proper storage of vaccines is keeping them out of sunlight. By keeping vaccines in a cooler at the proper temperature, the vaccine is also kept out of sunlight.



Oklahoma Cooperative
Extension Service

View a tutorial on making a vaccine cooler at: <https://goo.gl/Bb8x9K>



Photo by [Biggishben~commons/wiki](#)

Always use a sterile needle to remove the vaccine from the multi-dose bottle. When drawing vaccine from the bottle to refill a multi-dose dispensing gun, use a new needle. Syringes used for vaccines should never be used to administer antibiotics due to the potential of residue to inactivate the vaccine.

Proper care of equipment is important. Always make sure to disassemble dispensing guns after each use to clean the internal parts. When cleaning, be sure to use only hot water to clean your equipment. Using soap or disinfectant on the inside could leave a residue that may inactivate the vaccine.

Following these tips will help keep your vaccination program an effective part of the herd health plan.

Consult the product label for specific vaccine storage conditions.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
PROVIDED BY:

UW Center for
Agricultural Safety
& Health

zoetis

FOR ANIMALS. FOR HEALTH. FOR YOU.

Used Tires as Silage Covers

Ryan Sterry, Agriculture Agent St. Croix County UW-Extension

Properly covering bunker silo's and silage piles is very important for providing high quality feed and minimizing feed waste. Used tires are commonly utilized to weigh down plastics covers on bunker silo's and silage piles.

Discarded full casing tires around the farm can become a mosquito breeding ground by trapping water. Awareness of West Nile viruses and Zika virus is increasing, with both being transmitted by mosquitos.

Options to make tires mosquito resistant include:

- Drilling holes in tire sidewalls
- Cutting tires in half
- Removing tire sidewalls
- Use tire sidewall disks instead of whole tires
- Covering unused tires
- Treating tires with a mosquito insecticide



Close-up of sidewall disks on a bunk silo cover.
Source: Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences

An added benefit of cutting or placing holes in tires is reducing their weight for handling. Caution needs to be taken with radial tires, as the steel belting inside of them can be a hazard to workers by cutting, and to cattle if any steel wires accidentally get into the feed. Bias-ply tires are easier to cut and do not pose the metal risk radial tires do, but may be in shorter supply.

When tires cannot be manipulated to reduce the hazard of mosquito breeding, larviciding is another control technique. Larvicides to treat water accumulating in full casing tires include *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti), 6 growth regulators, oils, or monomolecular films. Use of these products requires a certified pesticide applicator license.

Contact your local county recycling coordinator for more information about recycling used tires.

More information can be found in the Penn State Extension publication "Reducing Mosquito Breeding Sites when Using Waste Tires as Anchors for Bunk Silo Covers."

For more information in English and Spanish on mosquito control visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/controlling-mosquitoes-at-home.html>

Contact your County UW-Extension office for English/Spanish Dairy Workers Training resources: www.yourcountyextensionoffice.com

Developed and edited by: Trisha Wagner, Agriculture Agent Jackson County UW-Extension
(715) 284-4257 or trisha.wagner@ces.uwex.edu
Also available on our website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/dairypartnerelcompanero/>