

Pesticide applicator training is changing!


You will not be able to buy a book at the county extension office. Training will be online and testing will be at Whitehall. Please see the flier included in this letter for more information.

Are you ready? Antibiotics for livestock will be prescription only in 2023

Written by [Sandra Stuttgen](#)

This article was originally published in the [Wisconsin Agriculturist](#)

The FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) plan for supporting veterinary antimicrobial stewardship will be fully implemented in 2023 when all remaining over-the-counter (OTC) antibiotics are switched to prescription-only status. The medically important antibiotics (used by humans and animals) becoming prescription only include injectable tylosin, injectable and intramammary penicillin, injectable and oral tetracycline, sulfadimethoxine and sulfamethazine, and cephapirin and cephapirin benzathine intramammary tubes. In addition, lincomycin and gentamicin swine antibiotics' OTC status is switching to prescription only. Vaccines, dewormers, injectable and oral nutritional supplements, ionophores, pro/prebiotics and topical non-antibiotic treatments will not require veterinary prescription.



Medically Important Antimicrobials *those used by both humans and animals* **available by veterinary prescription only** **by June 2023**

tylosin
penicillin
tetracycline
sulfadimethoxine/sulfamethazine
cephapirin/cephapirin benzathine

The CVM evaluates the safety of drugs used in food-producing animals, the impact drug residues have on human intestinal microflora, and the development of human antimicrobial resistance. Drug residues in meat, milk, eggs, and honey from treated animals expose bacteria to trace amounts that don't kill them, but rather allow for the development of antibiotic resistance. Veterinarians are tasked to slow the rate

of bacterial resistance by using antibiotics only when necessary to treat, control, or prevent disease. Doing so preserves antibiotic efficacy for humans and animals.

Under the new rule, producers with current veterinary client-patient relationships (VCPR) may purchase antibiotics directly from their veterinarian or from a distributor with the vet's prescription. Local distributors (for example, farm supply stores) are currently evaluating their ability to manage prescription pharmaceuticals in the future. Wisconsin Administrative Code updates will make it easier for veterinarians (within the context of the VCPR) to utilize telehealth technologies and dispense medication prescribed by another veterinarian.

The VCPR is the key that unlocks the medicine cabinet. Wisconsin Statutes' Chapter 89 defines the VCPR as the relationship between a licensed veterinarian, a client (who owns the animal), and the patient (the animal) in which all the following apply as the veterinarian:

1. Assumes the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the patient, and the client agrees to accept those medical judgments and to follow the vet's instructions.
2. Has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate a general or preliminary diagnosis because of a recent exam or medically appropriate and timely visits to the animal's premises.
3. Is readily available for any follow-up treatment the patient may need, including adverse reactions to medications used or prescribed by the veterinarian.

Livestock veterinarians are in short supply in some areas of Wisconsin, so it is with urgency that I encourage all producers to develop their veterinary relationship. Engage them today to visit your farm to advise treatment protocols and drug orders so that you are prepared to treat your animals in a timely and effective manner.

Tar spot in corn

In addition to death and taxes, there are two things we can be certain of in Wisconsin; cold weather and tar spot in corn. It looks like tar spot is here to stay. How we manage tar spot will affect corn production and profitability.

Tar spot is showing up in more fields every year, the level of infection and the effect on yield is variable from one area of the state to another. If tar spot infection can be slowed down to the late grain fill period, the effect on yield is minimized. Dry weather and more importantly, dry corn leaves, are the biggest environmental factor that slows the infection of tar spot. Foggy nights and days of high humidity with temperatures in the 60-70 degree Fahrenheit range are the most favorable to tar spot infection and development. Managing irrigation in a way that minimizes wetting of corn leaves may have a small impact on preventing tar spot infection.

Tillage may reduce tar spot infection by a small amount. Tilling will bury residue, speeding up the decomposition of the tar spot spores. The problem is that tar spot will move on the wind and a small amount of spore is all that is needed to start an infection. All of the corn fields in a large area would need to be clean tilled to have a large impact on the infection and spread of tar spot. Crop rotation would have a similar effect on tar spot. Rotation would reduce the acreage of infected corn residue,

reducing the amount of spores in the area, however, a small amount of spores can produce a large infection. Profit and soil erosion issues must be balanced with treatment cost of fungicide and yield loss from tar spot before tillage and crop rotation are altered to deal with tar spot.

Hybrid resistance would be the easiest way to manage tar spot. Unfortunately, resistance is not available in the current US hybrid line up. Some hybrids are more tolerant than others to tar spot. Tolerance means a hybrid will lose less potential yield compared to a hybrid with less tolerance to tar spot. The best way to pick a hybrid with tolerance to tar spot is to find a test plot with heavy tar spot pressure and pick the highest yielding hybrid from that plot. Sounds simple, however, is this hybrid a high yielding hybrid in an environment with no or low tar spot pressure? A high level of tolerance, up to the point of resistance, may have a metabolic cost to the hybrid. In other words, the hybrid is expending energy to fight off the infection and to stand guard against infection from tar spot. The expenditure of energy means this hybrid may not be a high yielding hybrid in the absence of tar spot. A heavy infestation of tar spot one year may not mean a heavy infestation next year and vice-a-versa.

Fungicides can be used to combat tar spot. Early treatment at V6 to V8 growth stage appears to be less effective than applications at VT to R1 growth stage. Early (V6 to V8) fungicide applications are not recommended in Wisconsin. Thorough coverage of leaves and proper timing of applications are important to control tar spot and other fungal diseases. Use the following links for more information regarding tar spot in corn and fungicide effectiveness. <https://badgercropdoc.com/2022/07/07/we-found-tar-spot-of-corn-in-2022-now-what/> <https://ipcm.wisc.edu/blog/2021/10/tar-spot-of-corn-is-here-to-stay/> Always read and follow label directions for all pesticides.

Calendar

Grain Marketing, December 13 10:30 registration – 2:30. Melrose American Legion. Lunch will be served.

Badger crops and soils update meeting. In-person Green Bay, **December 13.** In-person La Crosse, **December 15,** Radisson Hotel, 9 am start time. For more information and virtual options go to <https://cropsandsoils.extension.wisc.edu/2022-badger-crops-and-soils-update-meeting/>

Developing your farm business idea, December 15, 6-7 pm. Holmen Community Center. To register, please call Holmen Community Center at 608-399-1870.

Grain marketing, January 10, 10:30 registration – 2:30. Melrose American Legion. Lunch will be served.

Driftless Region Direct Market Info Series, fruits and vegetables. January 18, 1-3pm. Centerville Curling Club.

Pesticide applicator testing. January 17, 10 am – 2:30 pm. Tremple room, Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall. Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

Assess your Farm Business using a SWOT Analysis. January 26, 6-7 pm. Holmen Community Center. To register please call Holmen Community Center at 608-399-1870.

Pesticide applicator testing. January 30, 10 am – 2:30 pm. Tremple room, Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall. Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

Driftless Region Direct Market Info Series, Meat and other animal products. February 8, 1-3pm.
Centerville Curling Club.

Pesticide applicator testing. February 13, 10 am – 2:30 pm. Tremplo room, Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall. Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

Grain marketing, February 14, 10:30 registration – 2:30. Melrose American Legion. Lunch will be served.

Pesticide applicator testing. February 27, 10 am – 2:30 pm. Tremplo room, Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall. Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

Organic farming and grazing. March 9, 11 am – 2:00 pm. Black River Falls Extension Office. Jack Pine Room.

Pesticide applicator testing. March 13, 10 am – 2:30 pm. Tremplo room, Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall. Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

Grain marketing, March 14, 10:30 registration – 2:30. Melrose American Legion. Lunch will be served.

VITAL, Valuably Informed Thriving Agricultural Leader. Program geared towards women in agriculture.
March 17, 10:30 am – 3:30 pm. Osseo City Hall.

Pesticide applicator testing. March 27, 10 am – 2:30 pm. Tremplo room, Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall. Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

Driftless Region Direct Market Info Series, Distillery and other farm enterprises. March 29, 1-3pm.
Centerville Curling Club.