

Cowlitz County Market Sale

Quality Assurance Information 2021

Animal Well-Being

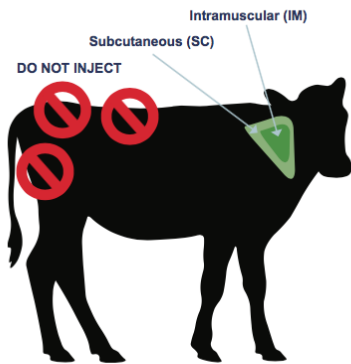
It is important to take daily observations of your livestock project. Observations allow for informed decisions about management, observe growth progress, and if on medications, ensure they are working. Things to note are: feed intake, water intake, animal appearance, animal behavior, manure. It is best to have daily observations that are written down in a notebook or record book.

Medication records are required to be turned in at final weigh in. You must use the WSU Producer Affidavit and Health Record form appropriate for your species. On this form you must properly record all vaccinations, medications, dewormings, and medicated feed/water that has been administered to your animal while in your care. Information to record includes: Treatment date, condition being treated, animal weight, medication name and lot number, amount administered, and withdrawal date. If you did not receive the health affidavit form from your producer, you can find it by going to to [Livestock Animals | 4-H Youth Development Program | Washington State University \(wsu.edu\)](https://www.wsu.edu/4H/4H-Youth-Development-Program/Livestock-Animals) then select your species.

Proper care for animals involves giving them a clean environment, species appropriate enclosure, proper deworming, and high quality feed. Clean pens as needed to avoid prolonged exposure to manure which can lead to more parasite problems. Quality market animals should be on a species appropriate deworming schedule to ensure parasite control which will help with animal weight gain and growth. Feed a high quality ration that is developed for growth of your species. Check feed mineral content and supplement as needed. Clean, cool water should be available at all times.

Food Safety

The animal you are raising needs to result in high quality and safe meat for your buyer. If your animal needs to be given medication make sure any injections are given properly and you are calculating medication dosages and withdrawals correctly. The health record form you will turn in at final weigh in will be signed with your name indicating that your animal is free of medication and proper withdrawal times have been met. On most species the safest location to give injections is on the neck as shown in the picture. Do not inject the loin or hindquarter as meat quality can be decreased and is a meat safety concern.



When calculating the withdrawal times look at the medication manufacturers information and warning about medication residues in the animal. This information is commonly given as the number of days until the medication is out of the animal's system and safe to slaughter after the last dose of the medication was given. For example, if an animal was treated with a medication that had a ten day withdrawal period on May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, the animal would not be safe for slaughter until May 13th, ten days after the last dose was given. Each medication has different withdrawal periods so read labels carefully.

Need more Info?

An online training through Youth for the Quality Care of Animals is available for those seeking certification or more information! (<http://yqca.org/>)

Reviewing this document fulfills the quality assurance training requirements for the participants in the 2021 Cowlitz County Market Sale.