2024 DRUG RESIDUE AVOIDANCE GUIDELINES

JUNIOR MARKET ANIMAL EXHIBITORS, PARENTS, AND 4-H EXTENSION AGENTS: The Colorado State Fair Authority ("Authority") would like to review some very important issues. Colorado's agricultural youth programs are committed to encouraging positive youth development through honest and fair practices in regard to junior livestock events. The Authority also continues its commitment to maintain the integrity of all youth programs. To that end, the Authority will continue testing and screening for a wide spectrum of chemical/drug residues at the 2024 Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition ("CSF"). Strict drug testing and screening will protect the food chain and maintain the high standards of ethics and integrity that the Authority expects from all participants. Drug testing and penalties (including disqualification and forfeiture of awards) for positive drug tests will be **STRICTLY ENFORCED.**

Why is it important to drug test junior livestock projects?

- To protect the safety of the food supply
- To foster fair competition

What is my responsibility as an exhibitor or parent? KNOW THE COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS before you enter any livestock show. The Authority's competition requirements can be found online at www.coloradostatefair.com/competition-requirements.

When you enter the CSF Market shows, you are agreeing to have read and to abide by the Authority's competition requirements, as set forth at https://coloradostatefair.com/competition-requirements.

What are the Colorado State Fair Livestock Show residue avoidance requirements? Pursuant to the Authority's Junior Livestock Competition Requirements the carcass of an animal must "contain no trace or residue of any illegal drug or any other substance not approved for administration to such animal under applicable laws or Colorado State Fair competition requirements and regulations." This means that if positive results are

reported to the Authority from its lab, the Authority has an obligation to investigate to determine what circumstances led to this result.

- **Unapproved drugs are prohibited**. Unapproved means not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for slaughter animals that may be destined for human consumption. This includes the use of all products that are not FDA approved including, but not limited to any diuretic, unapproved growth stimulant, or other unapproved medication meant for human usage.

- **Non-label use of drugs is prohibited**. The non-label use of approved drugs is prohibited and may result in additional investigation around the circumstances and may result in disciplinary action.

- **Products labeled "all natural"** that are not FDA-approved may contain ingredients that can result in a positive test. It is your responsibility to know what ingredients are included in products labeled as "all natural." This includes feed and feed supplements. You have an absolute responsibility to know what is in the feed and supplements you are giving your animals.

What are the best practices for a show animal that falls sick, ill or injured leading up to the Show?

- **Consult with your veterinarian**. First and foremost, consult your veterinarian. Do not administer any medications before visiting with your veterinarian. As a part of this conversation, make certain that both you and the veterinarian are aware of the show's competition requirements. Carefully consider the amount of time prior to arrival at the show and assume that the elimination period is longer than the labeled withdrawal period. From there, you, your family and your veterinarian should discuss options before making the best decision.

- **Make an informed and the best decision possible**. The utmost priority should be the animal's welfare. The welfare of the animal should always take priority over competition. This could result in leaving the animal project at home.

- **Document all treatment records**. If the animal is treated with an approved drug and withdrawal times are observed, maintain an official record of

treatment from the veterinarian, including date of administration and dosage. That information must be listed on the Quality Assurance form submitted at the time of check-in.

If my livestock project receives a positive test, what should I expect?

- The Authority considers each case on an individual basis. Upon receiving a report that any show animal's blood or urine sample resulted in a positive test, the Authority considers a variety of factors, including whether the substance identified in the testing is prohibited. Should the Authority conclude that discipline is appropriate, you will receive notice by mail, including any follow-up steps that are required or options that you may exercise.

What are common types of drugs that I may be penalized for?

- **Antibacterial Therapeutic Medications** – Used to treat infection, these compounds don't create a competitive advantage but can create food safety concerns if not used according to label directions. Many are only FDA-approved for particular species, meaning that extensive research has been conducted regarding the proper dosage and type of administration to be efficacious in that species as well as the withdrawal time that is necessary for meat products to be safe for human consumption.

- **Non-Antibiotic Therapeutic Medications** – Inclusive of anti-inflammatories, antipyretics, diuretics and anesthetics, these medications can result in a competitive advantage by altering the physical appearance of the animal or concerns with food safety. Some are available over the counter and others can only be legally sourced and administered through prescription by a licensed veterinarian. Many are only FDA-approved for a particular species and use in any other species without a prescription by a veterinarian is illegal.

- **Beta-agonists** – Originally developed as bronchodilators in humans, large dosages have a growth-promoting effect in animals and result in increased muscle and decreased fat. The only beta-agonist that is currently FDA-approved and commercially available for use in livestock production is ractopamine, which is labeled for use in market cattle, market swine, and market turkeys with a zero-day withdrawal (i.e. research indicates that meat products are safe for consumption at any time during the feeding period).

The use of beta-agonists in species for which they are not FDA-approved or commercially available creates concerns with food safety or competitive advantage.

The use of all drugs in junior market animals, both unapproved and FDA-approved, is governed by the Authority's Premium Book and the competition requirements located at: https://coloradostatefair.com/competition-requirements.

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