

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Wednesday, April 18, 2018

FOOD SAFETY

Violative Antibiotic Tissue Residues at Slaughter: Sorting Out Who, What and Why

Dr. Bruce Sherman, DVM, MPH, Bureau of Regulatory Services

Most livestock producers are well aware of the importance of having a comprehensive herd health plan developed with their veterinarian that includes the responsible use of antibiotics, now often termed “antibiotic or antimicrobial stewardship,” primarily as a means of preventing residues from such drugs contaminating or adulterating animal-derived food products.

In addition, the emerging crisis of antibiotic resistance, contributed in large part to their overuse, is driving the movement toward enhanced antibiotic stewardship in both veterinary and human medicine and has led to further regulatory controls.

One such control program is testing tissue (meat) at slaughter for antibiotic residues. Producers may not have a good understanding of this program because of the different roles of various agencies that are seldom explained.

USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) oversees the Federal Meat Inspection Act. This act ensures animals are examined before slaughter, humane methods of slaughter are used, and the carcass is examined after being harvested.

The animal’s identification and samples are collected and analyzed before the carcass enters the food chain in order to protect the public from exposure to harmful levels of chemical residues in meat, poultry, and egg products.

Drug residues are any component present in edible tissues after treatment of a parent drug or a metabolite of any drug. Although this article focuses on livestock only, edible tissues include muscle, kidney, fat, skin, milk, egg, or honey. FSIS enters violative information into the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) database and also reports the information to the states.

When a violative sample is at or

above a designated threshold, FDA conducts an investigation. FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is designated to regulate medications given to food animals and to issue enforcement actions.

CVM utilizes a risk scoring system for drug residues that incorporates contributing factors such as the level of exposure, the toxicity of the residue, and the frequency of past violations by the producer or firm in assessing fines or other possible enforcement actions.

These residues are of concern due to the adverse health effects that they can cause in humans, such as an increase in resistant microorganisms, allergic reactions, and acute or chronic effects from consuming such chemicals.

Residue levels are categorized into three levels of concern. The first level is a drug not approved for use in any animal. The second is a drug that was found in an unapproved species or class. The third is a drug found in an approved species or class however, the residue level exceeds the limit.

The FDA investigation will trace back to the source(s) that may have caused the illegal residue. It will involve the review of the farms in-place drug residue avoidance system.

This will include determining if the farm maintains a documented drug inventory, if there is a prescribing veterinarian of record, and if complete treatment records along with proper animal identification are maintained.

Certain management practices will be assessed, such as segregating treated animals, discarding colostrum from treated cows, as well as drug dosage, duration, frequency, route of administration, withdrawal times for meat, and milk, etc. Over the past five years, Connecticut has



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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	2.04	2.18
LARGE	2.02	2.16
MEDIUM	1.26	1.39

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	2.36	2.43
LARGE	2.35	2.49
MEDIUM	1.62	1.85
SMALL	.82	.92

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	55.00	60.50
boners 80-85% lean	54.00	59.50
lean 88-90% lean	49.00	54.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	117.00	122.50
Choice 2-3	113.00	118.00
Select 1-2	106.50	113.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	86.00	90.00
Choice 2-3	80.00	84.50
Select 1-2	74.00	79.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	118.50	121.50
Choice 2-3	113.00	117.00
Select 1-2	106.00	109.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 104-130 lbs	100.00	110.00
No 1 90-102 lbs	110.00	125.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	285.00	310.00
130-150 lbs	235.00	245.00
150-200 lbs	190.00	220.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	120.00	140.00
120-160 lbs	100.00	145.00
160-200 lbs	92.00	120.00
200-300 lbs	77.00	100.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-60 lbs	170.00	205.00
60-80 lbs	210.00	245.00
80-100 lbs	240.00	250.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	215.00	235.00
130-180 lbs	230.00	265.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	240.00	265.00
150-250 lbs	275.00	325.00

USDA WEEKLY LAMB PELTS

FOB major production points. Per piece price.

UNSHORN		
SUPREME	2.50	11.75
PREMIUM	(2.50)	9.50
STANDARD	(1.00)	2.00
FAIR	(1.50)	2.00
MIXED CLASS	(1.50)	1.50
DAMAGED/PULLER	(1.50)	(1.25)
SHORN		
SUPREME	1.50	11.00
PREMIUM	(2.50)	8.50
STANDARD	(2.50)	1.50
FAIR	(2.25)	(1.00)
MIXED CLASS	(2.50)	(2.25)
DAMAGED/PULLER	(2.50)	(2.25)

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 72	28.00	29.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 80	28.00	31.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 88	30.00	31.00
APPL,CRTLAND,FCY,12-3LB	22.00	22.00
APPLE, FUJI, US FANCY, 56	24.00	24.00
APPLE, FUJI, US FANCY, 80	24.00	24.00
APPLE, FUJI, US FANCY, 88	24.00	24.00
APPLE, FUJI, US FANCY, 125	20.00	20.00
APPLE, GALA, #1, 12-3LB, 2-1/2"	21.00	21.00
APPLE, GOLD DEL, #1, 12-3LB	20.00	20.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 72	30.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 80	30.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 88	26.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 100	24.00	26.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 80	21.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 88	21.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 125	17.00	18.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 138	17.00	18.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 88	22.00	23.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 64	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 72	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 80	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, #1, 12-3LB	20.00	20.00
BEAN SPROUTS,10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	22.00	22.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	26.00	26.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LB LOOSE, MED	25.00	25.00
PARSNIPS, 18-1 LB, MEDIUM	23.00	23.00
POTATO,RNDRED,#1,SZA,50LB	11.00	12.00
POTATO,RNDRED,#1,SZB,50LB	13.00	14.00
PTATO,RDWHT,NONSA,10-5LB	14.00	15.00
PTATO, YELLOW, #1CHEF, 50LB	15.00	16.00
TOMS, GHSE, ONVINE, 11 LB	20.00	20.00

BOSTON SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

ASPARAGUS,CA,11LB/BNCH,STD	32.00	32.00
ASPARAGUS,CA,11LB/BNCH,JBO	28.00	28.00
BOK CHOY, CA, 30 LBS	22.00	26.00
CABBAGE, GREEN, FL, 50 LB, M	14.00	16.00
CABBGE,GRN,ORG,FL,45LB,M/L	28.00	28.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, FL, 1-3/4, M	18.00	18.00
COLLARDS, GA, 12 BNCH/CTN	13.00	14.00
CUKES, WAXED, FL, 1-1/9, M	16.00	20.00
DANDELION GRNS, FL, 12	18.00	18.00
ENDIVE, FL, 1-1/9, 24	14.00	16.00
ESCAROLE, FL, 1-1/9, 18	16.00	16.00
GARLIC, ELEPHANT, CA, 10 LB	40.00	42.00
KALE, LACINITO, CA, 24	24.00	24.00
KALE, MULTI, CA, 24	24.00	24.00
LETTIC,RED/GRNLF,CA/AZ, 24	18.00	22.00
MACHE, GHS, PA, 3 LBS	12.00	12.00
MESCLIN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	6.50	7.50
MUSTARD, CRLY, GA, 12	14.00	14.00
ONIONS,BULB, GA, 24 BN/CTN	27.00	27.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, TX, 60BN/CTN	19.00	21.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, TX, 60 BN	20.00	22.00
PEAS,SGRSNP,GUATMLA, 10 LB	12.00	14.00
PEPPERS, FL, 1-1/9, LARGE	15.00	16.00
PEPPER,CUBNL, FL, 1-1/9, M-L	20.00	24.00
POTATO,YELW,FL,3/4-1-5/8",50LB	50.00	55.00
RADISHES, FL, 24 BN/CRATE	14.00	14.00
RHUBARB,OR,OPNFIELD,20 LB	48.00	48.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, 24	25.00	27.00
SPINACH, SAVOY, CA, 24	20.00	24.00
TOMS, CHRRY, FL, 12-1PT BSKT	14.00	16.00
TOMS, GRAPE,FL,20 LB, LOOSE	18.00	19.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - April 16, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	25.00	30.00
61-75 lbs.	40.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	102.50	107.50
91-105 lbs.	110.00	112.50
106 lbs. & up	117.00	120.00
Farm Calves	125.00	300.00
Starter Calves	45.00	55.00
Veal Calves	125.00	150.00
Feeder Heifers	87.50	130.00
Beef Heifers	75.00	110.00
Feeder Steers	100.00	120.00
Beef Steers	80.00	85.00
Feeder Bulls	125.00	132.50
Beef Bulls	77.00	81.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	1.00	2.00
Sows	1@	54.00
Butcher Hogs each	64.00	65.00
Feeder Pigs each	70.00	115.00
Sheep each	125.00	150.00
Lambs each	125.00	330.00
Goats each	130.00	285.00
Kid Goats each	55.00	112.50
Canners	up to	55.00
Cutters	56.00	59.00
Utility Grade Cows	60.00	62.00
Rabbits each	11.00	22.00
Chickens each	6.00	26.00
Ducks each	8.00	13.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	48.00	53.00
	300-350 lbs	36.50	40.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	36.50	49.00
	300-350 lbs	32.00	33.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	28.00	33.00
	500-750 lbs	30.00	35.00
Boars	350-400 lbs	5.00	6.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. FEEDER PIG

Per cwt.

US 2	20-40 lbs	210.00	230.00
	48 lbs	160.00	160.00

BOSTON MARKET CUT FLOWERS

Wholesale price. \$/unit listed.

ANEMONE,NENG,10/BN,L	4.00	5.00
CALLA,STD,NENG,EA	5.50	5.50
FORSYTHIA, CD, /BN, L	11.50	11.50
HYACINTH, NL, 5/BN, L	6.50	6.50
LILAC, PRPL, NL, /BN,XL	42.00	45.00
LISIANTHUS,NENG,/10,L	18.00	18.50
PEONY,SEMIDBL,NL,EA	5.50	5.50
SNAPDRGN,NENG,10/, L	12.50	15.00
SWEETPEA,IT, 10/BN,L	12.50	15.00
TULIP,STD,NJ,10/BN, L	5.95	5.95
TULIP,FRNCH,WA,10/,L	14.50	15.00

GREYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION

April 3, 2018. \$ per lb or as marked.

CHICKS, EA	.25	.75
LAYING PULLETS, EA	6.75	7.10
LEGHORN ROOSTER, EA	6.50	6.50
MUSCOVY DUCK/DRAKE	1.75	2.00
PEKING DUCKS, EACH	6.50	6.50
RED FOWL, 4-5 LBS	.80	1.00
RED FOWL, 5-6 LBS	.95	1.05
TURKEY PULLETS, EA	6.00	6.00

(continued from Page 1)

had tissue residue violations in 15 adult cattle and 20 calves out of all of the dairy and beef animals sent to USDA inspected slaughter establishments.

Often times these violation investigations have incorrectly identified the origin/source of the treated animal due to a compromised chain of custody. These animals can change custody two to four times in the days that follow the animal leaving the farm, prior to harvest.

In a number of instances, the Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s Bureau of Regulatory Services has relied on its Animal Disease Traceability data bases to assist FSIS, FDA, and producers in successfully identifying the true farm of origin responsible for a violative tissue residue and thus avoiding penalizing the wrong farm.

DoAg routinely monitors violative tissue residue information provided by FSIS and FDA and contacts those producers in violation—especially in the case of repeat violators. USDA requires that all dairy cattle/calves of any age be officially identified prior to the first point of comingling such as on transport vehicles or livestock sales barns.

Producers should make sure their receipts and/or their owner/shipper statements include each animal's complete identification number. This practice will help avoid an animal with a violative tissue residue being traced to the incorrect farm.

As part of this system, producers need to include a documented chain-of-custody for every animal that leaves their farm, which records the animal's complete official identification number, description of the animal, date, a signed statement declaring the animal's treatment status (even if there is none), hauler's name, and final intended destination of the animal(s).

Any live animal raised for food or intended to be offered for slaughter is considered food. A food animal in interstate commerce that is considered adulterated or misbranded is cause for legal action.

In summary, a visit to your farm from an FDA investigator and/or a levied fine, both as a result of a violative tissue residue, will not likely be pleasant experiences, so practice good antibiotic stewardship, taking all the recommended and necessary steps of prevention.

DoAg's Bureau of Regulatory Services previously mailed the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) *Milk and Dairy Beef Drug Residue Prevention 2017 Reference Manual* to all Connecticut licensed dairy farms.

The following organizations have information available on steps producers can take to ensure the judicious use of antibiotics and, if warranted, have the proper procedures and documentation in place in case of a violative tissue residue:

NATIONALDAIRYFARM.COM

Or contact the NMPF at

(703) 243-6111

DAIRYFARM@NMPF.ORG

FOODARMOR.ORG

Or contact Food Armor at

(603) 257-3665

kmrdutt@foodarmor.org

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

10-R Greenhouse furnaces, 300,000-400,000 BTU's. Price range from \$1,500 to \$3,000. Call Alex 203-223-4853.

16-R. Farm stand for rent May and June. 30x30 building with attached greenhouse. Established customer base for annuals, bedding plants and perennials. Contact Alex Arisco @ 203-271-0549.

29-R. Round hay bales. Large. Unwrapped. 1st cutting. Fertilized grass hay. \$40.00 a bale and up. 203-264-2217.

30-R. 2-door glass refrigerator, good condition. \$700.00. 2-door glass display freezer, needs help. \$100.00. 2 Modine oil-fired greenhouse furnaces. \$1,600.00 each, or, \$3,000.00 for both. 275 and 500 gallon oil tanks, like new. B/O. Call Joe 860-682-5652.

32-R. Tor-Rey glass door reach-in freezer/merchandiser – 2-door. Like new. Imperial convection oven, Model CV-1, set up for propane. True 2-door glass cooler/merchandiser. Call 860-993-4732.

33. Gentleman farm/hobby farm located in Eastern CT. Private location but yet convenient to stores, restaurants, and highway. Move-in ready with many amenities included. Well established flower gardens. Also, equipment to produce hay. All land flat with very good drainage, including driveway and around house. Whole house generator. John Deere lawn mower, snow blower, dump truck, and trailers. \$520,000.00 OBO. 860-377-1465.

WANTED

7-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. RyanM01@comcast.net or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

HACCP COURSE FOR MEAT & POULTRY PROCESSORS

The University of Connecticut (UConn) will host a Meat and Poultry Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) course May 30 through June 1, 2018.

The course, which will be held at the Nathan Hale Inn at the UConn Storrs campus, is sponsored by UConn Extension in cooperation with the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension System.

This three-day International HACCP Alliance approved Meat and Poultry HACCP course will provide participants with the information they need to prepare a HACCP food safety program and plan for a plant under the USDA Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) Grant of Inspection.

Course dates and times (must be present for entire course):

- Wednesday, May 30 (registration at 8:30 a.m., start at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, May 31 (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) AND
- Friday, June 1 (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

The cost of registration is \$400 per person and covers program costs, parking, continental breakfast, breaks, and lunch. You must pre-register. Space is limited. Registration materials must be received by May 15.

To register online go to www.cahnrcconference.uconn.edu. For more information regarding the program and registration contact Diane Wright Hirsch at diane.hirsch@uconn.edu or 203-407-3163.

FOOD EXPORT USA INTERNSHIP

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for a part-time intern. The agency is a member of Food Export USA (FEUSA), which works with producers of Connecticut food and agricultural products to expand their markets overseas. FEUSA will contract directly with the intern to promote educational activities, events, and other opportunities sponsored by FEUSA that assist Connecticut food companies with international exporting.

The internship will begin in September 2018 and run through the fall semester. Interested applicants can visit www.CTGrown.gov until May 31, 2018, for a complete job description and application instructions.

CT FARM BUREAU WOODLAND MANAGEMENT EVENT

The Connecticut Farm Bureau will hold a program on Managing Your Woodland for Profit and Conservation on Thursday, May 3, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Middlesex County Extension Center, 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT. Learn how to utilize your woodland to help diversify farm and household profit on a sustainable basis.

Speakers will focus on understanding your forest resource, tools and tips for selling timber and other forest products, and grant and cost-share opportunities for forest landowners. This event is free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required. Contact the Connecticut Farm Bureau at 860-768-1100 for additional information or visit: www.cfba.org.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



CTGrown.gov

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