INFO SHEET

Veterinary Services

APHIS

United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

November 2000

Highlights of NAHMS Feedlot '99 Part II

In 1999, the USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) conducted a study of feedlots with 1,000-head or more capacity within the 12 leading cattle feeding states.[1] These feedlots represented 84.9 percent of United States feedlots in 1999 with 1,000-head or more capacity and contained 96.1 percent of the U.S. feedlot cattle inventory on January 1, 2000, on feedlots with 1,000-head or more capacity.

The following information was excerpted from a report released in November 2000, Feedlot '99 *Part II: Baseline Reference of Feedlot Health and Health Management, 1999.* Operations were categorized as small and large, those with capacities of 1,000 to 7,999 head and 8,000 or more, respectively.

Pre-arrival Processing Information

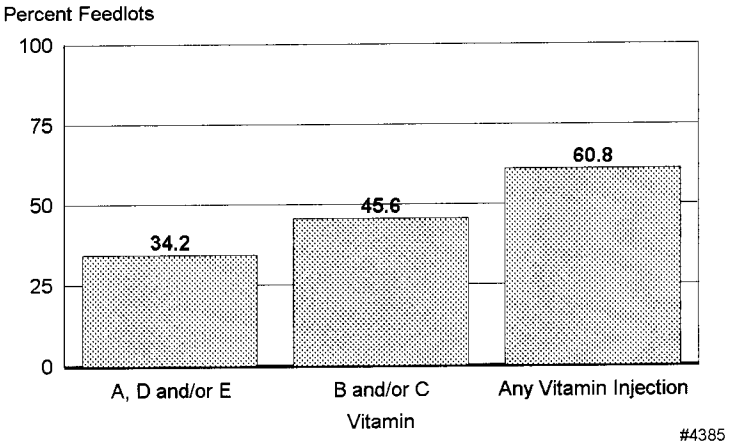
- Overall, 32.4 percent of feedlots received pre-arrival processing information on cattle *always or most of the time*.
- Although similar percentages of large and small feedlots received pre-arrival processing information, a greater percentage of large feedlots (70.2 percent) compared to small feedlots (54.6 percent) considered pre-arrival processing information very important.

Injections

- Approximately three out of five feedlots administered a vitamin injection to cattle (Figure 1).
- Approximately 72 percent of cattle placed in feedlots were vaccinated against clostridial disease. Overall, 15.9 percent of cattle received two or more clostridial vaccinations at the feedlot.

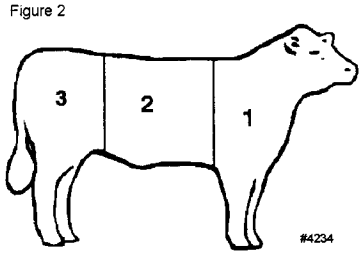
Figure 1

Percent of Feedlots that Gave Vitamin Injections to Cattle by Type of Vitamin



- Of those cattle that received a clostridial vaccination, more than four out of five were vaccinated subcutaneously in the neck region (Figure 2), while the majority of the remainder were administered the toxoid intramuscularly in the neck region.

Figure 2



1) Head, neck, or shoulder
2) Side or rib
3) Lower rear leg, upper rear leg or hip

- Almost all cattle were administered an injectable vaccine against viral respiratory pathogens. Of those cattle vaccinated, 96.9 percent were vaccinated against bovine herpesvirus 1, the virus that causes infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), also known as "red nose." Over 94 percent of cattle were vaccinated against bovine viral diarrhea (BVD).

[1] Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Washington.

- A greater percentage of cattle on small feedlots than on large feedlots were vaccinated against IBR using an intranasal vaccine (Figure 3). Overall, 8.7 percent of cattle were administered an intranasal vaccine against IBR. A total of 97.5 percent of feedlots vaccinated cattle against IBR with either an intranasal or injectable vaccine.

- Nineteen percent of cattle received an antibiotic injection for the prevention or treatment of disease.

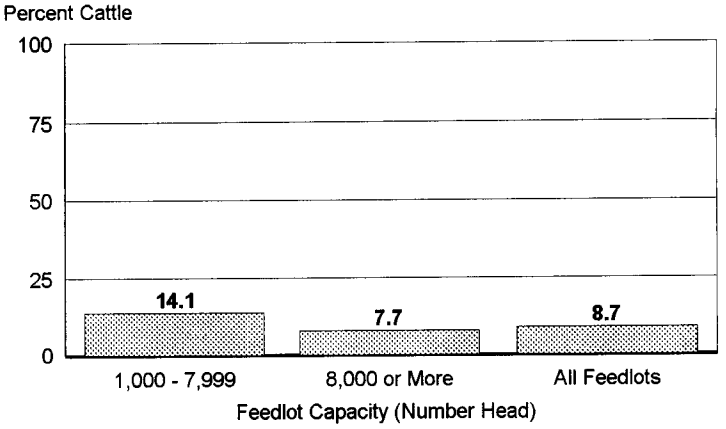
- A greater percentage of cattle on large feedlots (73.0 percent) compared to small feedlots (31.3 percent) were administered an injectable anthelmintic. Overall, about two-thirds of cattle received an injectable anthelmintic.

- Approximately 98 percent of cattle that received an anthelmintic injection were administered these in the neck region (Figure 4), and three out of four of these injections were given using a subcutaneous route.

- On those large operations where injection-related information was recorded, from 97 to 99 percent of large feedlots *always or most of the time* recorded the: date the injection was given, type of injectable compound given, and amount that was given.

Figure 3

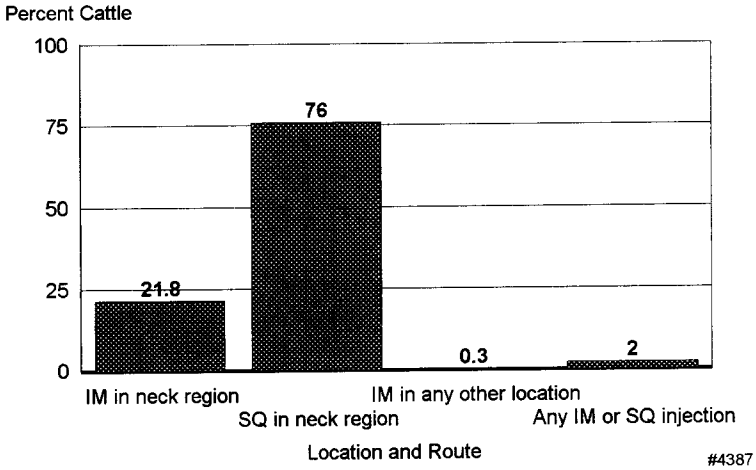
Percent of Cattle Vaccinated with an Intranasal Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR) Vaccine by Feedlot Capacity



#4386

Figure 4

Percent of Cattle that Were Administered Anthelmintic Injections by Location and Route of Administration



#4387

Nutrition

- The predominant method of grain processing used in large feedlots was steam flaking and rolling (used by 61.3 percent of feedlots). The two primary methods of processing used on small feedlots were grinding high moisture corn (57.0 percent of feedlots) and dry rolling (51.2 percent).

- Almost all feedlots used corn in the finishing ration of cattle. Small feedlots were more likely to use corn byproducts than large feedlots (43.6 compared to 29.9 percent, respectively).

Other Information

- Twenty-four percent of the full-time feedlot employees who only handled cattle left their job during the year ending June 30, 1999.

- The average distance cattle were shipped to packing plants was greater for small feedlots (144 miles) than large feedlots (100 miles).

- Nearly 97 percent of large feedlots were at least somewhat familiar with a beef quality assurance program. Eighty-six percent of small feedlots were at least somewhat familiar with such programs.

For more information, contact:

Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health
USDA:APHIS:VS, attn. NAHMS
2150 Centre Ave., Bldg. B, MS 2E7
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117
(970) 494-7000
E-mail: NAHMSweb@aphis.usda.gov
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cahm

#N334.1100