Veterinary Feed Directive Order Requirements

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Animal feed containing a Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) drug can only be distributed if it complies with the terms of the VFD and is manufactured and labeled in conformity with the approved, conditionally approved, or indexed conditions of use for such drug per the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 558.6 (c)(2). The following information should be included on all VFDs (CFR 558.6 (b)(3) and Guidance for Industry (GFI) #120):

☐ **VFD Issue Date and Expiration Date:** The number of days between the issue and expiration dates must not extend beyond the expiration date specified in the CFR drug approval. For most VFD drugs, a VFD can be issued for no more than a six-month period.

- The number of days between the issue and expiration dates must cover the duration of treatment as VFD feed may not be fed to animals after the expiration date on the VFD.
- VFDs for Tilmicosin for cattle and swine are not approved for a six-month period. See the CFR drug approval for restrictions (CFR 558.618 (d)(4)(iii) and (d)(5)(i)).
- CFR drug approvals can be found at https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=9e294ef6fce7695aa9896cf00cf3376c&mc=true&node=pt21.6.558&rgn=div5#sp21.6.558.b

☐ **Client Information:** The name, address (including city), and phone number.

☐ **Premises:** The address of physical location where animals are being treated, or a note that the client address and location of the animals is the same.

- Pasture, barns, etc. are not acceptable as the premises; however, they are acceptable as additional information.

☐ **Species and Production Class:** For example, “Bovine – Beef Cattle”, or “Bovine - Calves, Replacement Heifers”, “Aquaculture – Ornamental Koi”, etc.

- Should be accurate per the CFR approval for the drug. Shortened versions must be clear to indicate the appropriate indication.
- **Minor Species Exemption:** VFDs must contain the veterinary disclaimer for extra label use for minor species. More information can be found in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Compliance Policy Guide: https://www.fda.govmedia/71960/download.

☐ **Approximate Number of Animals:** The approximate number of animals to be fed the VFD feed by the expiration date on the VFD.

☐ **Product Trade Name or Active Drug Name:** For example, “Aureomycin”, “Scour Treat 10G”, “Chlortetracycline” or “Neomycin-Oxytetracycline”

- Category II Type A drugs (Neo-Oxy 100/100 MR, Pulmotil 90 and Aureo S 700 35 g/lb Granular) are only allowed to be distributed to FDA Licensed Medicated Feed Mills. They are not allowed to be distributed to clients/producers (CFR 558.4 (a)).

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Website: www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/safe.html

☐ **Drug Level and Dosage:** The dosage is required to be listed as the approved g/ton in the Type C feed that will be administered to animals. It is not allowed to state "As labeled" or "Use as directed" on a VFD.

- If a drug is approved by mg/lb bw/day, mg/hd/day, etc., the veterinarian should perform calculations to determine the approved dosage in g/ton.

☐ **Duration of Use:** The number of days, per CFR drug approval, that a producer is required to administer VFD feed for the treatment of the animal.

- If a drug approval states to "feed for up to five-days", the duration may be for one to five-days maximum. If a drug approval states to "feed for 28-days", the duration must be for exactly 28-days.
- "PRN", "as needed", etc. are not acceptable and are considered extra label use.

☐ **Indication for Use:** The primary disease and/or secondary disease must be present. The VFD cannot be filled without this field.

- The indication for use must be clearly stated and be within the CFR drug approval to clearly indicate the Type C feeding level.

☐ **Special Instructions:** May be stated at the veterinarian's discretion.

- If special instructions are present, they should be accurate for the mixing and/or feeding of the approved Type C g/ton prescribed on the VFD.

☐ **Affirmation of Intent:** A statement that the VFD drug is or is not allowed to be used in combination with another approved drug, as well as the trade name (or active drug name) and dosage being allowed in combination.

☐ **Withdrawal Time:** This must be listed - even if there is a zero withdrawal.

☐ **Licensed Veterinarian's Name, Address, and Phone Number:** This must be legible to check licensing.

☐ **Licensed Veterinarian's Signature:** Verbal VFDs are not permitted.

☐ **Refills:** Are only permitted if allowed per CFR drug approval.

☐ **Extra Label statement:** The statement: "use of feed containing the veterinary feed directive (VFD) in a manner other than as directed on the labeling (extra label use) is not permitted".

For any questions or additional guidance, please contact Shelly King at shelly.king@cdfa.ca.gov or (714) 412-1217.