REMINDERS

VACCINATION: remember to protect calves along with the rest of the herd!

The feeder calf vaccination protocol for sale at specialized auctions continues this year.

Participating producers help preserve all efforts that have been made to produce a healthy calf and keep it in a state of wellness. The impact of this vaccination is real.

Note that it is also important to vaccinate the breeding herd. This has an effect on replacement cattle (heifers and bulls) and cows. The herd performance improves: fewer abortions occur and calves are more resistant. Another effect of this vaccination is to limit the development of calves that are immunotolerant (IT) to bovine viral diarrhea (BVD). These IT animals are persistently infected with the virus, spill billions of viral particles per day into the environment, and are at greater risk of contracting respiratory diseases.

Your veterinarian is the person to consult for advice on the best protocol to adopt for your herd.

TAG activation

To ensure actual birthdate status for calves at the time of auction, it is recommended that tags be applied and activated within seven days of birth, or within 150 days for pasture-born calves. Consistent declarations made within the prescribed timelines will enable you to market calves with actual birthdate status.

Les Producteurs de bovins du Québec

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QUEBEC SPECIALIZED FEEDER CALF AUCTIONS CIRCUIT

Greetings to all,

I am pleased to be sending you the new pocket calendar for the 2018-2019 season. Below you will find a list of reminders along with some information on enhancements made to the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit.

The production and distribution of the pocket calendar were made possible through the generosity of our valued sponsors, which are listed inside the calendar.

On behalf of the Feeder Calf Marketing Committee, I wish you a very successful 2018-2019 season with the Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit.

Jean-Thomas Maltais

Chair Feeder Calf Marketing Committee

July 6, 2018



A REMINDER OF SOME DETAILS ABOUT THE QUEBEC SPECIALIZED **Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit:**

- Preregistration of feeder calves prior to sale is mandatory. This allows buyers to plan properly, thereby ensuring the best possible price for your calves.
- Vaccination of calves in accordance with the vaccination protocol remains a key part of the Circuit.
- In cases where the producer-seller has declared a birthdate to Agri-Traçabilité Québec within the required timeframe, the calf's age is displayed along with actual birthdate status.
- · Calves identified according to certain characteristics are indicated on the sign.
- Auctioning of Charolais calves will take place on Thursday, October 4, 2018 in Sawyerville.
- The Quebec Cattle Producers (PBQ) operates a toll-free phone line at 1-855-ENCAN-VE (1-855-362-2683) in order to:
- Receive comments and complaints from the Circuit's buyers and sellers
- Provide market prices on the Monday following an auction week¹

¹ You can subscribe to Info-Prix alerts by contacting the sales agency 450-679-0540, ext. 8361. In addition to receiving feeder calf market prices for Quebec and Canada, subscribers gain access to various communications from the PBQ. Alternatively, you can consult Info-Prix directly at www.bovin.qc.ca.

FEE CHANGES

In compliance with the *Convention de mise en marché des veaux d'embouche* (feeder calf marketing convention), the commissions for specialized auctions will be raised to \$21 per calf on August 1, 2018.

NEWS

VACCINATION DECLARATION: Nothing to hide

A box has been added to the Vaccination Declaration. The box allows producer-sellers to display their business name when their feeder calves are auctioned. This information is shared **on a voluntary basis**. This feature was added in response to a need expressed by fed cattle producers, who wanted to know the origin of the animals for purchase.



LOADING slip

A loading slip is now included in the middle pages of the pocket calendar. Don't hesitate to have your transporter fill it out when your animals are loaded. The slip documents the number of head taken into care by the transporter.



DISPLAY OF FEEDER CALVES CERTIFIED by the Meyer Natural Angus Canada Program

Producers who wish to have their calves certified by the Meyer Natural Angus Canada Program must ensure that the following criteria are met for all calves in the group:

- Canadian Angus Association compliant tagged OR black main body with no other colour behind the shoulder, above the flanks, or breaking the midline behind the shoulders, excluding the tail
- · No ionophores, antibiotics, or beta-agonists administered
- · No hormones or growth implants administered

Feeder calves identified under the Meyer Natural Angus Canada Program affidavit will be indicated accordingly on the display panel at the time of sale. The completed affidavit must be submitted along with all vaccination-related documents. **In order to be valid, the affidavit must apply to all animals in the group and be submitted every time the animals are unloaded**.

To help streamline the integration of the Meyer Natural Angus Canada Program, we have included a copy of the affidavit in this mail-out. All affidavits that have been completed and submitted to the auction will be checked later by means of a telephone audit conducted by the Meyer Natural Angus Canada Program representative.

For further information, please contact the Meyer Natural Foods representative, Michael Hafford, at 819-574-5441.



DIRTY calves

Feeder calf producers who attended the annual general meeting expressed a desire for calves that are so dirty as to affect the selling price to be labelled accordingly on the weigh slip. The objective is to notify producersellers of this problem so that they can make the necessary changes at their businesses.

