



Quebec Specialized FEEDER CALF AUCTIONS CIRCUIT

HEALTH OF ANIMALS REGULATIONS: PART XII: TRANSPORT OF ANIMALS – REGULATORY AMENDMENT (REGULATION) AND CHANGES TO THE VACCINATION STATEMENT

In order to comply with the new Transport Regulation, the Vaccination Statement has been modified to include the details that the producer must provide to transporters when loading animals.

The three added details are:

1. the auction where the animals are transported;
2. the estimated average weight of animals to be marketed;
3. the date and time of the last access to food, clean water and rest.

It is also important to respect the cattle scheduled arrival times, as specified in the pocket calendar by the auction owner.

These changes will help simplify the application of the new Regulation.

NEW FEEDER CALF MARKETING AGREEMENT

A new five-year agreement has been signed between the Auction Associations and the PBO. Certain adjustments have been made to the Feeder Calf Marketing Agreement (Agreement) in comparison to the previous one.

For example, producers who receive their payment by bank transfer can receive their payment receipt by email. Thus, no weighing ticket copies would be provided.

In terms of animal handling, electric prods have been limited to only be used as a last resort. The electric prods should not be easily accessible to employees.

The Agreement also stipulates that the auction owner or employee must refuse a producer's entire lot when:

- there is a majority of calves having a dairy character appearance; or
- a majority of Feeder calves with no permanent identification (hole in ear, chip or sign).

The 30-day rule for runner calves is maintained.

In those cases, the animals are returned to the farm at the producer's expense.

Finally, the commission rate will increase to \$22 per Feeder calf as of August 2020.

Hello everyone,

It is with great pleasure that I send you the new pocket calendar for the 2020-2021 season. You will find all the changes made to the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit.

As you noticed, the Feeder Calves Marketing Committee has made particular arrangements for the spring of 2020 in connection with the COVID-19 situation. We hope that the Public Health guidelines will maintain the suspension of the "behind closed doors" auctions until the specialized auctions resume.

Also, the consultations on the breeding herd held at the 2020 Regional General Meetings will be detained. However, the absence of preventive visits along with the persistent COVID-19 situation led elected officials to postpone the entry date from August 2022 to August 2023. You will find all the details in the Info-Circuit pages.

I would like to thank our valued sponsors, whose names you will find in the pocket calendar, for their contribution to this important shipment that is an important part of our Feeder Calf Marketing.

On behalf of the Feeder Calves Marketing Committee, I wish you a successful 2020-2021 season at the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit.

Jean-Thomas Maltais

President

Feeder Calves Marketing Committee

July 6th, 2020

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CONSULTATION REGARDING THE MANDATORY VACCINATION FOR THE BREEDING HERD WITH FETAL PROTECTION ON FEEDER CALVES SOLD AT SPECIALIZED AUCTIONS

At the 2020 Regional General Meetings (RGM), Feeder calf producers were consulted to make it mandatory for breeding herds to get vaccinated with fetal protection, for Feeder calves sold at specialized auctions as of August 2022.

The result was positive, at a favorable percentage of 66% (111/169), from all producers who participated at the RGMs. The members of the Feeder Calf Marketing Committee (CMMVE) have unanimously decided on March 3rd to continue the process of the regulatory amendment.

RGM - FEBRUARY 2020 - RESULT OF CONSULTATIONS			
		YES	NO
Abitibi-Témiscamingue - February 21		6	15
Bas-St-Laurent - February 19		12	1
Capitale-Nationale-Côte-Nord - February 5		7	0
Centre-du-Québec - February 13		10	1
Chaudière-Appalaches Nord - February 20		15	4
Chaudière-Appalaches-Sud - February 12		13	12
Estrie - February 10		2	16
Gaspésie-les-Iles - February 18		6	1
Lanaudière - February 12		7	2
Mauricie - February 6		1	0
Montérégie-Est - February 17		5	1
Montérégie-Ouest - February 13		4	1
Outaouais-Laurentides - February 7		14	0
Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean - February 4		9	4
Producers	Number	111	58
	Percentage	66%	34%
Regions	Number	12	2

However, the following week, the COVID-19 situation worsened, generating its share of insecurities and restrictions to several trades, including veterinarians. This caused a stop to preventive medical treatments and visits associated with the "Programme intégré de santé animale du Québec" (PISAQ) for a few weeks; an important program in the establishment of this regulatory amendment.

Under the circumstances, the CMMVE postpone the mandatory vaccination for the breeding herd with fetal protection on feeder calves sold at specialized auctions to August 1st, 2023.



As of August 1st, 2023, Feeder calves marketed at the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit must come from a breeding herd that has been vaccinated with fetal protection.

Before defining a vaccination program, the Vaccination Committee* and the CMMVE had determined that fetal protection (FP) was the main objective for the breeding herd. This allows to:

- help prevent abortions caused by the infectious bovine rhinotracheitis virus (IBR);
- help prevent abortions caused by the bovine viral diarrhoea virus (BVD);
- recall the annual vaccination with a Modified Live Vaccine (MLV) for gestating cows;
- vaccinate nursed calves through a gestating cow who has already been vaccinated with a MLV;
- prevent or help prevent, depending on the vaccine used, BVD immunotolerance and infected calves with this virus before birth (congenital infection [CI]) that are not immunotolerant.

Based on the current knowledge, two scenarios of the FP vaccination protocol will be offered:

Scenario 1

1. All calves are vaccinated with a MLV after five months of age (required by "Les Producteurs de bovins du Québec" (PBQ) for marketing purposes at the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit);
2. Heifers are revaccinated with a MLV FP at least one month before their first breeding;
3. All postpartum cows in the herd are vaccinated with a MLV FP or a FP-approved inactivated BVD vaccine;
4. An annual recall, administered according to label instructions to obtain the FP, is performed.

Scenario 2

1. All calves are vaccinated with a MLV after five months of age (required by the PBQ for marketing purposes at the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit);
2. Heifers receive a MLV FP at least one month before their first breeding and they are revaccinated with a FP-approved inactivated BVD vaccine during gestation (at the annual herd vaccination). The recall is not required for this revaccination with the FP-approved inactivated BVD vaccine;
3. Cows receive a MLV FP at least one month prior to first breeding and are revaccinated with an FP-approved inactivated BVD vaccine during gestation (at the annual herd vaccination). The recall is not required for this revaccination with the FP-approved inactivated BVD vaccine;
4. An annual recall with the FP-approved inactivated BVD vaccine is performed to maintain the herd's FP status.**

These scenarios are not static. However, they reflect the current state of knowledge. Scenario 2 is based on a recent study. Since the main objective is vaccinating the breeding herd with FP, any other vaccines or protocols that can meet this objective may be eligible.

Be sure to contact your veterinarian quickly in order to include, upgrade or continue the vaccination of your breeding herd with fetal protection. The decision of Feeder calf producers will benefit the entire sector, the work is underway.

* A Vaccination Committee was created in 2019, made up of veterinarians from the "Faculté de médecine vétérinaire de l'Université de Montréal", representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of Quebec, a Feeder calf producer, a Fed cattle producer and a veterinarian-consultant.

** For all newly arrived cows, point 4 of this scenario must be performed to upgrade the vaccination status of the herd.