

QUEBEC SPECIALIZED FEEDER Calf Auctions Circuit

FORM FOR WITHDRAWAL PERIODS

Most animals sold through the Circuit will go to fed cattle producers for finishing. Even so, all producers are required to declare animals that are subject to withdrawal periods.

If you have any withdrawal periods to declare (other than for vaccines), use the withdrawal period form included in this mail-out. The form must be submitted with your vaccination declaration whenever you send feeder calves that are subject to withdrawal times to specialized auctions.

One of the key characteristics of the Circuit is selling high-quality, healthy feeder calves. Ensure that all calves subject to withdrawal times are in good health at the time they are sold.

ACTIVATING ATTESTRA TAGS

To ensure that actual birth dates are used when selling calves at auction, it is recommended that you apply and activate Attestra tags as follows:

- Within 7 days after birth, or
- Within 5 months for calves born on pasture

By making regular declarations within the prescribed timelines, you will be able to sell calves with actual birth dates.

Feeder calf producers who are also dairy producers must identify each calf born of a dairy cow with a dairy tag and declare which category the sire belongs to (dairy or beef).

As a reminder, specialized auctions are intended for feeder calves that are considered 100% beef type. Any calves exhibiting dairy character are subject to a supplementary marketing charge of \$20 each and will be sold at the end of the auction. Furthermore, if a majority of calves within a batch exhibit dairy character, the producer must transport the entire batch back to the farm at their own expense.

Hello Everyone,

I am very pleased to be sending you the pocket calendar for the 2022–2023 season of the Quebec Specialized Feeder Calf Auctions Circuit (Circuit). In it, you'll find all kinds of helpful information on feeder calf marketing.

You'll see that the number of sales in our calendar has been reduced to 56; this change reflects the drop in volume of feeder calves sold at specialized auctions. The 2021–2022 Circuit season saw about 52,000 feeder calves sold—a significant drop from the previous season, in which nearly 59,000 were sold.

The Circuit is a marketing channel that we are constantly attempting to improve for the benefit of all partners involved.

I would like to thank our wonderful sponsors, whose names appear in the pocket calendar, for their contribution to this important mail-out.

On behalf of the feeder calf marketing committee (CMMVE), I would like to wish you a very successful 2022–2023 season with the Circuit.

Sébastien Vachon

President of the

Comité de mise en marché des veaux d'embouche

July 15th, 2022

AGENCE DE VENTE DES VEAUX D'EMBOUCHE

555, boulevard Roland-Therrien, bureau 305
Longueuil (Québec) J4H 4G2
T: 450 679-0540, poste 8482 F: 450 442-9348
veaudembouche@upa.qc.ca

Les Producteurs
de bovins du
Québec

bovin.qc.ca





FOLLOW-UP ON DISCUSSION HELD AT THE FEEDER CALF PRODUCERS' SESSION AT THE PRODUCTEURS DE BOVINS DU QUÉBEC AGM

The feeder calf producers' session was an opportunity for us to unveil a new plan for improving specialized auctions that could increase the number of potential buyers to compensate for the lower volume of fed cattle produced in Quebec. The plan includes remote bidding as well as selling in presort sale. The plan was approved by those present at the session, and the topic has been discussed with the major auction managers.

Though the managers listen to our vision, they raised a number of issues that make it impossible for implementation to begin at this time. We will continue our discussions with them. The objective is to continuously improve feeder calf marketing for all stakeholders involved.

LIVESTREAMING OF SPECIALIZED AUCTIONS

During the 2021–2022 season, we were able to livestream specialized auctions held at Sawyerville and Bic on the feeder calf producers' extranet site. We are now working to expand the livestreaming to Saint-Isidore for the 2022–2023 season.

All feeder calf producers with access to the extranet site will be able to watch sales being conducted in real time. If you don't yet have access, please contact the feeder calf sales agency at veaudembouche@upa.qc.ca for assistance.

SUSTAINABLE BEEF: MEETING THE CONDITIONS STARTS WITH FEEDER CALF FARMS

To qualify for a Sustainable Beef program, any animal must meet the following criteria :

- Be born, raised, and finished within the confines of a VBP+ certified farm
- Come from a farm that is party to a Sustainable Beef agreement and that has maintained its certification until the time of slaughter
- Have a birth date listed as "Actual" and have declarations confirming tagging, entry into the Attestra database, and replacement tags (where applicable)
- Be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse that is certified sustainable

MANDATORY FETAL PROTECTION VACCINATION OF BREEDING HERDS FOR FEEDER CALVES SOLD THROUGH SPECIALIZED AUCTIONS STARTING ON AUGUST 1, 2023

As you probably know by now, the Régie des marchés agricoles et agroalimentaires du Québec has approved the feeder calf producers' decision whereby, starting on August 1, 2023, all calves sold through specialized auctions must come from a breeding herd that is vaccinated for fetal protection.

This mail-out contains a guide featuring the most important things you need to know when it comes to vaccinating your breeding herd. We recommend keeping it in your farm office near where your vaccines are stored

If you haven't yet done so, contact your veterinarian to integrate, update, or continue the procedure to vaccinate your breeding herd with fetal protection.

HOW TO VACCINATE PROPERLY

Selection and purchase

- Purchase vaccines for your herd in consultation with your veterinarian.
- Opt for the smallest size.
- Read the instructions on the label to find out when the expiry date is, how to administer the vaccine, what the dosage is, and what the booster requirements are.

Storage

- Keep vaccines at a temperature between 5 and 10°C at all times.
- Monitor the temperature of the refrigerator used to store the vaccines.

Modified live vaccines (MLVs)

- Use a syringe and a new needle when reconstituting MLVs. Never use a syringe or needle that has been used for another drug or vaccine.
- Protect vaccines from sunlight after they have been reconstituted.
- Make sure to administer them within two hours of reconstitution.
- Don't mix two vaccines from different bottles in the same syringe.

Inactivated vaccines

- Use small sizes and always use a new needle when drawing up in order to avoid contaminating the solution.
- Protect them from freezing. Never use an inactivated vaccine that has been frozen.

Administration

- If given a choice over the injection type, choose a subcutaneous injection.
- Make sure to use needles of the correct length and diameter for the injection type you use.
- Use 18- or 16-gauge x ¾» or 1» for subcutaneous injections.
- Use 18-gauge x 1» for intramuscular injections in calves.
- Use 18- or 16-gauge x 1 ½» for intramuscular injections in cows and heifers.

