

FLUNIXIN

Motion: Flunixin should be added to 205.603 synthetic substances allowed for use in organic livestock production with the following restrictions: For emergency medical use only. When prescribed by a licensed practitioner. Withhold time shall be double the FDA requirement.

Vote tallies

Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Michael, Jim George, Nancy		Becky	Dave

- All agree that it is a SYNTHETIC
- Rebecca Goldberg abstained from voting because she was still unclear on extra label use.

Background:

- Flunixin is an analgesic pain reliever and anti-inflammatory similar to but much more effective than aspirin. It is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID).
- By relieving pain an animal feels better. Goes back on feed and water and begins healing itself.
- Withhold time is 24 hours milk, 4 days in slaughter stock.

Significant Sideline Issue:

As with several other of these prescription veterinary medications, FDA approval has been granted only for limited species, in this case Beef Cattle, Goats and Horses. Yet the material is used by vets on other species. This "Extra Label Use" is regulated by the FDA Animal Medical Drug Use Classification Act (AMDUCA) of 1994 (effective December 1996). To the non Professional Veterinarian this is a difficult subject to grasp quickly. By restricting use to "In accordance with FDA guidelines" the use of these products is controlled. Page 7 of the Magnesium Hydroxide TAP has a good explanation of AMDUCA.

Summary of Opinion:

- Double withhold is justified for the following reasons:
 - 1) Allows use of the material without causing undue hardship on organic producers;
 - 2) Consistent with requirements of European Union and Codex;
 - 3) Consistent with NOP requirement for pesticide residue tolerance of 5% of EPA tolerance;
 - 4) Consistent with stricter standards for use of raw manure for organic production; and
 - 5) Consistent with consumer perceptions of organic products.