

Board Recommendation for "Preservative Use in Vaccines"

Antimicrobials (antibiotics) are used in vaccines and semen for preservation. The level of antibiotics permitted in vaccines by 9CFR 114.10 is well below a therapeutic dose. They are not present for the purpose of treatment or growth enhancement of the livestock. Since the antibiotic is not present for the purpose of treatment, and they are necessary for preservation, it would seem to be acceptable as a component of the vaccine or semen. The Livestock Committee of the NOSB recommends the following as guidance in developing an annotation for vaccines and semen on the National List. We do not want to add antibiotics to the List. We are looking for comments in preparation for a vote at the October 2001 NOSB meeting.

The Livestock Committee recommends that vaccines and semen that have had antibiotics (antimicrobials) added for the sole purpose of preservation of the vaccine or semen be permitted in organic livestock production systems.