



Organic & Alternative **CATTLE HEALTH CARE MANUAL**

A GUIDE FOR TREATING YOUR ANIMALS WITH
MEDICINAL & HOMEOPATHIC REMEDIES



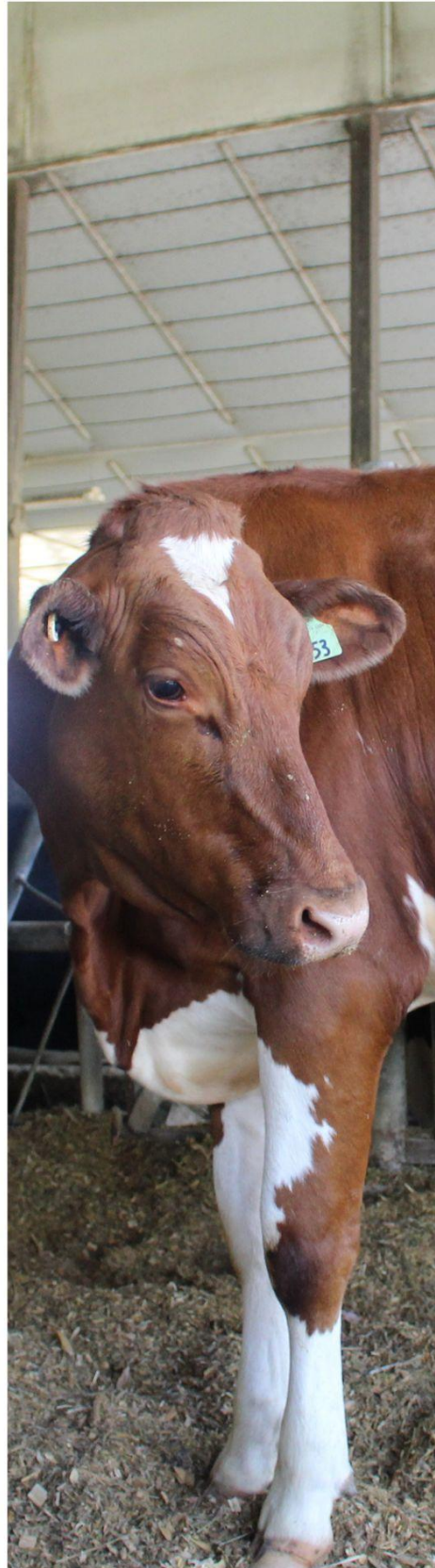


**IF YOU ARE CERTIFIED ORGANIC, IT IS
YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK WITH
YOUR CERTIFIER FOR THE TREATMENTS
ACCEPTABILITY WITH THEIR PROGRAM.**

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Health Concerns	Qualification
PREVENTATIVES and VACCINATIONS	
Calf Shield	Direct fed micro-organisms for pre-weaned calves
Milk Mate	Provides vitamins, trace minerals, and selenium for calves on milk
Trishield	Scours prevention; gel to provide immunity to E.coli, Coronavirus, and Rotavirus
Last Stand	Live micro-organisms for intestinal health
Neonorm	Supports hydration and intestinal health in pre-weaned calves
Primary Care	Direct fed micro-organisms for pre-weaned calves

Health Concerns	Qualification
ABRASIONS, Lameness, Rot – Hoof	
Prevention: Trimming feet regularly, lanes dry and not rocky, not overfeeding grain (adequate fiber)	Management Practices
Copper sulfate or Hydrated Lime Footbath	Synthetic approved as a topical treatment 205.603 (b) (6)
Copper and Zinc amounts adequate in Ration	Synthetic approved as feed additive 205.603 (d) (1)
Treatments: Wrap or soak with Strong Iodine	Synthetic approved as a disinfectant 205.603 (a) (9)
Wrapping feet with Epsom Salts, Tea Tree Oil to draw out infection + pain treatment (aspirin)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b)
Ichthamol, aka black salve The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b)
Homeopathic remedies: Silica	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

ABRASIONS –UDDER	
Aloe Vera applied topically (including products that contain potassium sorbate) The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b) and NOSB Recommendation
Calendula/Echinacea ointment applied topically The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b)
Cornstarch from Non-GMO corn (topical) to dry out udder rot	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b)
Hydrogen peroxide	Synthetic approved as a disinfectant 205.603 (a) (9)
Tea Tree Oil (also good for Ringworm)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105(b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

ANESTHETICS/ANALGESICS	
Butorphanol-Withhold time shall be double the FDA requirements	NOSB Recommendation
Epinephrine/Adrenaline: Prohibited natural except for emergency treatment of anaphylactic shock Producer must contact VOF when using this product.	NOSB Recommendation
Flunixin (Banamine): Withholding time shall be 4 days	NOSB Recommendation
Lidocaine-As local anesthetic. 90 day withdrawal for slaughter, 7 day withdrawal for dairy.	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment 205.603 (a) (5)
Tolazoline-For emergency use only. To counteract the effects of xylazine. Producer must contact VOF with using this product.	NOSB Recommendation (withdrawal time?)
Xylazine-For emergency use only. Producer must contact VOF with using this product.	NOSB Recommendation (withdrawal time?)

CYSTIC OVARIES	
Having vet gently rupture cysts	Management Practice
Acupuncture	Management Practice
Homeopathic remedies (<i>Apis mel</i> , <i>Lachesis</i> , <i>Natrum Mur</i> depending on cyst location)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Herbal products like Spectra 305, CC Reproductive Balance	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

DIGESTIVE DISORDERS – CALF SCOURS	
Prevention: Clean, dry bedding. Feed good colostrums and warm whole milk, use specific vaccines or nosodes on dam if necessary	Management Practice
Treatments: Aloe vera and garlic tincture (2cc/day)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) and NOSB Recommendation
Electrolytes -without antibiotics The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment 205.603 (a)(5)
Homeopathic remedies (<i>e.g. Arsenicum</i> , <i>Podophyllum</i> , <i>E.coli nosode</i> , <i>calf scours nosode</i>)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Probiotics-provided that that they are not GMO derived (check brand name list)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Rice Water or kao pectate to help diarrhea	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Teas – chamomile, fennel	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Yorgurt-made from milk without RBGH (2 Tablespoons of yogurt to a gallon of milk.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

DIGESTIVE DISORDERS – COWS	
High quality organic dry hay/oats to add more fiber in diet, take cow off silage/pasture/grain	Management practices

Aloe Vera-including products that contain potassium sorbate The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) and NOSB Recommendation
Bismuth Subsalicylate (pink pills), Kaolin Pectin-allowed from vegetative sources only	NOSB Recommendation
Homeopathic remedies (e.g. Arsenicum, Podophyllum)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Probiotics: purchased or natural such as beer, another cow's cud, yogurt made from milk from non-BST herds	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Vitamin B12 injection to stimulate appetite	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
For toxins/moldy feed: Activated carbon/charcoal (vegetable sources only)	NOSB Recommendation
Sodium Bentonite as a binding agent The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance and that clay is not chemically treated.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
For emergency treatment of bloat – vegetable oil drench or Poloxolene Producer must contact VOF when using this product.	NOSB Recommendation
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

DRY COW THERAPY	
Feed low-quality hay to reduce milk production, continue teat dipping for several days after dry-off	Management Practice
Aloe Vera drench or pellets – including products that contain potassium sorbate The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) and NOSB Recommendation

Colostrum whey products-from non-BST herds The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Extra vitamins and minerals (especially Vitamin E/Selenium) to boost immune system	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Homeopathic remedies (e.g. Staph nosodes) The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Probiotics-provided that that they are not GMO derived	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

GRASS TETANY	
I.V. milk fever treatment with a solution of calcium and magnesium, or CMPK	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d)(1)
Homeopathic remedies (Mag phos and Calc phos) The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	
KETOSIS	
Prevention: Don't overcondition cows, enough energy in diet	Management
I.V. Glucose or Dextrose	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment 205.603 (b) (5)
Molasses, 1-2 cups at each milking for 3-4 milkings (Does not have to be organic if for medical treatment)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Niacin boluses, 2 at each milking for 6 milkings	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Propylene glycol drench – for use in acute ketosis in ruminants only	NOSB Recommendation

Vitamin B12 in the muscle or B complex	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Homeopathic remedies (Lycopodium, Chelidonium)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

MASTITIS	
Stripping quarters regularly (4x daily if possible)	Management Practice
Aspirin	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment. 205.603 (a) (2)-approved for health care use to reduce inflammation
Colostrum whey products for mastitis Provided that they are from non-BST herds The producer must make certain that product does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Garlic: 1 Whole Bulb 2X/Day or tincture	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Homeopathy (Bryonia, Phytolacca, Hepar sulph, Aconite, mastitis nosode, etc)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Hyper saline (supportive therapy)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Udder lotions: peppermint, calendula Make certain ointment has no prohibited ingredients.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) and check list for accepted synthetics 205.603
Vaccination (E. coli vaccine), staph/strep nosodes	All vaccines allowed 205.105 (e)
Vitamin B & C given in the muscle	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

MILK FEVER	
Preventative: 4 oz apple cider vinegar daily during dry period, 2 wks before calving	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)

Ca/Mg Treatment The producer must make certain that product does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Calcium Borogluconate For treatment of milk fever only	NOSB Recommendation
Calcium Propionate For treatment of milk fever only	NOSB Recommendation
Homeopathic remedies (alternate Calc phos and Mag phos during the dry period, Calc carb) The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

MILK REPLACER	
Non-organic milk replacer-without antibiotics, <u>as emergency use only</u> , no non-milk products or products from BST treated animals. Producer must inform VOF before using this product	Synthetic approved as a feed supplement 205.603 (c)

PARASITE FLY CONTROL	
Manure Management: keep barn & gutters clean and dry	Management Practice
Good Ventilation: fans, open windows	Management Practice
Fly paper/fly tape	Management Practice
Fly traps	Management Practice
Fly Parasites	Management Practice
Bug zapper	Management Practice
Management: cedar sawdust as a natural repellent, brushing, clipping	Management Practice

Use chickens or muscovy ducks to follow cows on pasture to eat fly eggs and parasite larvae	Management Practice
Aromatic oils such as melaleuca, citrus, eucalyptus, citronella, cedar	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Diatomaceous earth on the window sills	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Natural pyrethrum fly sprays without synthetic synergists The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Lime dusted on cow backs	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

PARASITE INTERNAL	
Grazing management-grazing plan to decrease the exposure to parasites	Management Practice
Black walnut hulls powder for coccidiosis	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Diatomaceous earth (DE)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Homeopathic remedies	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Hydrogen peroxide/apple cider vinegar in the water	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment. 205.603 (a) (9)
Good mineral supplementation, especially copper, cobalt	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Moxidectin (Brand Name Cydectin)	NOSB Recommendation-Control of internal parasites only

Ivermectin – Prohibited in slaughter stock but allowed for emergency treatment of breeder and dairy stock only when organic system plan-approved preventative management does not prevent infestation. Milk or milk products cannot be labeled as organic for 90 days following treatment. In breeder stock, treatment cannot happen during last third of gestation if progeny will be sold as organic and must not be used during the lactation period of breeding stock. Producer must contact VOF before using this product. (Organic Valley members prohibited from using this product on milk cows)	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment. 205.603 (a) (12)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

PINK EYE	
Preventative: good nutrition & immune system enhancement with kelp and minerals offered free choice or mixed in feed, adequate iodine	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Calendula eye wash using calendula tincture with warm water	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Non-alcoholic calendula spray mixed with <i>Euphrasia</i> and <i>Hypericum</i> pellets (homeopathic remedies)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Homeopathic remedies: <i>Aconite</i> , <i>Hepar sulph</i> , <i>Conium Kali bichromium</i> , <i>Silica</i>	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Eye patch after treatment to keep flies and irritating light out	Management Practice
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

POISONING	
Atropine	NOSB Recommendation

RESPIRATORY DISEASE/FEVER	
Management: good ventilation, clean dry bedding	Health Practice
Vaccines: IBR, Pasteurella, Nasalgen, Immunoboost (for respiratory prevention & treatment)	All vaccines allowed 205.105 (e)
Aloe Vera drench	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) and NOSB Recommendation
Herbal “antibiotics”: Garlic, Echinacea, Gondonseal	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Homeopathy (Belladonna, Aconite)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Probiotic supplements to stimulate the digestive system-provided that they are not GMO derived	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Vitamin supplementation: A, C, D, E	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
For fever: aspirin, IV electrolytes, Banamine if needed	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment. 205.603 (a) (2)-approved for health care use to reduce inflammation, NOSB recommend.

TEAT DIP INGREDIENTS/SANITIZERS/SOAPS	
The VOF policy concerning teat dips, which is shared by other Northeast Certifiers, is to allow all teat dips. All soaps are allowed as long as all added ingredients are compliant. The following information is found in the National List and compliments this policy.	
Glycerin – for topical use only	Synthetic approved as a livestock teat dip, must be produced through the hydrolysis of fats or oils. 205.603 (a) (7)
Iodine-Topical use only	Synthetic approved as a topical treatment, external parasiticide or local anesthetic as applicable. 205.603 (b) (1)

Chlorhexidine-allowed for use as a teat dip when alternative germicidal agents and/or physical barriers have lost their effectiveness	Synthetic approved as a disinfectant, sanitizer, and medical treatment. 205.603 (a) (4) Allowed for surgical procedures conducted by a veterinarian. Allowed as a teat dip when alternative germicidal agents and/or physical barriers have lost their effectiveness.
Isopropyl Alcohol-disinfectant only	Synthetic approved as a disinfectant 205.603 (a) (1) (ii)

UDDER EDEMA	
Low potassium hay and salt intake during dry period, provide exercise, pre-milk if necessary	Management Practice
B Vitamins	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Herbs like Juniper berry, parsley, coffee	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Massage Udder with Lotion (eg. Calendula) The producer must make certain that ointment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Oxytocin No routine or long-term use. May be used only when necessary in post calving application. (Organic Valley members cannot use this product)	Synthetic approved as a medical treatment 205.603 (11)

UTTERINE CARE BREEDING PROBLEMS	
Manual manipulation	Management Practice
Herbal products like Spectra 305, CC Reproductive Balance	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)

Homeopathic remedies (<i>Pulsatilla</i> to bring a cow into heat, Cal phos to help cycle, <i>Iodium & Sepia</i> for slow heats, Ovarian if cow doesn't show heat)	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Colostrum whey products-from non-BST herds. The producer must make certain that treatment does not contain a prohibited substance.	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

UTERINE CARE RETAINED PLACENTA	
Prevention: Allow cow to lick off calf	Management Practice
Prevention: Vitamin E/Selenium injections or fed preventatively during dry period	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) or synthetic approved as a feed additive 205.603 (d) (2) – used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved
Prevention: Calcium Supplementation	Minerals and Vitamins allowed when used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved. 205.603 (d) (1)
Homeopathic remedies (<i>Caulophyllum</i> , <i>Sepia</i>) or Blue Cohosh herbal tincture	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b)
Infusing uterus with aloe, iodine, herbal tinctures	Non-Synthetics are approved 205.105 (b) and NOSB Recommendation
Oxytocin No routine or long-term use. May be used only when necessary in post calving application. (Organic Valley members cannot use this product)	Synthetic approved as a disinfectant, sanitizer, and medical treatment 205.603 (a) (1) (11)
Check Section Two for Brand Name Products	

VACCINATIONS/BIOLOGICS	
All vaccinations/biologics are allowed including vaccines derived from genetically engineered organisms	Product must be produced without the use of excluded methods (GMOs), except for vaccines: provided that the vaccines are approved in accordance with OFPA 205.105 (e) Synthetic approved as a medical treatment 205.603(14)

VITAMINS AND MINERALS	
All vitamin and minerals are allowed provided that they are FDA approved. FDA approval is based on definitions from the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO)	205.603 (d) (2) As feed additives, vitamins and minerals used for enrichment or fortification when FDA approved

Note: these are treatments for just some of the many diseases and problems that can affect livestock. We strongly encourage producers to read and have on hand several veterinary books that deal with organic livestock health care. These are available On-line.

A partial list of the most popular titles:

Canadian Organic Growers: [Organic Livestock Handbook](#)

Pat Coleby: [Natural Care of Cattle](#)

Dr. Paul Detloff: [Alternative Treatments for Ruminant Animals](#)

Dr. Hue Karreman: [Treating Dairy Cows Naturally: Thoughts and Strategies](#)

Dr. Ed Shaeffer: [Homeopathy for the Herd](#)



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