



DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ The Grade “A” Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) has specific rules for drug storage on dairy farms.
- ▶ Some drugs lose their effectiveness if they are not stored properly.
- ▶ Expired drugs can lose their effectiveness, or even have harmful effects in animals.



On-Farm Drug Storage for Dairies

Residue prevention begins before you even treat an animal. Proper storage of drugs helps to minimize the chance of using the wrong drug and ensures drugs are effective when used as treatments. Remember the five practices described below as you choose storage locations for your animal drugs.

1. Separate by Use:

- Keep lactating and non-lactating drugs in separate labeled areas to avoid confusion. Separate shelves or cabinets are good ways to keep these drugs separate.
- Drugs that are only allowed for use in cattle 20 months of age or younger should be stored in a separate room or building from the milkhouse on dairy farms. Enrofloxacin, sulfamethazine, and sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim are examples of such drugs.

2. Read the Label:

- Some drugs require specific storage conditions to maintain their effectiveness. Read the label to determine if a drug is required to be stored in a refrigerator, a dark location, or at a specific temperature.

3. Label Drugs Properly:

- All drugs are required by law to be labeled properly.
- Work with your veterinarian to ensure all of your drugs are labeled accurately. This should include

prescription drugs, drugs used in an extra-label manner (EL), and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs used in an EL manner.

4. Review Drug Inventory:

- At least once a year, take inventory of the drugs you have on your property and review the drug use protocols with your veterinarian. Review the specific directions for use of each drug, including disease indication, dosage amounts, route of administration, frequency of administration, treatment duration, injection site limitations, and withdrawal times for both milk and meat.

5. Remove Unnecessary Drugs:

- Remove drugs that are unneeded or expired.
- Return unused drugs to your veterinarian or consult with your veterinarian for proper disposal options.
- Medications may be disposed of at medication collection boxes located statewide. There is no disposal fee. Find the nearest collection box to you, as well as tips for disposing of drugs, here:

www.pca.state.mn.us/living-green/managing-unwanted-medications

For additional information visit www.mda.state.mn.us/residue-prevention