



DID YOU KNOW?

- Annually, cephapirin accounts for nearly 40% of all milk residues in Minnesota
- Using cephapirin in a manner other than is listed on the label requires a veterinary label and may mean longer withdrawal times are necessary



Use of ToDAY (Cephapirin) in Lactating Dairy Cows

ToDAY (Cephapirin) is one of the most commonly used drugs to treat mastitis in lactating dairy cows. Its short duration of treatment and availability as an over-the-counter (OTC) drug make this drug more practical and convenient to use than others. It is also one of the most common causes of residues in milk in Minnesota.

How is ToDAY (cephapirin) used in lactating dairy cows?

The FDA-approved label for ToDAY (cephapirin) specifies a dose of 1 tube per affected quarter, followed by a second treatment 12 hours later. At this dose and duration of treatment, the label withdrawal recommendation is 96 hours for milk, and 4 days for slaughter. If ToDAY is administered in a manner other than is listed on the label, this is called extra-label-drug-use (ELDU). When this occurs, you must work with your veterinarian to determine appropriate dosing information and extended withdrawal times.

Why do residues occur when dairy producers use ToDAY tubes?

As noted above, some producers use ToDAY tubes in an extra-label manner, and often with a longer

duration of treatment. Using a longer duration of treatment may result in a longer milk withdrawal time; failure to note this can put you at increased risk of having a residue violation.

Oily intramammary (IMM) preparations can also stick to the inside of milking equipment and require detergent to remove residues. Failing to adequately clean equipment used to handle milk from treated animals can result in unwanted residues.

How can you prevent a milk residue from ToDAY (cephapirin)?

By using these practices, you can reduce your risk of having a residue violation:

- Use ToDAY ONLY as the FDA label states OR extra-label ONLY under the supervision of your veterinarian
- Clean equipment thoroughly after milking treated cows or use a separate milking apparatus
- Test the milk from an individually treated cow before commingling into the bulk tank
- Test the tank, with the same test your creamery uses, before leaving the farm

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