

# Aspirin in Dairy Cattle

## Challenges and Considerations

### Aspirin in Food Animals

- Aspirin Is Not FDA-Approved in any Veterinary Species
- There Are NO US Tolerances for Aspirin Residues in Animal Derived Food Products
- Aspirin Is Not Classified by the FDA as GRAS\*

\*Generally Recognized As Safe

### Withdrawal Times

- Withdrawal Times Listed on OTC\* Aspirin Products:
  - Have Not Been Evaluated by the FDA
  - Are Not Supported by FDA-Reviewed Data

\*Over-the-Counter

### FARAD Stance

- Following AMDUCA\* Legislation Guidelines, FARAD Encourages Using FDA-Approved Drugs in Food Animals
- Veterinarians Can Contact FARAD for Guidance When Aspirin Is Accidentally Administered to Food Animals

\*Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act of 1994

### Aspirin in Food Animals

Despite widespread availability of over-the-counter (OTC) aspirin products for use in livestock, FARAD discourages their use in food animals. These OTC products are NOT approved by the FDA. There are FDA-approved non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs [NSAIDs] that are labeled for veterinary species. Since there are no FDA-approved aspirin products labeled for use in any veterinary species, the tolerance is zero for meat and milk residues (i.e. any detectable residue would be considered violative). Look for a New Animal Drug Application (NADA) or Abbreviated NADA (ANADA) number on the drug label to determine if a medication is FDA-approved. For more information regarding the increased use of aspirin in the face of the highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak, and the FDA's recent change in regulatory priority for aspirin use in dairy cattle (and potentially other species), FARAD recommends contacting the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine ([AskCVM@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:AskCVM@fda.hhs.gov)).

### Withdrawal Interval Recommendations

Based on published literature, aspirin residues can be detected in milk samples from cattle after oral administration. Various scenarios (disease, number of treated animals, doses, bulk tank dilution factors) could impact whether aspirin residues would be present in milk or meat products from treated animals. Therefore, FARAD makes assessments on a case-by-case basis and a single withdrawal interval (WDI) recommendation cannot be applied to all treatment scenarios.

### The Bottom Line

While OTC aspirin products may be more accessible to producers than veterinary prescribed NSAIDs, AMDUCA stipulates that only FDA-approved medications can be administered to veterinary species. Withdrawal times listed on the label for OTC aspirin products following administration to food animals have not been evaluated by the FDA. Since there are no US tolerances for aspirin residues in meat or milk products, accidental aspirin administration requires withholding meat/milk products before they can enter the human food chain. FARAD will work with veterinarians to determine case-by-case contamination withdrawal interval recommendations following accidental aspirin administration to food animals.