

## MOTHER LODE FAIR STEER PRE-WEIGH 2023

### ➤ WHY

Moving animals to a new location, transporting, changing feed, and increased intensity in training for shows can all be very stressful for any of our livestock species. Stressful events weaken the animal's immune system, or their ability to fight off diseases and infection, so they are more likely to become sick. One way we can help support these animals during times of stress and to prevent disease is through proper vaccination and parasite control in addition to adequate nutrition and other environmental factors. The goal of pre-weigh is to ensure that all animals showing at our fair are protected against these diseases and are provided a high quality of care to produce a high quality product for our consumers. In addition, we hope to help educate all members on some of the basics of livestock husbandry.

### ➤ WHAT

1. All livestock, but cattle in particular, are at risk for developing respiratory infections commonly called "Shipping Fever". There are many different viruses and bacteria that contribute to Shipping Fever. The most common causes include *Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis*, *Parainfluenza-3*, *Bovine Viral Diarrheal Virus*, and *Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus*. These viruses alone can cause respiratory disease in your cattle, however, many times they also develop a secondary bacterial pneumonia to the bacteria *H. somnus* and *M. haemolytica*. All of these viruses and bacteria are covered in one of the vaccines given at the time of pre-weigh. Specifically, **Bovi-Shield Gold 5 + VL5**, is given. This covers the respiratory diseases as well as provides protection for Leptospirosis. Lepto is a bacterial disease found in the urine of animals such as raccoons and squirrels. It is important to vaccinate for lepto as it is a zoonotic, or an infectious disease that can be transmitted to humans or other animals. Lepto in cattle can cause abortions in breeding cattle as well as acute kidney failure in others.

2. The other vaccine given at is **Covexin 8**. This protects against many clostridial pathogens which are normally found in the soil or manure of livestock. Not all clostridial pathogens cause disease but those that do, are usually fatal so it is important to provide protection to your cattle. The clostridial pathogens that we vaccinate for are the following: *Clostridium chauvoei* (Black Leg), *C. septicum* (Malignant Edema), *C. novyi Type D* (bacillary hemoglobinuria), *C. tetani* (tetanus) and *C. perfringens Types C and D* (overeating disease).

3. Parasite prevention is another critical area of management for livestock as individual animals as well as for overall herd health. Parasites can make cattle uncomfortable which can lead to increased weight loss or decreased production. Today we applied a pour-on dewormer, **Eprinex (eprinomectin)**, which is used to control internal and external parasites including intestinal roundworms, lungworms, grubs, lice, mange mites, and horn flies.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Grace Bloom at Mono Way Veterinary Hospital 209-532-5507 or [gracebloom.dvm@gmail.com](mailto:gracebloom.dvm@gmail.com)