



PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cobleskill workshop Thursday on antimicrobial drug use in food animal

OAK BROOK, IL Aug. 17, 2015: There is still time to register for the workshop on antimicrobial drug use in food animals planned for Thursday, Aug. 20, at the Champlin Hall Lounge, State University of New York-Cobleskill, 106 Suffolk Circle, Cobleskill, NY.

This free workshop, which will be 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., is targeted to pork, cattle, poultry and sheep producers, as well as veterinarians and feed suppliers in New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The workshop is also an opportunity for other stakeholders, such as state and federal agencies, colleges of veterinary medicine and university extension personnel, to gain insights into the changes needed to meet the requirements.

Organized by Farm Foundation, NFP, the workshop is an opportunity for participants to gain a comprehensive understanding of two Guidance for Industry (GFIs) issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding the use of medically-important antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals, as well as the FDA's revised [Veterinary Feed Directive](#) (VFD). These actions mean some drugs will see label changes allowing only therapeutic uses and veterinary oversight will be needed in the form of a veterinarian's prescription for the drug, direct administration by a veterinarian, or a veterinary consultation on disease management protocols.

There is no charge to participate, but advanced registration is requested. Registration for this workshop can be [completed online](#) or by going to the [Farm Foundation website](#).

The workshop will include representatives from FDA and USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Participants will also hear perspectives from Phil Trowbridge of Trowbridge Farms; Carie Telgen, DVM; and Andy Dugan of Gold Star Feed and Grain. Breakout sessions will allow producers, veterinarians and feed suppliers to identify and discuss the management challenges ahead.

To gauge awareness of the changes being put in place by FDA, and to learn more about the potential implications of these changes, Farm Foundation, NFP is asking stakeholders to complete a brief survey. The survey is open to all livestock producers, feed suppliers and veterinarians, whether or not you attend a workshop. [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the survey. Survey results will only be gathered and reported in the aggregate. Survey results will be shared with workshop participants.

Comments gathered at this workshop will be the basis of a report assessing the economic and physical challenges facing producers as they implement the GFIs and revised VFD. Informational and educational needs will also be evaluated, as well as the role of veterinarians in monitoring and managing antimicrobial drug use. The report will be presented at a national summit to be convened by Farm Foundation in late fall 2015.

FDA's [GFI 209](#) and [GFI 213](#) call on animal drug sponsors of approved medically-important antimicrobials administered through medicated feed or water to remove production uses (i.e., to promote growth or improve feed efficiency) from their product labels, and bring the remaining therapeutic uses of these products—to treat, control, or prevent disease—under the oversight of a veterinarian. Manufacturers of products containing these medically-important antimicrobial drugs have voluntarily agreed to submit changes to their product labels to comply with the GFIs. FDA's revised [Veterinary Feed Directive \(VFD\)](#) addresses the increased veterinary oversight of medicated feeds called for by GFI 209 and 213.

In addition to Farm Foundation's leadership, individual producers and many companies are providing financial support for this educational effort. These include JBS United, Hormel Foods Corporation, Jennie-O Turkey Store, Rose Acre Farms, Elanco Animal Health, J.R. Simplot Company, Steve Irsik and Sons, National Pork Producers Council, the National Pork Board, and North American Meat Institute.

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