

Test Requirements For Veterinary Biologics

More extensive tests for four animal vaccines are being proposed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) said the proposal covers procedures for evaluating the purity, potency and effectiveness of vaccines against the bacteria *Leptospira grippityphosa*, *Leptospira hardjo*, *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Pasteurella multocida*. These bacteria cause leptospirosis, salmonellosis and pasteuriosis in livestock.

If adopted after a period for public comments - Which ends Jan. 1, 1975 - these tests

would be added to regulations in the federal code that require USDA - licensed veterinary biologics to be safe, pure, potent and effective, under provisions of the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act of 1913.

The two leptospira vaccines are recently developed products, for which the tests have been proposed to meet the standards required of licensed veterinary biologics.

The salmonella and pasteurilla vaccines were two of the products that were licensed many years ago when USDA regulations required proof of safety and purity only. In a Nov. 2, 1973, notice in the Federal

Register, APHIS ordered manufacturers of such products to demonstrate their effectiveness and develop potency tests or otherwise terminate the product license (USDA press release 3371-73). Tests were subsequently developed for these two vaccines and are incorporated in the newly proposed regulations.

APHIS currently licenses 43 manufacturers and 681 veterinary biological products that are distributed in interstate commerce. Plants and laboratories are inspected regularly by APHIS veterinary biologics specialists, and product lots, or 'serials,' are routinely tested.

Polled Hereford's Hit 207,000 Registrations

A record-breaking 207,882 registrations were recorded by the American Polled

Hereford Association during the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, a major milestone in the

history of the hornless whitefaces, America's first native beef cattle breed.

The breed's growth momentum is reflected in figures released by the American Polled Hereford Association in Kansas City, Mo., which registered more than 200,000 animals for the first time in its history. This year's total shows a 26 percent increase over last year's figures.

APHA President Orville K. Sweet attributes this continuous increase in registrations to the fact that Polled Herefords have stayed with the "basics", emphasizing the importance of a calf from every cow each year, enough milk to raise a thrifty calf, superior growth rate that makes a profit and the naturally hornless head.

"The faith the breeders have in Polled Herefords is evident when one considers that Polled Herefords are the only major beef breed that has not experienced an overall decline in registrations," Sweet says.

The theme of "204 in '74" was announced at the Association's annual membership meeting in Denver last January. APHA member-breeders responded by registering more than 3,000 more calves than the goal called for, indicating their optimism for the future of the breed.

Changes In Poultry Plan

Proposed changes to the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) are now open to public comment, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) said recently.

The proposed changes were made by delegates to the NPIP Conference held in June in Salt Lake City, Utah. In all, 24 changes were approved. Of these, the most important proposed changes are:

- A classification as U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State for those states that have laws and regulations which ensure detection and elimination of pullorum-typhoid infections. Over one-fourth of the states enrolled in the Plan could now be classified under this provision.

- A classification as U.S. Pullorum - Typhoid Clean State - Turkeys, for states that are able to supervise only the turkey breeding flock in their state, yet have the necessary rules and regulations to eliminate pullorum-typhoid infections.

- A classification as U.S. Typhimurium Controlled for meat type chickens.

- A U.S. Salmonella Controlled Program for turkeys.

- A U.S. M. Synoviae Clean Program for meat type chickens.

- A U.S. M. Gallisepticum Clean Program for waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game birds.

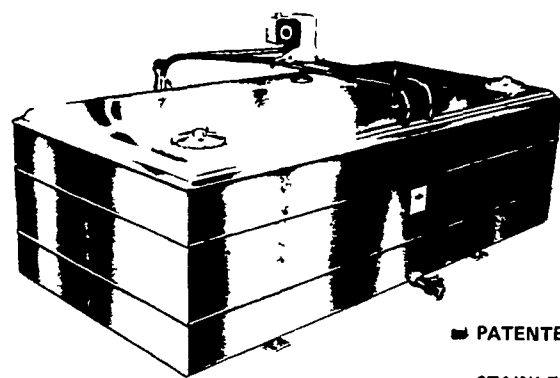
Other recommended changes in the NPIP included revisions in testing procedures for disease control programs and miscellaneous changes to improve administration of the Plan.

Those interested in commenting on the proposed changes have until Nov. 9 to respond. Comments may be sent to the Chairman, Animal Physiology and Genetics Institute, Building 161, Agricultural Research Center - East, Beltsville, Md. 20705. Copies of the Federal

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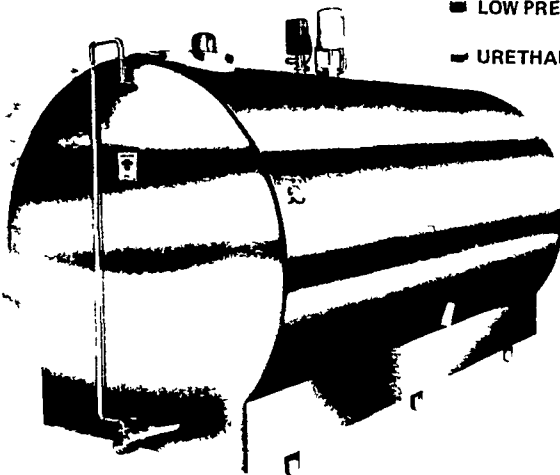
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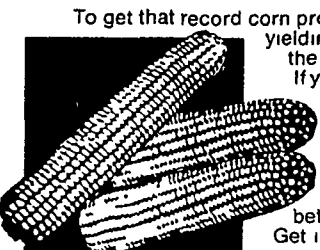
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