



Ask the VMD





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Wormer in milk?

A reader asks:
Does wormer, TBZ and/or Tramisol, given to a nursing doe also worm the young through the milk? How does it affect the milk as far as giving it to dogs, cats and chickens? Does it act as a wormer for them also?

Dr. Riegel comments:
Wormer that is administered to a nursing doe does not worm the young through the milk. Although a small amount of the wormer given to a doe will come through in the milk, the amount is so small it would be ineffective as a wormer in anything which might drink the milk.

As far as giving the milk to dogs and cats, it probably will not harm these animals unless there may be some allergy to the medication. But again, as a wormer, the same applies — mainly, quantity of wormer in the milk is too small to affect any parasites in an animal drinking the milk.

Shooting shots

A reader asks:
When I have to give my cattle IM shots, I generally put them in the neck. Sometimes, however, with all the loose skin, I can't tell if I'm far enough in the muscle or just through the skin. If I'm not far

enough in the muscle, will the medication still work? The needle is about an inch long.

Dr. Riegel comments:
Whether the medication still works depends on the type you're administering.

There are some medications that work just as well or sometimes better if given subcutaneously (just under the skin). On the other hand, there are some medications which must be given deep intramuscularly.

This brings to mind a case I had a few years ago.

One of our clients had several cattle which died, and on post mortum exam had clostridium (bacterial organisms which grow

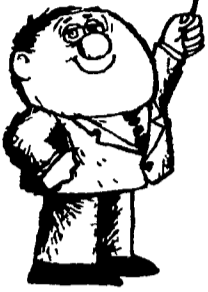
in the absence of air) in a large bruised area in the hind quarters.

After much questioning, it was found the client gave iron shots (very irritating substance) with a half inch needle. The medication was barely getting through the skin and definitely not deep in the muscle where it belonged.

The irritating substance caused a large bruised area, creating a perfect media for bacteria to grow.

The loose skin in the neck makes a perfect area for subcutaneous injections. But for injections which must be put in the muscle, a 1½ inch needle is needed to assure the medication is getting in the muscle.

Perhaps another site could be considered for these types of shots, such as the top of the rump or another part of the rear quarter.



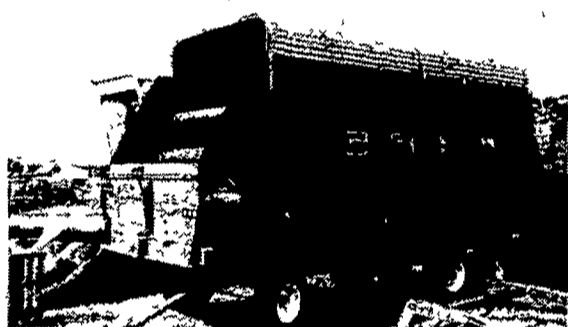
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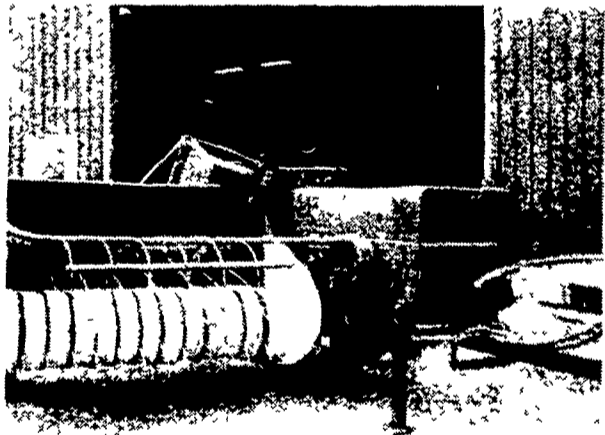


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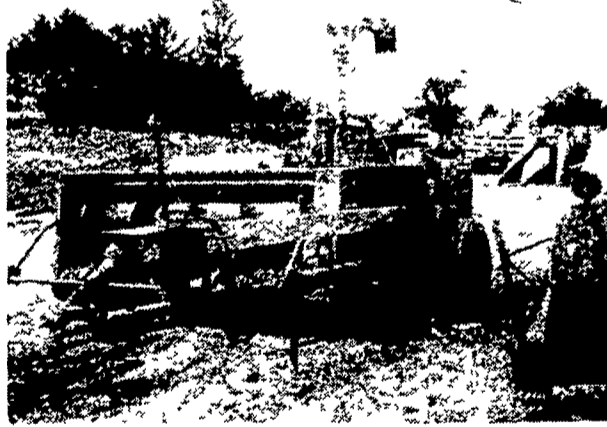
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