

Livestock Recommendations -- 1994

NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD FINAL RECOMMENDATION THE USE OF SYNTHETIC PARASITICIDES IN ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Adopted: June 4, 1994
Location: Santa Fe, New Mexico

SYNTHETIC PARASITICIDE USE IN ORGANIC SLAUGHTER STOCK

The use or application of synthetic parasiticides in organically produced slaughter stock that is labeled or sold as organically produced is prohibited.

Should a synthetic parasiticide be administered for whatever reason to otherwise organically produced livestock, that livestock and any products derived therefrom shall not be labeled or sold as organically produced.

SYNTHETIC PARASITICIDE USE IN ORGANIC BREEDER STOCK

The use and application of synthetic parasiticides in livestock labeled or sold as organic breeder stock, the progeny of which is intended to be labeled or sold as organically produced, is restricted.

Organically produced breeder stock may receive application of synthetic parasiticides in the event of a healthcare emergency; such an exception for use of synthetic parasiticides shall not be construed as allowance for routine application. The progeny of the treated breeder stock may be sold or labeled as organically produced provided the application does not occur in the last third of gestation or during lactation, and provided the need for the application has been verified by a licensed veterinarian.

The treated organic breeder stock is not disqualified from the organic production program, and remains eligible for the production of future organic offspring.

SYNTHETIC PARASITICIDE USE IN ORGANIC DAIRY STOCK (continued)

Should a synthetic parasiticide be administered for whatever reason to otherwise organically produced dairy stock, milk or milk products derived from that dairy stock may not be sold or labeled as organically produced for 90 days following the date of application or use.

Dairy stock may receive application of synthetic parasiticides only in the event of a healthcare emergency; such an exception for use of synthetic parasiticides shall not be construed as allowance for routine application. The need for such application to dairy stock must be verified by a licensed veterinarian.

Any deviations from the above standards shall be species specific and be set forth in a separate document. Such review shall include, but not be limited to, sheep, goats and swine.

ADDENDUM TO THE RECOMMENDATION ON THE USE OF SYNTHETIC PARASITICIDES IN ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

1. The regular, planned or periodic use of parasiticides is considered to be a dependency on routine medication and is prohibited.

2. Any intentional use or application of synthetic parasiticides in organically produced livestock will be the last resort after all appropriate organic management practices have been utilized and documented in the Farm Plan. These would include but not be limited to:

- a. Quarantine and fecal exams for all incoming stock.
- b. Adequate pasture rotation and good pasture management.
- c. Periodic fecal exam and culling seriously infested individuals.
- d. Vector and intermediate host control.
- e. Using biological control measures such as fly parasites.
- f. Maintaining dusting wallows for poultry.

3. Any intentional use or application of synthetic parasiticides in organically produced livestock is restricted to those substances which have been reviewed by the technical advisory panel according to the criteria and process required under the Act, placed on a National List of permitted synthetics by specific use, application, and/or species and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. The use or application of synthetic parasiticides in organically produced livestock shall occur within the content of a valid veterinarian client patient relationship as defined by the Food and Drug Administration Compliance Policy Guide #7125.06.

4. Any intentional use or application of synthetic parasiticides in organically produced livestock shall require a justification, for each use, during the annual farm plan review and an evaluation of practices in place to eliminate the need for parasiticides in the future. If used, synthetic parasiticide treatments must be subject to careful record keeping and observation of strict withdrawal periods. Any treated animal must be individually identifiable during the drug withdrawal period.

5. Any intentional use or application of synthetic parasiticides in organically produced livestock shall be administered in a manner as to most effectively treat parasite infestations in order to eliminate the need to treat in the future.