

Notice of Change: New Reference Manual and Workbook

New Documents: **CQM Reference Manual and Workbook, June 2010**
(Replacing November 2003 versions)

Effective Date: **November 1, 2010**

Transition Date: **January 1, 2012:** Registered producers must have the new requirements implemented

The Canadian Quality Milk (CQM) program has up-dated the Reference Manual and Workbook. The revised documents can be downloaded from the “Documents” section of the CQM website (www.dairyfarmers.org/cqm). The changes have been accepted by the Technical Committee, Advisory Committee, Dairy Farmers of Canada’s Board of Directors and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The changes are listed below according to the categories: new requirements, simplifications, new information, and clarifications.

1) New Requirements:

- a) Teat dips, sprays and udder washes:** must be listed on Record 9: List of Medicines and Chemicals Used on Livestock (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.2.1; and, Workbook: Section C, Record 9).

Rationale: teat dips, sprays and udder washes are classified as drugs by Health Canada and must be approved. Listing them on Record 9 ensures that producers check their labels for approval.

- b) Syringes:** must be stored in a clean and sanitary manner and away from livestock access (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.2.1; and, Workbook: Section B, Question 24).

Rationale: syringes must be kept clean and sanitary to ensure that the drugs being administered to cattle are not contaminated or cross-contaminated with other drug residues.

- c) Expired products:** must be disposed of properly or stored separately from non-expired drugs (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.2.1).

Rationale: producers cannot use expired drugs. As soon as a producer is aware that a drug has expired, the producer must ensure that the drug is not accidentally used.

- d) Livestock medicines must be approved in Canada for use in dairy cattle:** producers must obtain a veterinary prescription to use veterinary drugs not approved for use in Canada (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.3.1; and, Workbook: Section B, Question 27).

Rationale: veterinary drugs must be evaluated by Health Canada for safety, efficacy and quality, and manufactured according to Canadian standards to ensure their safety, and, therefore, the safety of the milk and beef produced on dairy farms. Using unapproved veterinary drugs poses a potential food safety risk of drug residues. To mitigate residues concerns, producers must obtain a veterinary prescription for all unapproved drugs.

- e) Products listed in Section 5 of the Permitted Substances Lists for Livestock Production (CAN-CGSB-32.311-2006):** are permitted to be used accordingly to the specifications indicated (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.3.1).

Rationale: The Permitted Substances Lists are published as part of the Canadian Organic Production Systems Standards, which are approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

- f) Identification of treated cattle:** removed the wording “separately managed” referring to marking treated cattle; however, an acceptable scenario was added to the list of methods for marking treated animals which refers to transporting dry cows to another facility immediately after treating (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.5).

Rationale: animals in the milking herd that are treated with a product that has a milk withdrawal must be properly marked to ensure the treated cow is not accidentally milked.

2) Simplifications:

- a) Question 13: Deleted:** do you or your feed supplier have a medicated feed license for any medicated feed used on the premise (Pending regulation) (Workbook: Section B).

Rationale: the question was deleted because the regulation has not come into force yet.

- b) Record 10: Livestock Treatment Record:** reduced the requirement to only require producers to record treatments that have a milk or meat withdrawal either on the label or on the veterinary prescription (Reference Manual: Chapter 4, Section 4.6.1; and, Workbook: Section B, Question 30).

Rationale: the main purpose of recording treatments is to ensure withdrawal times for

milk and meat are followed. Recording treatments with an associated withdrawal, should address the food safety risk.

- c) Reduced Workbook Questions from 75 to 65:** combined the following questions (Workbook, Section B):
- i) Questions 27 and 28: veterinary drug usage
 - ii) Questions 42 and 43: milk withdrawals
 - iii) 66 and 67: water quality testing
 - iv) 33, 45, 48, 54, 55, 68 and 72: corrective action plans
 - v) 74 and 75: staff training

Rationale: reduce repetition.

- d) Record 14b: Sample Annual Wash System Evaluation:** added to the Workbook (Workbook, Section C, Record 14b).

Rationale: the record was already a requirement. It was added to the Workbook for producers' convenience.

- e) Sample Letter of Guarantee/Shipping Record:** added to the Workbook (Workbook, Section C).

Rationale: the record was already a requirement. It was added to the Workbook for producers' convenience.

3) New Information:

- a) Veterinary Natural Health Products (vNHPs):** are defined and referenced (Reference Manual, Chapter 2, Section 2.1, and Chapter 4, Introduction and Section 4.3.2).
- b) Detectable needles:** recommendation to use needles that can be easily detected at the processing plant (Reference Manual, Chapter 4, Section 4.4.1).
- c) Recording repetitive and multiple livestock treatments:** sample options to simplify record keeping for cows that receive the same treatment every milking or for groups of cows that all receive the same treatment (Reference Manual, Chapter 4, Section 4.6.1).
- d) Manual wash procedure:** recommended steps to properly manually wash the bulk tank, if the bulk tank is not washed automatically (Reference Manual, Chapter 5, Section 5.1).
- e) Manual wash requirements:** Producers who manually wash their systems do not need to have an annual wash system evaluation conducted; however, they must write their equipment cleaning procedures in their post-milking SOP and they must write their bulk

tank cleaning procedures in their pre-milking SOP (Reference Manual, Chapter 7, Section 7.1.5).

- f) **Required elements and follow-up for the annual wash system analysis:** the required elements are clearly identified (e.g. time, temperature, slugging action and concentration) and producers must correct any CQM-related issues identified (Reference Manual, Chapter 7, Section 7.1.5).
- g) **Automatic Milking Systems (AMS):** require additional information and some of the CQM requirements are applied differently for AMS. An extra chapter was added to explain how producers with AMS can meet CQM requirements (Reference Manual, Chapter 10).

4) Clarifications

- a) **The Feeds Act and approved feeds:** the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is responsible for regulating feed for animals through the Feeds Act. Schedule IV of the Feeds Act lists all of the approved feeds for livestock. The list provides producers with a reference on which feeds they can provide to cattle and which feeds are excluded (Reference Manual, Chapter 2, Section 2.2).
- b) **Time Temperature Recorder (TTR) specification information:**
 - i) Cooling alarms for TTRs with “smart” alarms must be programmed to alarm for 2nd and subsequent milkings if the blend temperature ever goes above 10°C for longer than 15 minutes (previously stated as 10 minutes) (Reference Manual, Chapter 6, Section 6.1).
 - ii) The temperature probe for recording the pre-rinse or wash water temperature can be either in the fill sink or on the return wash line (Reference Manual, Chapter 7, Section 7.1.2).
- c) **Bulk tank temperature log:** if a producer is manually recording bulk tank temperatures, the producer must identify the normal temperature ranges for the bulk tank after milking (Reference Manual, Chapter 6, Section 6.1, and Workbook, Section C, Record 12: Bulk Tank Temperature Log).
- d) **Water quality information** (e.g. why testing is important) (Reference Manual, Chapter 7, Section).
- e) **Letter of guarantee:** lists the information it should include (Reference Manual, Chapter 8, Section).

Who can I contact for more information?

1. Your provincial producer association
2. Visit: www.dairyfarmers.org/cqm