

# How to Vaccinate Cattle

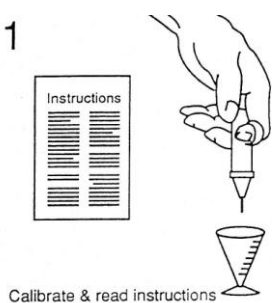
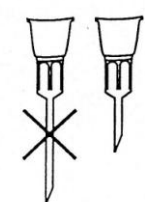
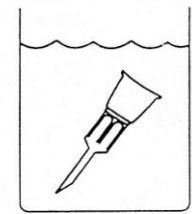
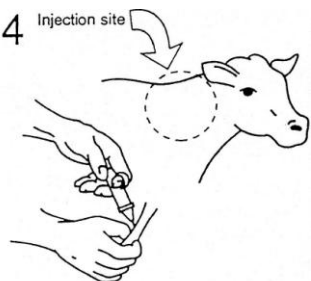
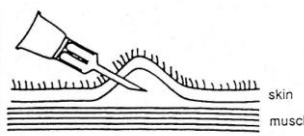
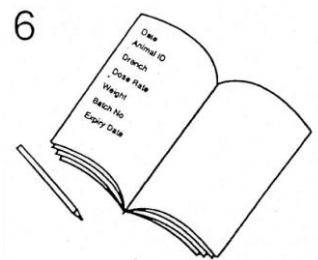
If you have cattle, they will need annual vaccinations at some time during the year. It is very important that you have good holding facilities, either a crush or head bale to ensure that vaccinations can be done safely. The safety of the owner and the cow is imperative.

The most common vaccination vital to the health of your cows is a '5 in 1' or a '7 in 1' vaccination which will prevent the most common Clostridial diseases that can occur in cattle – Tetanus, Blackleg, Malignant Oedema, Botulism, Enterotoxaemia (Pulpy Kidney) & Black's Disease.

Calves usually need their first vaccination after 4 weeks old. If the dams are fully vaccinated, this first vaccination can be later as the calf will already have antibodies. Then a 2<sup>nd</sup> Booster vaccination at a later date is required, usually before or at weaning. This 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination will apply to all vaccines administered to a calf. From then on, the vaccinations will be annual.

**Check directions on vaccine packaging for correct timing of vaccinations or ask your Cattle Veterinarian.** It is most important to make sure a bull calf has been fully vaccinated before he is steered (castrated).

Further information about Cattle Vaccines can be found on the NSW DPI downloadable PDF. [http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/111250/beef-cattle-vaccines.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/111250/beef-cattle-vaccines.pdf)

<p>1</p>  <p>Calibrate &amp; read instructions</p>	<p>STEP 1 – Read the instructions on the package to make sure the correct dosage is given.</p> <p>STEP 2 – Ideally use 16 gauge x ½ inch long needles, but longer will be OK if you are careful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Change needles regularly as they will get blunt after a few animals</li> </ul> <p>STEP 3 – Make sure your equipment is sterilized if using an automatic vaccination gun.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Check the gun is calibrated &amp; working correctly.</li> <li>– If using individual needles &amp; syringes, they are already sterile in their packages.</li> </ul> <p>STEP 4 – Injection site is best around the neck so it doesn't affect meat quality &amp; makes least damage to the hide in steers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Or in the loose tissue behind the front leg of a calf.</li> </ul>	<p>2</p>  <p>Use 16 g 1/2" needles Change needles regularly</p>
<p>3</p>  <p>Sterilize equipment before use &amp;</p>	<p>STEP 5 – Subcutaneous injections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Pinch a fold of skin to form a '&lt;' in the neck skin</li> <li>– Insert needle under the raised skin into the area between the skin &amp; muscle</li> <li>– Inject the vaccine under the skin &amp; remove the needle</li> </ul>	<p>4</p>  <p>Pinch a fold of skin</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>Inject under raised skin</p>	<p>STEP 6 – Record the information – Manually or Electronically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Date, Animal ID, Dose given, Vaccine name, Batch number, Expiry date</li> </ul>	<p>6</p>  <p>Record: Date, Animal ID, Dose, Dose rate, Weight, Batch No, Expiry Date</p>

