

More About Dairy 3

Drug Residue

As a dairy producer (that's you!), you must be aware of the potential for drug residues in the milk you harvest *and* in the meat from culled animals. If withdrawal times are not complete, it is your legal and moral responsibility to withhold milk from sale or the animal from harvest (slaughter).

If there is any question in your mind that your animal may have a milk or meat residue, you should have a drug residue test performed. It is better to be safe than sorry.

Read each scenario below. If the animal is at risk for drug residue, mark the scenario with an "X." If the animal is not at risk for drug residue, mark the scenario with an "O."

Risk (X) or No Risk (O)?	Read each scenario below. If the animal is at risk for drug residue, mark the scenario with an "X." If the animal is not at risk for drug residue, mark the scenario with an "O."
	Scenario 1: A cow comes into the parlor with a missing leg band that helps identify who she is and also provides her milking history and health records. You aren't sure who she is, but it should be fine. You decide to milk her and worry about her leg band later.
	Scenario 2: You have a new farm hand who is unfamiliar with the fresh cow protocols. All fresh cow milk is to be dumped for three milkings due to the dry cow treatment she was given prior to calving. You step into the parlor and notice the farm hand is attaching the milking claw on one of the fresh cows.
	Scenario 3: You have decided to cull a few of the older cows in the herd. You plan to haul them to the harvesting house the next morning. During the night, two of the cows get loose and eat some of the grain from a bag that was not properly stored. You notice the grain they've eaten is a medicated feed with a 30-day withdrawal period.
	Scenario 4: Sick cows on your farm are typically marked with paint on their hocks or Velcro leg bands (one on each rear leg). You notice a cow has a faint trace of hock paint when she comes into the parlor. You decide to double check your treatment records and ask your parent(s) for clearance before milking her.
	Scenario 5: Your cow became very sick and was under a veterinarian's care. An extra-label treatment was given. The treatment involved a higher dose than what the label suggested. With a normal dose, the milk withdrawal was 72 hours. After 72 hours, you decide the milk can go back in the bulk tank.
	Scenario 6: You received a phone call from the local feed store that mixes your feed. They let you know there was a mix-up with your ration. There is a chance you received someone else's order or at least some of it.
	Scenario 7: Some of your show calves are on a medicated starter grain. Your show heifers are on a non-medicated feed. You practice good management protocols and keep the medicated grain in a separate bin and use a different feed scoop to avoid cross contamination. Each animal uses its own labeled feed tub.

