

## **New Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) – What Does It Mean For Me?**

### **I am a PRODUCER or VETERINARY CLIENT:**

- Only feed animal feed that contains a VFD drug or combination VFD drug to animals based on the VFD order issued by a licensed veterinarian.
- Do not feed a VFD feed or combination VFD feed to animals after the expiration date on the VFD order.
- Provide a copy of the VFD order to the feed distributor if the issuing veterinarian sends the distributor's copy of the VFD through you, the client.
- Maintain a copy of the VFD order for a minimum of 2 years.
- Provide VFD orders for inspection and copying by FDA upon request.

### **I am a DISTRIBUTOR:**

**WAIT, WAIT! Am I a distributor?** – FDA does not consider “on-farm mixers” to be distributors under the VFD rule. By “on-farm mixers” FDA is specifically referring to individuals who are mixing VFD animal feed on a farm and feeding the VFD feed to their own animals on that farm. This means that the ownership of the feed mill or “on-farm mixer”, the animals, and the farm must be with the same person(s).

HOWEVER, If an individual A operates a feed mill and owns animals but distributes the VFD animal feed to individual B to feed to Individual A's animals on Individual B's farm then Individual A is considered to be a distributor and must follow the requirements for distribution of a VFD feed. Individual A is also a distributor if mixing VFD feed for their own animals but also distributes the feed to another farm for feeding to that farm's animals.

- Permitted to fill a VFD only if the VFD contains all required information.
- The animal feed may only be distributed if the VFD complies with labeled use, conditionally approved or for the indexed conditions of use of the VFD drug. Extralabel use is not permitted.
- Must maintain records (either electronic or written) of the receipt and distribution of all medicated feeds containing a VFD drug for 2 years.
- If the distributor manufactures the animal feed containing the VFD drug, the distributor must keep the manufacturing records for 1 year and such records must be made available for inspection and copying by FDA upon request.
- The VFD and all other required records must be available for inspection and copying by FDA upon request.
- All labeling and advertising for VFD drugs must contain the following cautionary statement: ***“Caution: Federal law restricts medicated feed containing this VFD drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.”***
- A distributor of a VFD drug must notify FDA prior to the first time it distributes animal feed containing a VFD drug. This notification is required one time per distributor and must include the following information: distributor's complete name and business address; distributor's signature or signature of authorized agent; date notification is signed.
- A distributor must notify FDA within 30 days of any change in ownership, business name or business address.
- A distributor is only permitted to distribute a VFD feed to another distributor only if the consignor (original distributor) obtains a written acknowledgement letter from the consignee (receiving distributor) prior to shipment of the VFD feed. Consignor and consignee must retain the acknowledgement letter for two years.