

SAFETY

I. Attire

- A. Dress appropriately! Come to lab prepared to work cattle and get dirty. This means wear close toed shoes or boots, jeans (pants) and other weather appropriate clothes such as raincoats, jackets, and mud boots.

II. Safety Tips

- A. Although most animal accidents are not fatal, many men, women and children are needlessly injured each year because of a lack of safety awareness. Broken bones, crushed and mashed limbs, missed days of school and work and unnecessary medical expenses are some of the results of animal-related accidents. Individuals may work carefully around animals most of the time, but then are injured in an animal accident because of preoccupation, haste, impatience or anger. It is during these moments that a livestock handler really needs to understand animal behavior.

Most animal-related accidents are the result of "people problems." Poor judgment and lack of understanding are major causes of accidents involving animals. Never underestimate the speed, reach or accuracy of a steer, heifer, cow, or bull's kick. Stand back when working cattle on foot, horseback or when riding an ATV. When working close to the animal (when animal is in chute or tied up), get as close as you can by standing against the animal. This way the animal cannot directly kick you. Never lean over an animal's head or bend down under an animal who is tied up to a fence. If there is a catwalk, use it to keep out of harms way and to make you look bigger for better control. Observing animals to determine their temperament can alert the handler to possible danger. These signs include raised or pinned ears, raised tail or hair on the back, pawing the ground, and snorting. Male animals are always dangerous. Males of some breeds are more aggressive than others, but protective females, especially new mothers, can be just as dangerous. Often injuries occur from animals that do not openly exhibit aggression or fear. This reaction may be triggered by excitement caused, for example, by a person walking nearby. Typical injuries from this type of situation are usually a result of being kicked, bitten, stepped on, or squeezed between the animal and a solid structure as the animal tries to flee.

Livestock can also be the source of illness in humans. Zoonoses are diseases that can be transmitted between humans and animals. Examples of such diseases are rabies, brucellosis, trichinosis, salmonellosis, and ring worm. Preventive measures, such as keeping animal facilities clean, testing, immunizing and sanitary practices in handling animals and their products will

help to eliminate the danger of zoonoses. Treat livestock with respect. Always know where you are and where the animal is in relation to you when you are working with livestock. Never overlook warning signs exhibited by animals being handled. When working cattle use a paddle to make noise, increase pressure, or to protect yourself. Plan ahead to allow plenty of time to move animals, so there is no need to hurry. Do not try to manhandle animals when you are angry. Some handlers may exhibit a feeling of superiority over animals, which is foolish when one considers the size of cattle and horses in comparison to humans. Other common problems should also be avoided, such as horseplay (people play), prodding an animal that has no place to go, attempting a task without enough help, not providing proper and safe facilities, and not wearing personal protective equipment.

III. Cattle Product Use

A. Vaccines

1. Modified Live Virus (MLV)

- Minimal Risk – Most if not all fit in this category
- None are recognized as dangerous
- ***Safety action if exposed:*** Wash exposed/injected area and treat with a topical antibacterial ointment and see a doctor if swelling or pain develops.

2. Modified Live Bacterial (MLB)

- No Minimal Risk
- All have the potential to cause disease in humans.
- ***Safety action if exposed:*** See a doctor immediately and take the label/bottle of vaccine with you. The doctor will likely begin treatment with an appropriate antibiotic.

3. Killed (virus/bacteria)

- Minimal Risk
- None are recognized as dangerous
- ***Safety Action if Exposed:*** Wash exposed/injected area and treat with a topical antibacterial ointment and see a doctor if swelling or pain develops.

B. Medications

1. Injectable and Oral

- Minimal Risk – A potential allergic response in some individuals. People with known allergies to one or more antibiotics should not work in areas in which animals are being treated or remove the class of antibiotics for which they are allergic from the treatment protocol and thoroughly clean the treatment area to remove remaining traces of the offending antibiotic before that person works in that area.
- **Dangerous – Micotil, IF INJECTED WILL LIKELY CAUSE DEATH IN A HUMAN.**

Safety Action if Exposed to Micotil: If Micotil is accidentally injected, apply ice to injection site. Take label to ER/attending physician for information. In addition to calling 911 they should themselves or instruct/demand the physician call 1-800-722-0987 or 1-317-276-2000 those are the numbers for Rocky Mountain Poison control and the Lilly emergency hotline. They often have more accurate and up to date information for tilmicosin than local or regional poison control centers.

- **Lutalyse (and other prostaglandins), PREGNANT WOMEN CAN/WILL ABORT OR GO INTO LABOR IF EXPOSED TO THIS MEDICATION.** This product can be absorbed through the skin, therefore pregnant women should not handle a prostaglandin bottle, work in an area or touch equipment that may be contaminated with a prostaglandin.
- **Dexamethasone – PREGNANT WOMEN CAN POTENTIALLY ABORT OR GO INTO LABOR IF EXPOSED TO THIS MEDICATION**

Safety Action if Exposed: For products **other than Micotil** wash exposed/injected area and treat with a topical antibacterial ointment and see a doctor if swelling or pain develops. An accidental injection with MICOTIL should be treated as an extreme emergency. CALL 911 and rush the person to the emergency room, however there is no known antidote.

For pregnant women LUTALYSE (and other prostaglandins), and for pregnant women Dexamethasone, wash exposed injected area AND see a doctor ASAP. A person exposed to antibiotic or other medication for which they are allergic should see a doctor ASAP. If the allergy is severe call 911.

C. Antiparasitics

1. Injectable

- Minimal Risk
- No known allergies
- **Safety Action If Exposed:** Wash exposed area and contaminated clothing. Should a person develop an allergic like response they should see or be taken to a doctor ASAP; if the response is severe they should call 911.

2. Pour-On/Topical/Oral:

- Minimal Risk – Organophosphates potentially can be a serious hazard if handled improperly. No know allergies. Should a person develop an allergic like response they should see or be taken to a doctor ASAP. If the response is severe they should call 911.
- **Safety Action If Exposed:** Newer generation synthetic pyrethroids can cause a severe paraesthesia in some people depending on location of exposure. Wash exposed area and contaminated clothing. Should a person develop weakness, tremors, or an allergic like response they should see or be taken to a doctor ASAP. If the response is severe they should call 911.

IV. Humans

Humans are one of three things to cattle:

- a) A predator to run away from
- b) A “nobody” to ignore
- c) A dominant figure to be respected.

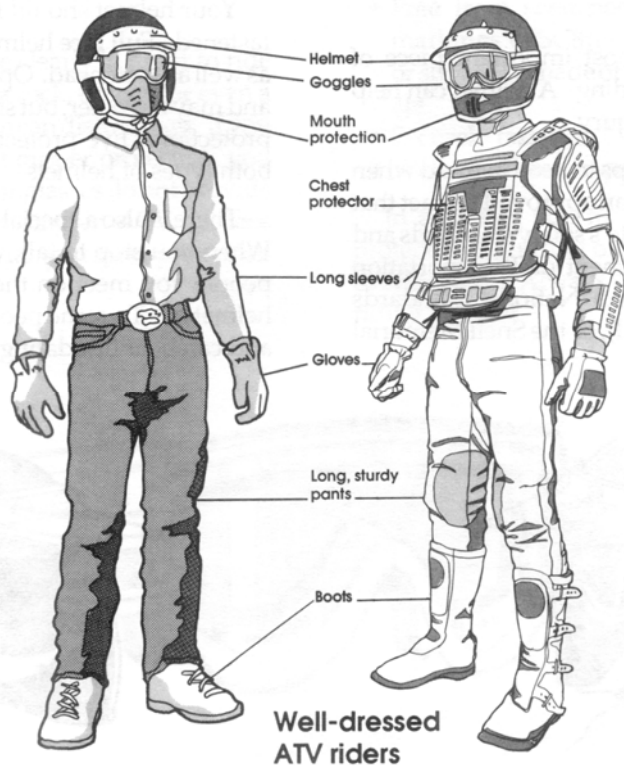


V. ATV Safety

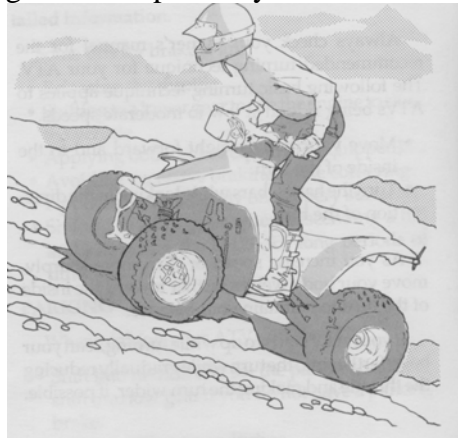
Never operate an ATV (4 wheeler, Mule) without proper instruction. ATV's are designed to be used off-road only. Do not drive on paved streets or where traffic and vehicles are present. When riding ATV's students must wear appropriate protective clothing such as:

- a) Helmet

- b) Eye protection
- c) Over the heel boots
- d) Long sleeved shirts and long pants



ATV's are not to be used as toys. Never attempt to do wheelies, jumps or other stunts and use good judgment when approaching hills, turns, or rough terrain. Go at a speed that is proper for the terrain, visibility conditions, and your experience level. Do not operate at excessive speeds! ATV's are not meant to be ridden by two passengers. They become difficult to control and two passengers may cause an ATV to tip and roll over. It is always important to operate an ATV appropriate in size and weight in comparison to body size and weight of the operator and always check the fuel level and air in tires before using. Most importantly use **COMMON SENSE!**



VI. Horse Safety

A. Appropriate Clothing

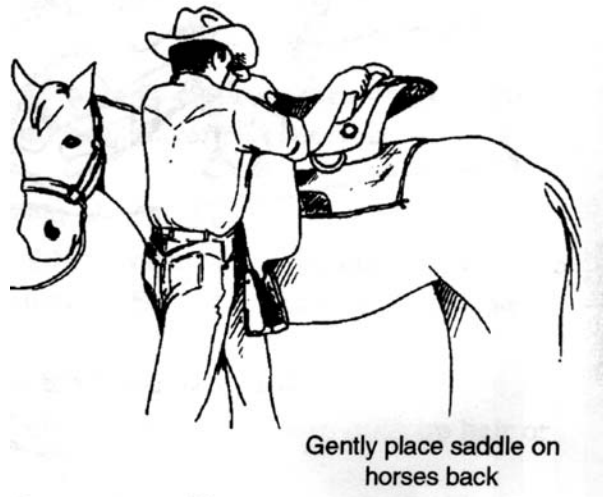
- a) Helmet
- b) Slip on boots (No sandals, tennis shoes, etc.)
- c) Jeans or pants
- d) Long sleeve shirt
- e) Spurs

B. Rider's Experience Level

Match experience level of the rider with a horse of similar experience. Do not attempt to ride a horse if it needs to be ridden by a more experienced rider.

C. Tack

Check tack before saddling up. After saddling up make sure all tack is secure and tightened and that stirrups are adjusted to fit rider.



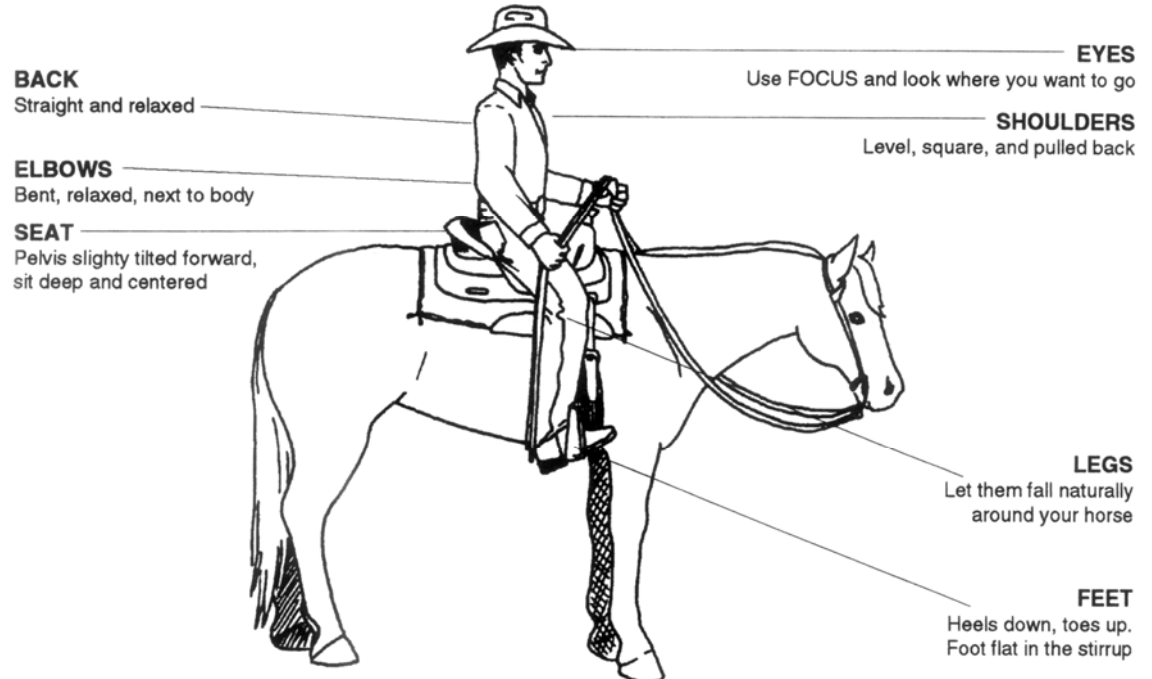
D. Horse Health

Do not attempt to ride a horse who is lame or unsound. Make sure saddle and other equipment properly fit the horse to avoid saddle sores and other discomfort to the horse. Do not ride a horse who has lost a shoe or needs to be shod.

E. Use Common Sense!

Do not tie horses to unstable or unsecured fences, railings, or posts. Do not put yourself or your horse in danger by attempting jumps, or

navigating through rough and unstable terrain. It is always handy to have a pocket knife with you and if possible ride with a partner/friend.



VII. Producer Code of Cattle Care and Ethics – Adapted from the Nebraska Cattlemen Beef Quality Assurance Program.

- Provide necessary food, water, and care to protect the health and well-being of animals.
- Provide disease prevention practices to protect herd health, including access to veterinary care.
- Provide facilities that allow safe, humane, and efficient movement and/or restraint of livestock.
- Use appropriate methods to euthanize sick or injured livestock and dispose of them properly.
- Provide personnel with training to properly handle and care for cattle.
- Make timely observations of livestock to ensure basic needs are being met.
- Minimize stress when transporting cattle.
- Keep updated on advancements and changes in the industry to make decisions based on sound production practices and consideration to animal well-being.
- Persons who willfully mistreat animals will not be tolerated.