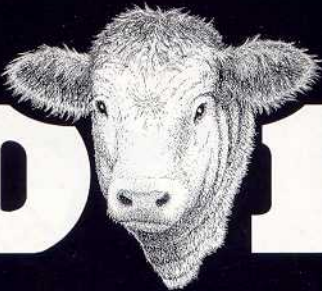


FEED LOT[®]



FEEDER INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

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FEATURES

- Beef Industry Leaders Attack E. coli
- Accurately Controlling Grain Moisture
- Risk Management
- Needle-Free Injection System Introduced

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Needle Free Injection System Reduces Injection Lesions, Disease Transfer, Increase Employee Safety

by Jill J. Dunkel

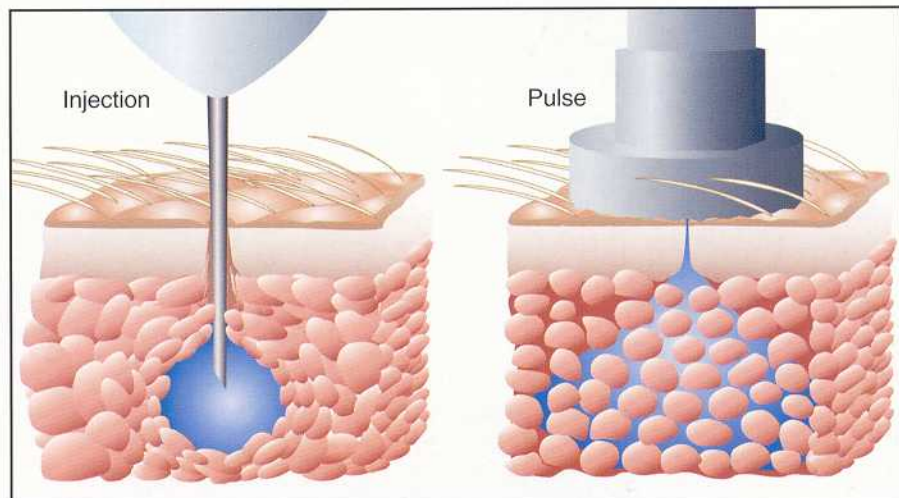


The feedlot model comes with a metal bracket that slips over the fence or squeeze chute rail. It can be configured to run on compressed air. This design permits two or more units to be connected in tandem for multiple vaccinations.

Beef Quality Assurance measures have significantly reduced the incidence of injection site lesions and the trim loss caused by them. However, carcass defects resulting from injection site lesions still cost producers millions of dollars an-

nually. Simply injecting sterile water with a 16 gauge needle causes tissue damage. But finding a way to use vaccines and antibiotics without needles could help.

The Pulse 250 from Felton International, can deliver biologicals



The Pulse 250 can be adjusted to apply the product throughout the cell layers as opposed to creating a depot of product with a conventional needle.



Injections are administered by holding down the safety lever, placing the nozzle against the animal's skin and applying pressure. The pressure against the animal releases the vaccine. There is no high-resistance trigger to squeeze with each injection.

either subcutaneously or intramuscularly without a needle ever pricking the skin. It uses compressed air, or CO² or nitrogen and hydraulically forces the appropriate dose of the product directly through the skin and into the tissue. By creating an entry point seven times smaller than an 18-gauge needle, the system can be adjusted to apply the product throughout the cell layers as opposed to creating a depot of product with a conventional needle.

According to David Cook, Ph. D, Director of Field Operations with Felton International, the Pulse 250 not only reduces injection site reaction and tissue damage associated with needle injections, but it also reduces the risk of transmission of bloodborne diseases due to multiple use of contaminated needles. Such bloodborne diseases that can be transferred by needles include anaplasmosis, bovine viral diarrhea (BVD), and bovine leucosis.

Injections are administered by holding down the safety lever, placing the nozzle against the animal's skin and applying pressure. The pressure against the animal releases the vaccine. There is no high-resistance trigger to squeeze with each injection, which reduces the risk of repetitive motion hand injuries attributed to squeezing syringe triggers. Employee safety is also increased because the system eliminates the risk of accidental needle sticks to vaccination crews, according to Cook.

The needle free unit also eliminates disposable sharps, reducing the biohazardous waste generated by processing cattle.

The unit can be adjusted to deliver a 1/2 mL to 2.5 mL injection, in 1/2 mL increments. For a 5mL injection, the unit is discharged twice. It is designed to re-

cycle every 1.5 seconds. By simply adjusting the pressure setting, the Pulse 250 can inject subcutaneously or intramuscularly. "There's no need to tent the skin for subcutaneous injections," explains Cook. "Although it is still important to use the proper injection site, the Pulse 250, when set properly, delivers a subcutaneous injection every time."

The unit can be set to work with a standard air compressor, or refillable CO² or nitrogen canisters. The Pulse 250 feedlot model comes with a pneumatic amplifier, handpiece and a metal hanging bracket which can attach to the squeeze chute or a nearby wall or stand. A portable backpack version is also available for producers who require the flexibility to move from one animal to the next, such as revaccinating an entire snake full of cattle.

Tom Jones, a partner in Hy-Plains Feedyard, LLC near Montezuma, Kansas, has been using the system for over 60 days. He is currently using the Pulse 250 to administer viral vaccine during processing. "We are still running tests, but at this point we really like it," Jones says. "I like the fact that we are not cross contaminating cattle by reusing needles. It's easy to use and we know the shots are given properly."

Currently Pulse 250 models are available direct from Felton International or from some select veterinarians. ♦

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