



The following policy language was ratified by delegates to the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wisconsin Farmers Union Convention on January 24-26, 2014 in Wisconsin Rapids:

## **ANTIBIOTIC USE**

WFU supports policies that:

Require independent monitoring of data on the use of antibiotics in animal agriculture, encourage USDA to increase testing for pathogens and antibiotic residues in processing plants, and ensure prompt notification and consequences for animal sellers whose slaughtered animals test positive for violative levels of antibiotics.

With regard to limitations on antimicrobial use by farmers and ranchers, WFU supports policies that:

- a. Permit the use of antimicrobial drugs to treat animals showing signs of illness.
- b. Permit the use of antimicrobial drugs to control the spread of disease in a herd or flock, when one or more animals in the herd or flock show signs of illness.
- c. Eliminate the use of antimicrobial drugs for growth promotion.
- d. Permit the limited use of antimicrobial drugs for preventative purposes in healthy animals. Preventative uses should be limited to defined periods of disease susceptibility in the animal's life, such as, but not limited to, weaning, transport, and the dry dairy cow period, and other periods that would cause stress in the animal.

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