

SAFETY & BEST PRACTICE GUIDE

Be smart. Be safe.

VetCap® INSECTICIDE DELIVERY SYSTEM

ALWAYS read these instructions carefully before use and strictly observe all product label directions and the specific safe practice recommendations for each item of equipment

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

USERS AND HANDLERS MUST BE OVER THE AGE OF 18

This equipment is designed solely for use by operators experienced in handling and applying livestock insecticides AND with the AgriLabs' AIM range of compatible GelCap products.

Do not use the Applicator to fire any other type of projectile. This is not a toy for recreational use or for targeting people

MISUSE MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH

Always prepare the ground and everyone involved beforehand

- Ensure that bystanders remain at a safe distance from the work area and in no circumstances closer than 20 feet from the target animals
- **ONLY** apply product capsules when the animal is between 20 to 30 feet from the user
- **Always** use in clear and open pasture with unimpeded line of sight
- **Never** use indoors or in a confined area where you cannot see clearly what is behind the target animal
- Be careful always to ensure that product capsules are never used in proximity to pesticide sensitive areas, watercourses, ponds or food crops

Gear up

- Agricultural pesticides can be harmful to humans. Always wear appropriate protective clothing and gloves when handling the product capsules

- Wear goggles, face shield or safety glasses when using the Applicator
- Treat the Applicator as you would a loaded gun – **never** look down the barrel or point it towards yourself or any other person
- **Always** engage the safety catch between shots and when the Applicator is not in use
- Remove the CO₂ Cartridge or disengage other gas source before storing the Applicator
- Store the Applicator in a secure location and separately from the CO₂ Cartridges

Keep the Applicator, Cartridges and Product Capsules out of the reach of children at all times



How to use the VetCap® GelCap Applicator

Every Rancher knows his own herd best. If they are used to being tended from an ATV or from horseback, then use that method for gathering. Prior to dosing, lay down a favourite item that will keep them occupied eg. hay, crumbles or pellets.

Double check that you have prepared the ground and appropriately geared up everyone involved as recommended before dosing the individual cattle. Dry fire a few shots at approximately 20 second intervals to acclimate the herd. Then start dosing the more docile animals, take your time and work

gradually through the rest of the herd.



Follow this procedure for dosing each animal:

1. Attach the Hopper to the Applicator by sliding the Hopper into the groove on the top side of the Applicator.
2. Check that the Safety Catch is engaged (a red outline will show on the button).
3. Insert the CO₂ Cartridge into the space inside the grip and apply the screw cap until finger tight. There will be a brief hiss of gas before the Cartridge seals with the internal valve connector.
4. Load the required number of AIM GelCap capsules into the Hopper which is provided with the Applicator (20 capsules maximum) and snap closed the Hopper lid.
5. Immediately after pouring the GelCap capsules into the Hopper, close the slide lid of the 40 x Capsule Container to protect the remaining capsules from ambient humidity.
6. Select the animal for dosage, release the Safety Catch and then pull back the Cocking Slide fully until it locks open.
7. Check that a capsule has chambered from the Hopper (visible through the perspex viewing panel)
8. Push in the Cocking Slide fully. The capsule is now ready to fire from the sealed chamber.

9. Take aim at the target animal, **from an upwind position**, pull the Trigger and fire the capsule.
10. Immediately re-engage the safety catch and follow the same procedure for each dosage.

Implement a farm procedural protocol. For example, any single or first dosage capsule must always be administered to the flank of the animal. This helps to identify the animals already dosed. Apply capsules to the upper two thirds of the flank of the animal, anywhere between the shoulders and 6 inches ahead of the tail. Where 2 capsules are required, apply one on each side of the animal. Always apply from an upwind position to avoid spray from bursting capsules

In the event of capsule burst inside the Applicator, clean the chamber and barrel with the Cleaning Tool provided with the Applicator starter kit

BEST PRACTICE - Recommendations

If done correctly, the VetCap dosing method can be far more efficient and done with less stress than other methods which require herding, corralling and handling of the cattle.

Every Rancher knows his own herd best, but the following procedures are recommended :

- If the cattle are accustomed to a specific truck, ATV or horse/s, then use this method to approach the cattle.
- Never approach cattle head on. Approach them at an angle so as not to present a direct 'challenge' and always ensure the cattle have a clear escape route. Cattle that feel trapped are more likely to become stressed and to react negatively.
- Always ensure you are in a safe position where you can quickly and easily avoid any cattle that may panic or become aggressive.
- Providing positive reinforcement such as, hay, or any other feed is strongly recommended. This helps to distract the cattle and offset any negative association from the applicator sound or GelCap impact. When first starting out, use a simple 3 step process to get the best results; only advance to the next step once the cattle have become fully accustomed to the previous step:

- ✓ **Step 1:** Lay down some feed, allow the cattle to move in and begin feeding. Then start off by test firing the applicator

with no GelCaps at a distance of about 100 yards. Gradually work your way toward the cattle while they are distracted by the feed. If the cattle show signs of nervousness, then stop and resume once they have relaxed. If the herd continues to be nervous, stop and return for short periods on subsequent days until the herd becomes totally desensitized to the sound.

- ✓ **Step 2:** Once the cattle show little attention to the applicator sound at a distance of 20 to 30 feet, start firing the applicator while you lay down some feed. For best results, build an association between the firing of the applicator with the positive experience of introducing food. If time is taken at the start to positively condition the cattle, they will often begin to approach you at the noise of the first applicator shots, actively seeking out the positive stimulus of the food.
- ✓ **Step 3:** Once the cattle are accustomed to the sound of the applicator and begin to associate it with the positive experience of being fed, only then begin dosing them with the GelCaps. Using positive reinforcement ensures that over time the cattle become conditioned to the dosing process. Positively conditioned cattle become progressively easier to dose..
- Once the cattle are accustomed to the dosing process, using a few simple rules will help you to maximise the effectiveness of VetCap:
 - ✓ Always target the shoulder region or an area that is well muscled. This will produce minimal discomfort for the animal, and minimize stress.
 - ✓ Always make sure you are within range and have a clear shot at the targeted animal. Never target the head or fire when there is a chance of missing and hitting another animal in the head or eye.
 - ✓ Dose the most relaxed cattle first. Leave the more nervous animals until last and do not dose any animals that show signs of severe nervousness or aggression.
 - ✓ It may take several cycles of conditioning the herd to becoming accustomed to the dosing process. By always being mindful of keeping the cattle distracted and quiet, you will achieve the best results
 - ✓ Never try to dose cattle that are fleeing or moving away. Leave these cattle and focus on the cattle which show the least concern and are most distracted by the food. Over time the entire herd should become acclimated to this method of dosing.

- ✓ For best long term results dose cows with calves at foot; if necessary use the same three step process above. By the time the calves are old enough to be dosed themselves, they are likely to be totally accustomed to VetCap and show very little, if any, stress responses
- ✓ VetCap is significantly less stressful than gathering the cattle and running them through the chute...

CO₂ Cartridge / Gas Management

WARNINGS

- **CO₂ Cartridges and canisters may explode at temperatures above 130 F.**
- **Do not tamper with or leave gas cartridges or the Applicator standing in direct sunlight.**
- **Do not insert or remove cartridge in a confined area or with persons in close proximity. Point away from your body and towards the ground.**
- **If you notice that the capsules distance or trajectory is falling off, likely the CO₂ cartridge has been depleted and should be replaced.**
- **Misuse or mishandling of gas cartridges can cause accidents leading to serious injury or death. ALWAYS read and carefully follow the detailed safe handling instructions in the accompanying Safety Leaflet and on the packaging**

The Applicator is designed exclusively for operation with custom VetCap® 25 gram CO₂ Cartridges which are available through your Applicator supplier. Each Cartridge will deliver at least 30 shots or more . The rate at which gas is released is impacted by the ambient temperature when used. These CO₂ cartridges are not refillable.

Do not use any other size or make of gas jett / cartridge with this Applicator – to do so would be extremely dangerous and risk serious injury to the operator.

CAPSULE CARE

The capsule shells are made of a specially designed soft gelatin and are therefore sensitive to extremes of temperature and ambient humidity.

Always follow these steps to preserve the capsules in optimum condition :

- Store in a cool, dry place in the original Container with lid closed
- Do not freeze the capsules or expose the Container to direct sunlight
- Only load the Applicator hopper with capsules when ready to dose.
- Keep the Container lid closed at all times and do not store unused capsules in the Hopper



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