

# NHTC:

## Non- Hormone Treated Cattle

The NHTC Program will allow the participant to provide animals that have been free from all types of Hormonal Growth Promotants (HGP) to buyers as NHTC verified under a USDA approved program.

Program participants must maintain an absence of HGP's in all NHTC approved animals. Each participant will need to implement documentable procedures to control all aspects of HGP product usage at their facility.

The program participant must demonstrate specific inventory control measures that will allow for monitoring of all inputs that are fed to and or administered to NHTC program animals.

To this point, strict control measures must be implemented to control all inputs that will be fed or administered to NHTC program animals. All NHTC animal handling and feeding procedures implemented to maintain the participant's NHTC program must be backed by verifiable records.

NHTC program animals must be fully traceable to the ranch of origin at all times as they move through the production cycle.

The NHTC Program is comprised of **four** main components:

1. Initial on-site evaluation;
2. Documented controls of HGP product usage and handling protocols;
3. NHTC Approved animal receiving protocol (if applicable);
4. Shipping NHTC approved animals.

In order to expedite the on-site audit process, the following documentation items must be completed prior to scheduling the initial onsite audit:

### **NHTC Management Team Outlined**

Prior to the initial onsite audit, the participant should have outlined the NHTC Management Team that will be utilized for carrying out the calving, feeding, processing, doctoring, shipping of NHTC program animals. All members of the participant's NHTC Management Team will need to be present at the initial NHTC Program training session conducted by the Agent.

### **HGP Handling Procedure Outlined**

If any type HGP's are utilized on the participant operation, the participant will need to have a clearly defined process for recording purchases, storing, handling, and inventory control of the HGP products utilized at the location as to ensure no cross contamination occurs with NHTC program animals.

## **Ration Ingredient Master List**

. The participant will need to maintain a list of all feed stuffs that are currently or periodically inventoried by the participant. The participant's ration ingredient master list will be kept in the participant's NHTC program manual and kept up-to-date as ration ingredients change over time. If any feed products containing HGP's are utilized at the operation, those products will need to be handled in accordance with the participant's HGP Handling Procedure.

## **Manufactured Feed Ingredient Affidavits**

. All manufactured feed ingredients (bagged or in bulk) that will be provided to NHTC program animals while they are under the control of the participant, including WDG and DDG products, must be covered by a signed and dated affidavit from each feed manufacturer stating: (1) The absence of HGP; and (2) The processes the feed manufacturer has in place to prevent cross contamination of non-HGP feed with HGP containing feed products.

Feed Tags from each type of bagged feed that may potentially be fed to NHTC program animals will need to be kept on file, (and updated as products change).

## **Feed Delivery Vehicle Cleanout Procedure Outlined**

. If the participant utilizes a feed delivery vehicle and the participant delivers feed products containing HGP's to non-NHTC program animals in that feed delivery vehicle, the participant must have a documented procedure to cleanout the feed delivery vehicle prior to delivery of non-HGP containing feed to NHTC program animals.

A log will need to be kept stating the date and time that each feed delivery vehicle clean-out procedure occurs.

## **Pharmaceutical Inventory List**

. The participant must provide a comprehensive list of all pharmaceutical items purchased and inventoried at the location.

Any HGP pharmaceutical items that are purchased or inventoried by the participant must be handled according to the participant's HGP Handling Procedure to ensure that no cross contamination occurs with NHTC program animals.

## **Calving Records (If applicable)**

. If the operation is the ranch of origin, it will need a documented procedure for recording animal birth dates.

## **Receiving NHTC Program Animals (If applicable)**

. The livestock market and supplier will need to have a clearly defined process for receiving NHTC program animals. The receiving protocol will need to include reviewing the NHTC shipping manifest from the previous origin, confirming proper head count and confirming the animal description are correct.

## **Group Processing Procedures**

. The participant will need to record all items administered to and all procedures carried out each time that NHTC program animals are processed.

### **Non-Conforming Animal Procedure**

. The participant must have a clearly defined procedure for handling animals that are administered or ingest any type of HGP substance on the prohibited substance list.

### **Animal Identification**

. All NHTC program animals must have the program compliant tag prior to leaving the facility.

The participant will need to have a procedure for recording the means by which NHTC program animals are identified.

### **Animal Movement Records**

. The participant must have a procedure for tracking and recording all movements of NHTC program animals.

### **European Union High Quality Beef Feeding Claim (HQB FC) (If applicable)**

. The supplier must have a signed affidavit from the consulting nutritionist stating that the finishing ration that will be fed to NHTC program animals meets the requirements for Quota B of the HQB FC.

Quota B is requirements: Animals must have been fed the last 100 days on a diet containing not less than **62% of concentrates** and/or feed grain co-products on a dietary dry matter basis that meet or exceed a metabolisable energy content greater than **12.26 mega joules per one kilogram of dry matter** ( $12.26 \text{ MJ/kg} = 60.318 \text{ NEg per 100 lbs}$ ). The heifers and steers that are fed the diet described above shall be fed, on average, **no less than 1.4% of live body weight per day** on a dry matter basis.

### **Shipping Procedure**

. The participant will need to have a clearly defined procedure for shipping NHTC program animals. The participant will need to assure all Program Compliant Tags are in place prior to shipping, including all visual tags. The participant will need to assure all Program Compliant Tags are in place prior to shipping, including all visual tags. The participant will need to complete a shipping manifest on each set of cattle that are shipped by the participant. The shipping manifest will need to denote all programs that the animals being shipped are approved under, i.e. Age & Source Verification, NHTC and/or HQB FC. The shipping manifest will need to include the entire list of RFID numbers of the approved animals being shipped.