

## **Milk .... Meat .... and the Need for Permanent Records**

by Donna M. Amaral-Phillips and Patty Scharko

All of us prescribe to the philosophy of producing meat and milk that is wholesome for human consumption. To accomplish this objective, we understand the importance of adhering to withdrawal times for milk and meat listed on the label for antibiotics and/or vaccines. Drugs should be administered according to the directions provided on the label or as instructed by your veterinarian. The preferred location for all injections (other than bst) is the neck area in front of the animal's shoulder to prevent blemishes and toughness in steaks or roasts from the round area.

Maintaining a permanent set of treatment records is critical. Dry eraser boards in parlors are great for keeping track of cows treated recently but do not provide a permanent record. Permanent records need to indicate the animal which was treated, the drug used and withdrawal times for both milk and MEAT. This information can be recorded on a calendar, electronically (computer spreadsheet or recording system), or on a piece of paper. Maintaining these records is crucial should any questions arise regarding antibiotic residues especially as it relates to meat residues.