

# Mid-Atlantic Cattle Sales Recommended Herd Health & Management Protocol

*Recommendations regarding herd health and management programs to help maximize potential for cattle being sold through value-added sales such as the Mid-Atlantic Cattle Sales monthly video sale.*

1. Cattle should be weaned at least 45 days prior to shipping and should be bunk broke.
2. The shipped cattle should have a close weight spread, preferably 75-150 lb. spread.
3. Cattle should be vaccinated at least once and preferably two times. Vaccination plans may include the following:
  - **Option One:** Calves are vaccinated 2-8 weeks prior to weaning and again at weaning with 2-6 weeks between vaccinations.
  - **Option Two:** Calves are vaccinated at weaning and again at least 14 days prior to shipment and/or sale with at least 14 days between vaccinations.
  - Recommend using a modified live shot (IBR-BVD-BRSV-PI3) with whatever vaccination plan you choose

## Example Vaccination Protocol

- 2 doses Bovi-Shield Gold 5, or like product
- 2 doses Ultra Choice 7 or 8, or like product (7 or 8 way clostridial/blackleg)
- 1 dose pasteurella. **Note:** This can either be a straight shot, such as PulmoGuard PHM1, or a shot of One Shot Ultra, which also has blackleg, can be given on your second round of vaccinations. It is also available in the vaccination “Bovi-Shield Gold One Shot.”

*\*Examples may also be found in the Zoetis SelectVAC Programs*

4. Cattle should have a parasite control administered with the first round of shots. This can be either an injectable or a pour-on.
5. Cattle should be castrated and dehorned, if necessary. They should be completely healed from both by time of sale.
6. *Heifers need to be guaranteed open.* While this is not a requirement and heifers may be sold as not guaranteed open, guaranteed open heifers are usually more desirable to buyers. This can be achieved most effectively through herd management. If a heifer that was sold as guaranteed open is found to be pregnant after shipment, she may be returned to owner or sold at a discounted price.
7. Age and Source Verified cattle will be handled according to the producer's wishes. MACS does have the ability to accommodate these programs.
8. Fly control will usually be expected in fly season.
9. A mineral program should be implemented at the farm.
10. We recommend every producer secure a premise ID number.

*These are the **recommendations** that we at Mid-Atlantic Cattle Sales believe will help maximize your cattle's potential; however, these are **not requirements** to sell on our monthly board sale. Please contact us if you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding any of these recommendations.*