



Food Safety Systems Implementation Fund— Eligible Equipment List for VBP applicants Expands

ARDCorp and the BC-Verified Beef program (VBP) are pleased to announce that the list of eligible equipment for beef producers planning on implementing the on-farm food safety program has been expanded within the Food Safety Systems Implementation (Producer) Program (FSSI) to now include: cattle squeeze chutes (with neck extenders/ head restraints); animal weigh scales; and, thermometers - both animal and refrigerator.

For more information about the funding process, reimbursement rates and maximums, as well as the funding application forms and guides go to www.ardcorp.ca (Ph: Toll free: 1-866-522-3447) or contact your BC-VBP Program coordinator (Ph: 1-866-398-2848 ext 2 or Email: VBP@cattlemen.bc.ca) For information about the BC-VBP program and it's requirements and application process go to: www.cattlemen.bc.ca/vbp.htm or contact the BC-VBP Program coordinator.

A more complete list on what equipment is eligible for both the Food Safety Systems Implementation (FSSI) and Enterprise Infrastructure Traceability (EIT) Funds can be seen below.

Eligible Equipment	Eligible Through: EIT or FSSI	Relationship to On-Farm Food Safety and/or Traceability
RFID or barcode readers, label printers	EIT	Product recall and automated traceability at producer level and assists medications and broken needle check at shipping (a CCP—Critical Control Point)
On-farm food safety software	EIT	Standard operating procedures and CCPs can be documented and tracked. The software should also assist with records check at shipping for withdrawal times, potential broken needles (CCPs) and identifying any animals suspected of not complying with these issues.
Cattle squeeze chutes (with neck extenders/head restraints)	FSSI	Holds animal tight to facilitate injection accuracy and reduces chance of needle breakage or bending.
Scale/calibration device (medicated feed or water)	FSSI	Increased accuracy of medication usage and calibration for medicating feed or water. Improves actual dosages given to cattle thereby reducing withdrawal and antimicrobial resistance concerns.
Waste container - empty pharmaceutical bottles/ needles	FSSI	Reduced chance of breakage and leakage; both being a cross contamination concern.
Animal weigh scales	FSSI	As most animal health products are dosed by weight, weighing animals on-farm ensures better accuracy of dosage calculations thereby reducing the risk of over-dosing (affecting withdrawal time) or under-dosing (antimicrobial resistance concern).
Thermometers (Both for fridge and animals)	FSSI	Fridge – Temperature abuse can impact health product life, efficacy and withdrawal time. Animals – Accurately measuring animal health status (temps) can help improve diagnosis and ensure more appropriate medication choices.

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