

HOW TO GET THE RIGHT NUMBER OF DOSES FROM THE TICK FEVER VACCINE PACK

Setting and calibrating the automatic vaccination injector

Check the instructions for setting the dose and calibrating each brand of gun. Note that the following pictures are of a standard 5ml variable injector; but the principles are the same for any brand of gun.



The dose is set by lining up the **front face** of the plunger with the required dose calibration on the barrel. The dose of tick fever vaccine is 2 ml.



Once the draw-off tube is connected to the gun and vaccine pack, hold the injector with the needle pointing upwards and pump gently to expel all air prior to commencing vaccination.



The vaccinator can be calibrated before use, by injecting a number of doses of cooled boiled water through the syringe into a measuring device. In this case, 10 doses of 2 ml should equal a total of 20 ml. We have used a 20 ml syringe barrel with the tip blocked with Blu Tack. Other small accurate measuring cylinders are also useful. The blue water is just to show up in the photo!

Note: all water must be expelled before using the injector for vaccination



When using multiple vaccine packs, and a new pack is being loaded, the connecting tube and vaccinating injector can also be primed by injecting a few doses back into the used vaccine pack and returning it to the esky and ice-bricks. Note that once the vaccine pack is empty, the draw-off tube full of vaccine still holds 8 doses of vaccine.

How can you be sure that Tick Fever Centre vaccine packs have the correct volume of vaccine?

The picture below shows the vaccine dispensing process. TFC's Quality Assurance system ensures the right amount of vaccine is dispensed according to the number of doses required for that pack. The dispenser is calibrated daily to provide the required volume plus an additional 10% to allow for any problems with gun calibration and other minor mishaps. Every pack is weighed and the weight recorded to a printer; then each day a printout is produced of the weight of every pack and checked.

