

## HOW PINKEYE AFFECTS YOU

While the incidence and severity of pinkeye may vary year on year, one thing remains constant, it's a frustrating and time consuming disease to treat.

When an outbreak occurs your daily routine can include the hassle of:

- Identifying diseased animals
- Re-mustering and yarding (which in itself can cause further outbreaks)
- Treating the infection

*"There are all the yarding and treatment hassles that go with an outbreak and there's always the worry that yarding stock in the dust might actually spread it around even more."*

New England (NSW) Yarrowyck district producer, Ross Anderson

Packaging	Available in 100 mL (50 doses) or 20 mL (10 doses) vials
Vaccination	Vaccinate animals at least 3-6 weeks prior to expected onset of the pinkeye season
Dose Rate	A single 2 mL dose is given by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection to all classes of cattle
Storage	Store at 2-8 degrees Celsius (refrigerate, do not freeze)  Opened product should be used within 24 hours of breaching the seal on the vial
Withholding Periods	Meat: Nil Milk: Nil Export Slaughter Interval: Nil

COOPERS®  
**PILIGUARD®**  
PINKEYE VACCINE FOR CATTLE



# WHAT'S STOPPING YOU STOP PINKEYE?



## EVERY STAGE OF PINKEYE IS COSTING YOU MONEY



Lost Productivity



Hassle of Muster and Treatment



Discount at Saleyards



Rejection from Feedlots

Find out more by going to  
[www.PINKEYE.com.au](http://www.PINKEYE.com.au)  
or calling **1800 226 511**

1. Meat and Livestock Australia (2006). Assessing the economic cost of endemic disease on the profitability of Australian beef cattle and sheep producers, MLA Final Report.  
2. Burns BM, Howitt CJ, Esdale CR (1998). Bovine infectious keratoconjunctivitis in different cattle breed. Proceedings of the Australian Society of Animal Production 17:150-153.

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## THE PRODUCTION CHALLENGES OF PINKEYE

Pinkeye prevalence may vary on individual farms from year to year. One of the greatest challenges of pinkeye is the significant impact on farm productivity.

Productivity losses can include:

- A reduction of between 3-5% in sale weights of affected young stock<sup>1</sup>
- Decreased milk production
- Negative effect on heifer fertility<sup>2</sup>
- An increase in the death rate of weaners<sup>1</sup>

All stock under 2 years old are highly susceptible to pinkeye. These are also your most valuable animals into the future and should be protected from pinkeye.

*"The cost of Pinkeye is much greater than just the cost of treating affected animals."*

Flinders Island grazier, Mike Grimshaw

## ECONOMIC COST OF PINKEYE

Pinkeye is estimated to cost Australian beef producers over \$23 million in lost production and treatment costs annually<sup>1</sup>. The real cost of pinkeye can be much greater because cattle that have been affected by pinkeye have a far greater chance of being downgraded and rejected at sale time. This reduced market access is critical to producers.

Animals that are showing signs of pinkeye infection or scarring can be:

- Rejected by many feedlots
- Discounted at saleyards
- Not attractive to stud operators

*"The return from the vaccine is being able to get all the sale-calves off earlier, there are no 'tail-end' straggler calves that take an age to finish, and there are no blind calves that feedlot buyers especially don't want."*

Tamworth (NSW) district grazier, Graham Wilson

## PREVENTION OF PINKEYE

Pinkeye prevention rather than treatment is the ideal situation. Good pinkeye prevention should include an integrated approach.

- Vaccination with Piliguard 3-6 weeks prior to the expected onset of the pinkeye season
- Application of Coopers Easy-Dose at the onset of the fly season will control nuisance flies and limit spread of pinkeye between animals
- Avoiding the yarding of animals in dry, dusty conditions
- Prompt segregation and treatment of any pinkeye affected animals

*"We vaccinate for Pinkeye at weaning in December/January when the grass dries off, and we also use a fly control product to reduce the fly nuisance."*

Jane and Leo Kelly, of Edenhope (VIC)

## ADVANTAGES OF VACCINATING FOR PINKEYE

Vaccinating cattle with Piliguard is a better way of fighting pinkeye on your property:

- Piliguard reduces the incidence and severity of the disease
- Pinkeye is often well advanced before animals are treated and as such animals often don't respond well to treatment
- Piliguard reduces the need for antibiotics
- Piliguard can be administered during normal farm activities (e.g. drenching, calf marking)
- Piliguard reduces the need for yarding cattle in hot, dusty conditions to treat affected animals, thus reducing risk of further spread of pinkeye

*"It consumes a lot of valuable time having to get affected calves in to treat them with ointments and to put eye patches on. Pinkeye becomes incredibly frustrating when it keeps coming back every year."*

Allendale East (SA) dairy farmer, Ian Fox

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