

## **READING PRODUCT LABELS**

by Judy Langley

This article is uniquely interesting in that it makes a statement but leaves one asking a question...maybe you all already know the answer. I thought that I had heard of just about everything until I read recently about a farm manager that had read a medicinal product instruction label, which said: "not to be used in stressed animals," and the farm manager questioned the veterinarian.

The veterinarian that answered the question was surprised that most vaccines do not have that on their label. She explained further that when an animal is stressed (including a human) the adrenal glands produce cortisol and other substances that help prepare the animal to deal with a potential crisis. This is a double-edged sword because once the crisis is over, the effects of elevated cortisol still linger. A successful vaccination program is dependent upon a

functioning immune system, so if it is suppressed due to the high cortisol level – are there going to be ill effects of the vaccination?

We will do a little more research and report back on this in a future issue, but if you already know the answer, well, please get in touch.

It is always important to follow the instructions on any medication or product label. I know a lot of you out there will say to yourself, (especially men, sorry, not picking on you) if "one scoop" works good then three will work better... well, please do NOT... you really need to follow label instructions unless there has been some indication from a veterinarian or specialist, etc., that more or less is required for your particular situation.

