



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Chute Side Cooler

Importance of a Chute Side Cooler

The highest quality vaccines and antibiotics are useless if not handled and administered properly. This starts with storage. Vaccines should be stored in a dependable refrigeration unit which maintains a temperature as directed by the product label, typically 35-45° F. It is also good practice to keep a thermometer in the refrigerator and monitor temperatures. This should also be taken into consideration even when working animals chute side. Processing of animals takes time, and injections which are heat and light sensitive lose effectiveness if not handled properly.

Make Your Own

Chute side animal health products storage is often overlooked, but with an hour of your time and around \$25, an easy, cost-effective solution is readily available. Building a vaccine/syringe cooler to use while processing livestock may not only help maintain vaccine temperature, but also keep animal health products and syringes out of direct sunlight and reduce environmental contamination from dust and feces.

Materials and Tools

- Cooler
- 1 ½ x 12 inch PVC Sink Drain Tailpieces (one per syringe holder needed)
- Caulk (optional)
- Drill
- 1 ½ inch Hole Saw
- Ruler
- Marker

Construction



evenly apart across the front of the cooler.

Step 1

Use a measuring tool and marker to determine the placement of the syringe holders (PVC Tailpieces) in the cooler. The center of the tailpiece should be 2 inches below the top of the cooler. Space the syringe holders



Step 2

Using the drill and 1 ½ inch hole saw cut out the number of holes needed for the syringe holders into the front of the cooler. The challenge is in judging the angle of the cut (45°) to allow the inside and outside holes to match up for easy insertion of the tailpieces.



Step 3

Cut the tailpieces to length leaving the pipe as long as possible. You want to avoid the needles touching the holder to prevent contamination. Label or color code the syringe holders and syringes to prevent animal health product mix-up. Caulk may be placed around the tailpieces to prevent water leakage from ice melt.

References -

Chute Side Vaccine Cooler Factsheet written by Grant Mourer and Chris Richards of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension.