



***L. hardjo-bovis* Combo Vaccine Launched**

Press release provided by Novartis Animal Health US Inc.



Vira Shield® 6+L5^{HB} and Vira Shield® 6+L5^{HB} Somnus from Novartis Animal Health are the first inactivated viral vaccine combinations containing *L. hardjo-bovis*, the most common strain of U.S. bovine leptospirosis.

DENVER, CO (Feb. 3, 2006) — New Vira Shield® 6+L5^{HB} is the first and only inactivated viral vaccine available in combination with *L. hardjo-bovis*, the most common U.S. strain of bovine leptospirosis. The new combination, introduced by Novartis Animal Health US Inc., gives dairy and beef producers the ability to combat infertility and reduced profitability caused by *L. hardjo-bovis* — in a convenient, all-in-one combination product.

In addition to *L. hardjo-bovis* and four other leptospires that can cause reproductive failure, Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} provides protection against bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) and other respiratory diseases. The vaccine contains three BVD antigens — noncytopathic (NCP) Type 1, NCP Type 2 and cytopathic (CP) Type 1 — as well as infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV) and parainfluenza-3 virus (PI₃). The biggest combination, Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} Somnus, also

includes *Haemophilus somnus* protection.

In total, Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} combinations protect against up to 12 disease-causing organisms in dairy and beef cattle. It is the only vaccine using an *L. hardjo-bovis* component of U.S. origin.

“For years, the industry has trusted Vira Shield to provide the most up-to-date BVD protection available,” says John Landon, Novartis senior marketing manager. “Now these new Vira Shield combinations provide real-world protection against the most common leptospira found in U.S. herds.”

The inactivated components of Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} are safe for use in pregnant animals. The new vaccines are labeled for use in calves, heifers, cows and bulls.

Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} and Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} Somnus are available for ordering by calling Novartis at 1-800-843-3386.

For more information, consult www.ah.novartis.com.



Editor's Note: This article was provided by Novartis Animal Health US Inc. Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} and Vira Shield 6+L5^{HB} Somnus were two of the new products launched during the NCBA Trade Show at the 2006 Cattle Industry Convention in Denver, Colo., Feb. 1-4.