

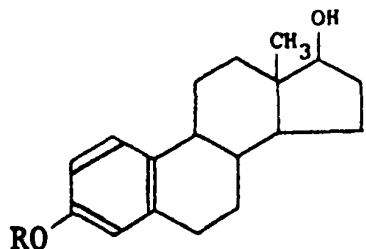
ESTRADIOL

IDENTITY

**Chemical name:**                   estra-1,3,5(10)-triene-3,17 $\beta$ -diol

**Synonyms:**                        estradiol-17 $\beta$

**Structural formula:**



R = H(estradiol)  
R = OCC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>(estradiol benzoate)

**Molecular formula:**               C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (estradiol), C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (estradiol benzoate)

**Molecular weight:**               272.37 (estradiol), 376.50 (estradiol benzoate)

OTHER INFORMATION ON IDENTITY AND PROPERTIES

Pure active ingredient:

|                          | <u>estradiol</u>                                    | <u>estradiol benzoate</u>                |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Appearance:</b>       | white crystals or<br>crystalline powder             | crystals                                 |
| <b>m.p.:</b>             | 173-179°C   | 191-196°C                                |
| <b>Optical rotation:</b> | $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +76$ to $+83^\circ$<br>(dioxane) | $+58$ to $+63^\circ$<br>(c=2 in dioxane) |
| <b>UV<sub>max</sub>:</b> | 225, 280 nm   |  |
| (Windholz, 1983)         |   |  |

Technical active ingredients

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>USP Grade</b> | Estradiol benzoate: 97.0-103.0 percent C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
|                  | Estradiol : 97.0-103.0 percent C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>2</sub>         |

## RESIDUES IN ANIMALS AND THEIR EVALUATION

### CONDITIONS OF USE

#### General

Estradiol, alone or in combination with other hormonally-active substances, is given to animals to improve their rate of weight gain and feed efficiency. The most likely explanation of this effect is that the pituitary is stimulated to produce increased quantities of growth hormone. Administration is by sub-cutaneous implant in the ear. The ear, along with any residual drug, is discarded at slaughter.

#### Dosages:

|            |   |           |
|------------|---|-----------|
| Compudose  | (24 mg or 45 mg estradiol)                                    | = cattle  |
| Heifer-oid | (20 mg estradiol benzoate + 200 mg testosterone propionate)   | = heifers |
| Implix BF  | (20 mg estradiol + 200 mg testosterone)                       | = heifers |
| Implix BM  | (20 mg estradiol + 200 mg progesterone)                       | = steers  |
| Steer-oid  | (20 mg estradiol benzoate and 200 mg progesterone)            | = steers  |
| Synovex C  | (10 mg estradiol benzoate and 100 mg progesterone)            | = calves  |
| Synovex H  | (20 mg estradiol benzoate and 200 mg testosterone propionate) | = heifers |
| Synovex S  | (20 mg estradiol benzoate and 200 mg progesterone)            | = steers  |
| Torelor    | (40 mg estradiol + 200 mg trenbolone acetate)                 | = steers  |

### RADIOLABELED RESIDUE STUDIES

#### General

Estradiol benzoate is rapidly hydrolyzed in the target animal to estradiol-17 $\beta$ . In the circulatory system of the animal, the estradiol-17 $\beta$  derived from the implant is indistinguishable from the endogenous estradiol-17 $\beta$ . (Hoffman and Evers, 1986)

#### Cattle

After administration of radiolabeled estradiol-17 $\beta$  to calves, radioactivity in urine consisted primarily of estradiol-17 $\alpha$  with much less amounts of estrone. Both compounds were present as conjugates as well. Radioactivity in feces included primarily estradiol-17 $\alpha$  as well as estradiol-17 $\beta$  and estrone, each in the non-conjugated form. (Ivie, et al., 1986)

After administration of estradiol benzoate, the major metabolites found in muscle were estradiol-17 $\alpha$  (38-70% of extracted radioactivity) and estrone (17-45%). The pattern of metabolites in fat was similar to that for muscle. The highest residues were found in kidney and liver. The major estrogenic metabolites in kidney were estradiol-17 $\alpha$ , estradiol-17 $\alpha$ -glucuronide, estradiol-17 $\beta$  and estrone. In liver, the major metabolite could not be identified (40% of the extracted radioactivity). Estradiol-17 $\beta$ , estrone, estriol, and glucuronides accounted for the remaining radioactivity. (Dunn, et al., 1977)

The nature of the unidentified polar metabolites from livers of steers was investigated in another study using radiolabeled estradiol-17 $\beta$ . The major polar metabolite was the  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside of estradiol-17 $\alpha$ . The 3- $\beta$ -D-glucosiduronate of estradiol-17 $\alpha$ , and other 17-glycosides of estradiol-17 $\alpha$  and estradiol-17 $\beta$  were also characterized. (Rao, et al., 1979)

**RESIDUE STUDIES**

**Steers (Compudose)**

Fifty-three steers were implanted for 70-180 days with 24 mg estradiol-17 $\beta$  (E2 $\beta$ ) controlled-release implants. Various withdrawal times were observed prior to slaughter. The implants released approximately 70 mcg of E2 $\beta$ /day. Tissue samples collected from untreated steers were also analyzed. Measurements of E2 $\beta$  and estrone (E1) were made using an RIA method. The limit of detection was approximately 5 pg/g for both compounds. The concentrations of E2 $\beta$  and E1 in edible tissues of control and treated steers at various withholding times are given in Table I. [Frank, et al., undated (a)]

Table I. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations  
in Steers Implanted with Compudose (ng/kg)

| <u>Withdrawal<br/>Period</u> | <u>Muscle</u> | <u>Liver</u> | <u>Tissue<br/>Kidney</u> | <u>Fat</u>  |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| <b>E2<math>\beta</math></b>  |               |              |                          |             |
| Control                      | 5.8 + 3.3     | 4.0 + 1.7    | 6.7 + 3.4                | 6.8 + 4.2   |
| 0 Hr                         | 3.4 + 1.7     | 10.0 + 9.1   | 21.1 + 6.4               | 15.3 + 4.6  |
| 12 "                         | 3.3 + 1.6     | 4.0 + 1.6    | 7.5 + 3.7                | 8.8 + 5.3   |
| 24 "                         | 4.0 + 1.0     | 5.0 + 1.0    | 7.5 + 3.1                | 7.1 + 2.1   |
| <b>E1</b>                    |               |              |                          |             |
| Control                      | 4.8 + 2.7     | 6.5 + 3.4    | 7.9 + 3.8                | 10.5 + 6.4  |
| 0 Hr                         | 10.4 + 6.7    | 8.8 + 6.4    | 19.2 + 6.6               | 34.8 + 11.1 |
| 12 "                         | 9.5 + 4.3     | 4.1 + 1.7    | 10.3 + 4.9               | 25.3 + 9.3  |
| 24 "                         | 4.0 + 1.0     | 4.7 + 0.6    | 7.1 + 0.5                | 14.3 + 2.3  |

**Steers (Compudose)**

Seventy-seven steers were implanted with controlled-release implants containing 24 mg of estradiol to study the depletion of estradiol and estrone from kidney fat after implant removal. Total treatment time ranged from 90 to 147 days. Kidney fat was obtained by biopsy. The assay procedure employed an RIA with a detection limit of approximately 5 pg/g. The mean estrogen residues found at different withdrawal times is given in Table II: [Frank, et al., undated (b)]

Table II. Residues of Estrogens in Kidney Fat (ng/kg)

| <u>Withdrawal<br/>Time (hr)</u> | <u>N*</u> | <u>E1</u> | <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 0                               | 4         | 23.5      | 6.5                         |
| 12                              | 12        | 10.5      | 3.9                         |
| 24                              | 23        | 7.8       | 3.4                         |
| 36                              | 29        | 5.6       | 3.4                         |
| 72                              | 9         | 10.6      | 7.1                         |
| Control                         | 19        | 11.1      | 7.3                         |

\* N = Number of tissue samples (animals) in group

**Non-pregnant Heifers (Compudose)**

A study was conducted to determine the estrogen levels in tissues of non-pregnant heifers treated with 24 mg estradiol controlled-release implants.

Heifers weighing approximately 800 lbs. were used in the study. The heifers were divided into two groups - one control group and one treated group. The treated animals were slaughtered 84 days after implanting; tissues were analyzed for E2 $\beta$  and E1 by RIA. The residue levels measured are given in Table III:

Table III. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations in Non-Pregnant Heifers Treated with Compudose (ng/kg)

|                             | <u>Muscle</u> | <u>Liver</u>  | <u>Tissue</u> | <u>Kidney</u>   | <u>Fat</u>    |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |               |               |               |                 |               |
| Control                     | 7.1 $\pm$ 3.3 | 8.2 $\pm$ 4.0 |               | 8.5 $\pm$ 4.0   | 5.6 $\pm$ 1.1 |
| Treated                     | 5.8 $\pm$ 1.1 | 7.3 $\pm$ 2.5 |               | 26.3 $\pm$ 11.9 | 9.3 $\pm$ 4.7 |
| <u>E1</u>                   |               |               |               |                 |               |
| Control                     | 5.9 $\pm$ 1.8 | 7.5 $\pm$ 4.8 |               | 6.4 $\pm$ 3.0   | 5.3 $\pm$ 1.1 |
| Treated                     | 6.4 $\pm$ 2.2 | 6.7 $\pm$ 2.4 |               | 10.2 $\pm$ 6.4  | 9.9 $\pm$ 6.7 |

Estrogen levels in liver and muscle of treated animals were not significantly increased as compared to control tissues. Residue levels were significantly higher in kidney and fat. [Sieck, et al., undated (b)]

Veal calves (Compudose)

Forty veal calves (mean weight 94 lbs.) were implanted with 24 mg of estradiol-17 $\beta$ . Twenty of the treated animals were slaughtered after 56 days with no removal of the implant. The remaining treated animals had the implants removed after 56 days and were slaughtered 24 hours after implant removal. Tissue samples were analyzed for E2 $\beta$  and E1 by an RIA with a limit of detection of 5 pg/g. Mean concentrations levels for the various tissues and treatment groups are given in Table IV:

Table IV. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations Veal Calves Treated with Compudose at 0 and 24 hr Withdrawal (ng/kg)

|                             | <u>Muscle</u>  | <u>Liver</u>    | <u>Tissue</u> | <u>Kidney</u>   | <u>Fat</u>      |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |                |                 |               |                 |                 |
| Control                     | 6.8 $\pm$ 3.4  | 14.7 $\pm$ 5.8  |               | 10.6 $\pm$ 5.3  | 11.2 $\pm$ 14.9 |
| 0 hr                        | 18.4 $\pm$ 5.6 | 32.0 $\pm$ 11.2 |               | 57.0 $\pm$ 18.1 | 38.5 $\pm$ 10.9 |
| 24 "                        | 6.1 $\pm$ 1.7  | 16.0 $\pm$ 8.3  |               | 10.9 $\pm$ 4.2  | 7.1 $\pm$ 2.8   |
| <u>E1</u>                   |                |                 |               |                 |                 |
| Control                     | 10.8 $\pm$ 8.7 | 9.1 $\pm$ 3.6   |               | 7.8 $\pm$ 4.6   | 13.9 $\pm$ 4.8  |
| 0 hr                        | 11.7 $\pm$ 5.7 | 22.3 $\pm$ 8.8  |               | 34.7 $\pm$ 9.8  | 24.6 $\pm$ 12.0 |
| 24 "                        | 8.0 $\pm$ 4.1  | 9.2 $\pm$ 4.4   |               | 9.6 $\pm$ 3.7   | 10.4 $\pm$ 4.8  |

Residue levels of estrogens were significantly increased in treated animals that did not have the implants removed prior to slaughter. [Sieck, et al., undated (a)]

Bulls (Compudose)

Twelve bulls weighing approximately 850 lbs. were used in this study. Six animals were implanted with 24 mg of estradiol-17 $\beta$ . After 63 days both the treated and control animals were sacrificed and tissue samples were taken for analysis of E1 and E2 $\beta$  by an RIA procedure. Mean residue levels are given in Table V.

Table V. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations  
in Bulls Treated with Compudose (ng/kg)

|                             | <u>Muscle</u> | <u>Liver</u> | <u>Tissue</u><br><u>Kidney</u> | <u>Fat</u>  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |               |              |                                |             |
| Control                     | 6.3 + 2.0     | 8.5 + 3.2    | 10.0 + 3.4                     | 9.1 + 2.0   |
| Treated                     | 8.5 + 2.7     | 16.6 + 12.4  | 19.9 + 6.2                     | 20.2 + 6.2  |
| <u>E1</u>                   |               |              |                                |             |
| Control                     | 7.7 + 3.1     | 6.0 + 1.2    | 8.7 + 3.0                      | 15.3 + 8.2  |
| Treated                     | 6.8 + 1.9     | 6.9 + 2.6    | 15.1 + 5.4                     | 29.6 + 10.4 |

There is a statistically significant increase in estrone and estradiol levels in kidney and kidney fat tissues in implanted bulls as compared to tissues from control bulls. (Decker et al., 1985)

Cattle (Synovex-S and Synovex-H)

Residues of estradiol-17 $\beta$  and estrone were measured in edible tissues from steers implanted with Synovex-S, pregnant and non-pregnant heifers implanted with Synovex-H, unimplanted steers, and unimplanted pregnant and non-pregnant heifers. Residues were measured by using an RIA with a limit of detection in the low ng/kg range. Mean residue levels in tissues at various times after implantation are given in Tables VI-VIII. (Kushinsky, 1983)

Table VI. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations  
in Steers Implanted with SYNOVEX-S (ng/kg)

|                              | <u>Muscle</u> | <u>Liver</u> | <u>Tissue</u><br><u>Kidney</u> | <u>Fat</u>   |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math>*</u> |               |              |                                |              |
| Control                      | 0.84 + 0.30   | 0.91 + 0.42  | 1.57 + 1.61                    | 1.82 + 1.02  |
| 15-day                       | 9.70 + 3.2    | 5.36 + 2.05  | 13.7 + 3.02                    | 41.4 + 8.53  |
| 30-day                       | 8.28 + 5.14   | 6.75 + 4.93  | 9.45 + 5.40                    | 28.6 + 21.8  |
| 61-day                       | 7.29 + 2.51   | 4.52 + 5.48  | 6.45 + 1.89                    | 38.6 + 11.9  |
| <u>E1*</u>                   |               |              |                                |              |
| Control                      | 1.60 + 0.65   | 0.66 + 0.24  | 1.02 + 0.49                    | 8.47 + 5.10  |
| 15-day                       | 2.12 + 0.59   | 2.04 + 0.84  | 4.44 + 1.37                    | 20.3 + 9.15  |
| 30-day                       | 1.99 + 0.85   | 1.79 + 0.94  | 2.56 + 1.23                    | 14.4 + 7.71  |
| 61-day                       | 2.60 + 1.47   | 2.10 + 3.57  | 2.06 + 0.46                    | 26.0 + 12.93 |

\* All concentrations except E1 in muscle are significantly (P<.001) higher than controls.

Table VII. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations  
in Heifers Implanted with SYNOVEX-H (ng/kg)

|                              | <u>Tissue</u> |        |              |        |               |        |            |        |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------------|--------|---------------|--------|------------|--------|
|                              | <u>Muscle</u> |        | <u>Liver</u> |        | <u>Kidney</u> |        | <u>Fat</u> |        |
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math>*</u> |               |        |              |        |               |        |            |        |
| Control                      | 5.54          | + 8.77 | 1.54         | + 1.12 | 2.89          | + 2.50 | 13.4       | + 14.1 |
| 30-day                       | 33.2          | + 19.6 | 23.1         | + 36.6 | 23.5          | + 11.8 | 86.7       | + 65.9 |
| 61-day                       | 10.7          | + 5.14 | 3.2          | + 2.36 | 9.83          | + 8.98 | 49.3       | + 30.8 |
| <u>E1*</u>                   |               |        |              |        |               |        |            |        |
| Control                      | 2.51          | + 1.05 | 1.70         | + 1.15 | 1.42          | + 0.56 | 10.9       | + 5.94 |
| 30-day                       | 6.43          | + 3.68 | 3.69         | + 3.36 | 5.88          | + 2.27 | 45.4       | + 29.4 |
| 61-day                       | 3.98          | + 1.45 | 1.49         | + 0.76 | 3.56          | + 2.02 | 27.8       | + 13.8 |

\* All concentrations except E1 in 61-day muscle are significantly (P<.01) higher than controls.

Table VIII. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations  
in Pregnant Heifers Implanted With SYNOVEX-H (ng/kg)

|                             | <u>Tissue</u> |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------|---------|---------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                             | <u>Muscle</u> |         | <u>Liver</u> |         | <u>Kidney</u> |         | <u>Fat</u> |         |
| <u>120-Day Gestation</u>    |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| Control**                   | 13.3          | + 5.21  | 82.5         | + 75.9  | 118           | + 58.6  | 48.1       | + 19.8  |
| 61-Day                      | 30.6          | + 11.2* | 18.7         | + 7.38* | 62.3          | + 44.8  | 82.9       | + 37.6* |
| <u>E1</u>                   |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| Control                     | 156           | + 79.3  | 18.2         | + 15.1  | 85.3          | + 69.4  | 1283       | + 885   |
| 61-Day                      | 83.1          | + 67.8  | 5.55         | + 2.2*  | 29.7          | + 23.1  | 421        | + 352*  |
| <u>180-Day Gestation</u>    |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| Control                     | 27.3          | + 14.3  | 380          | + 280   | 230           | + 99.9  | 71.5       | + 37.2  |
| 61-Day                      | 24.7          | + 7.9   | 50.4         | + 33.6* | 126           | + 58.2  | 123        | + 58.9  |
| <u>E1</u>                   |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| Control                     | 482           | + 301   | 115          | + 82.6  | 166           | + 94    | 2717       | + 1259  |
| 61-Day                      | 167           | + 108*  | 23.4         | + 13.7* | 59.4          | + 36.6* | 1896       | + 1290  |
| <u>240-Day Gestation</u>    |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math></u> |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| Control                     | 32.7          | + 16.1  | 1027         | + 365   | 274           | + 84.8  | 67.5       | + 34.6  |
| 61-Day                      | 26.3          | + 8.2   | 198          | + 173*  | 318           | + 107   | 136        | + 27.2* |
| <u>E1</u>                   |               |         |              |         |               |         |            |         |
| Control                     | 523           | + 240   | 145          | + 55.4  | 142           | + 41.2  | 2786       | + 1497  |
| 61-Day                      | 353           | + 109   | 34.5         | + 41.4* | 214           | + 67.0  | 4614       | + 1513  |

\* Significantly different from synchronized controls.

\*\* Controls were synchronized with fenprostalene.

The results of these studies show that there are small but statistically significant residues of estradiol and estrone in some tissues of steers treated with Synovex-S and heifers treated with Synovex-H. In general, the residues of estrogens found in fat exceed those found in the other tissues. The

concentrations of endogenous estrogens are also greater in fat than in the other edible tissues. The average concentrations of estrone plus estradiol-17 $\beta$  in fat obtained from animals implanted for 61 days with Synovex-S exceed those present in fat from control animals by 54.3 ng/kg. The comparable value for fat from non-pregnant heifers is 52.8 ng/kg.

The concentrations of estrone and estradiol-17 $\beta$  found in all tissues from pregnant heifers exceed those found in tissues from non-pregnant heifers. In comparison with the concentrations of endogenous hormones found in tissues from pregnant animals, all hormonal residues of Synovex-S and Synovex-H are exceedingly small, regardless of how soon after implantation the tissues are obtained. For 9 of the 12 statistically significant differences shown in Table VIII for pregnant heifers, the concentrations were higher in tissues from the control animals.

### Steers (Torelor)

Twenty-four black and white Friesian steers weighing approximately 400 lbs were implanted with Torelor (40 mg estradiol-17 $\beta$  + 200 mg trenbolone acetate). Six additional steers were used as controls. Six treated steers were slaughtered at four post-implantation times: 15, 30, 60 and 75 days. Free and conjugated E2 $\beta$  and E1 were determined by a radioimmunoassay with detection limits of 70 pg/g (free E2 $\beta$ ), 75 pg/g (conjugated E2 $\beta$ ) and 27 pg/g (E1). The results are summarized in Table IX. (Arts, et al., 1986)

### Calves (Implix BM or Implix BF)

Nine male and nine female Friesian calves were implanted with either Implix BM (males) (20 mg estradiol-17 $\beta$  + 200 mg progesterone) or Implix BF (female) (20 mg estradiol-17 $\beta$  + 200 mg testosterone). Groups of six (three males and three females) were sacrificed at 15, 30 and 50 days post-implantation. The results for E2 $\beta$  (free + conjugated) with a detection limit of 70 pg/g are summarized in Table X. (Roberts and Cameron, 1986)

Table IX. E2 $\beta$  and E1 Mean Tissue Concentrations  
in Steers Treated with Torelor (ng/kg)

|  | <u>Tissue</u> |              |               |            |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
|  | <u>Muscle</u> | <u>Liver</u> | <u>Kidney</u> | <u>Fat</u> |
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math>-free</u>       |               |              |               |            |
| Control                                | 23 + 12       | 21 + 7       | 16**          | 14**       |
| 15-Day                                 | 40 + 31       | 40 + 25*     | 53 + 10       | 119 + 17   |
| 30-Day                                 | 39 + 24       | 62 + 48*     | 53 + 10       | 122 + 41   |
| 60-Day                                 | 37 + 15       | 25 + 9*      | 51 + 29       | 126 + 47   |
| 75-Day                                 | 28 + 17       | 20 + 5*      | 74 + 43       | 84 + 60    |
| <u>E2<math>\beta</math>-conjugated</u> |               |              |               |            |
| Control                                | 9**           | 35 + 9       | 41 + 4        | 10**       |
| 15-Day**                               | 14**          | 296 + 253    | 99 + 31       | 14**       |
| 30-Day                                 | 20**          | 306 + 191    | 117 + 36      | 13**       |
| 60-Day                                 | 8**           | 295 + 333    | 111 + 140     | 24**       |
| 75-Day                                 | 11**          | 99 + 137*    | 133 + 129     | 9**        |
| <u>E1</u>                              |               |              |               |            |
| Control                                | -             | 16**         | -             | 24**       |
| 15-Day                                 | -             | 53 + 37      | -             | 69 + 14    |
| 30-Day                                 | -             | 59 + 25      | -             | 93 + 12    |
| 60-Day                                 | -             | 57 + 42      | -             | 85 + 16    |
| 75-Day                                 | -             | 36 + 47      | -             | 69 + 26    |

\*\* Means below the detection limit were not statistically analyzed.

\* Not significantly ( $P>0.05$ ) different from control.

Table X. E2 $\beta$  Mean Tissue Concentrations in Steers (Heifers) Treated With Implix BM (Implix BF) (ng/kg)

| <u>Steer</u>  | <u>Tissue</u> |              |               |            |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
|               | <u>Muscle</u> | <u>Liver</u> | <u>Kidney</u> | <u>Fat</u> |
| Control       | 7 + 2         | 32 + 11      | 13 + 5        | 12 + 5     |
| 15 Day        | 36 + 6        | 154 + 60     | 85 + 19       | 92 + 76    |
| 30 Day        | 48 + 22       | 76 + 23      | 125 + 58      | 38 + 45    |
| 50 Day        | 60 + 13       | 193 + 49     | 134 + 28      | 96 + 76    |
| <u>Heifer</u> |               |              |               |            |
| Control       | 5 + 1         | 32 + 9       | 17 + 3        | 15 + 3     |
| 15-Day        | 106 + 22      | 512 + 263    | 249 + 115     | 75 + 63    |
| 30-Day        | 88 + 6        | 73 + 20      | 170 + 63      | 171 + 24   |
| 50-Day        | 89 + 28       | 95 + 106     | 146 + 104     | 119 + 35   |

#### METHODS OF RESIDUE ANALYSIS

##### General

The majority of methods for hormones are radioimmunoassays. Some of these methods were developed by the sponsors of the drugs to determine the level of naturally occurring steroids in the bovine and to elucidate the pharmacokinetics and residue pattern of specific steroid drugs in the bovine. These methods were not intended for regulatory use. Specific results from the method of two sponsors are discussed here because it is important to understand why different methods yield different results on essentially the same tissues.

Both Syntex and Elanco provide data on the level of 17 $\beta$ -estradiol in control steer tissue (all values in ng/kg).

|        | <u>Elanco</u>       | <u>Syntex</u> |
|--------|---------------------|---------------|
| Fat    | 6.8<br>(kidney fat) | 1.82          |
| Muscle | 5.8                 | 0.84          |
| Liver  | 4.0                 | 0.91          |
| Kidney | 6.7                 | 1.57          |

Although these levels appear quite different, each is at or close to the stated sensitivity of the method (approximately 5 ng/kg for Elanco and 1-2 ng/kg for Syntex). Factors affecting assay sensitivity include: affinity and specificity of the antibody employed (currently difficult to control fully or standardize), extent to which the assay conditions are optimized, procedural losses and size of sample analyzed. Considering the purpose for which the Elanco and Syntex methods were intended and the magnitude of the residues found by each of the sponsors for their respective products, both methods are judged to be suitable for the analysis of residues of estradiol in the primary edible tissues. Consequently, it does not appear advisable to recommend a single method for the assay of estradiol, should monitoring be necessary. The performance characteristics and a quality assurance program would be a more appropriate recommendation.



## APPRAISAL

Methods of analysis based on immunological techniques are the only methods readily available to measure estradiol-17 $\beta$  and its metabolites in tissue of cattle treated with subcutaneous implants of the drug. Using these methods, an increase in estradiol-17 $\beta$  and estrone concentrations in almost all edible tissues compared to control has been demonstrated using a variety of implant formulations. However, the increase is small (ng/kg) when compared to the background levels in control animals and the random variation in the methods. In addition to the random variations in the methods at these low levels (ng/kg), the methods are sufficiently unique that they do not measure a specific chemical moiety with the same accuracy. Therefore, one must be careful in comparing residue concentrations from more than one controlled experiment.

Unless the implant is removed, the increased levels of estradiol-17 $\beta$  and estrone persist for extended periods of time. However, these small increases in estrogen residue levels determined in treated steers, heifers and calves are smaller than the variations seen in cycling heifers and much smaller than the large increases in estrogen residue levels seen in pregnant heifers.

Estradiol-17 $\beta$  occurs naturally in all mammals including human beings. The daily production rate in humans is given in Table XI (Farber and Arcos, 1983). The levels of estradiol-17 $\beta$  in meat are extremely small compared to these daily production rates. For example, the average amounts of estradiol-17 $\beta$  produced daily in men and in pregnant women are respectively, about 15,000 and several million times the amount contained in a 500 g portion of meat from an animal treated with the hormone according to good animal husbandry practice. Even in prepubertal boys, the most sensitive segment of the population, the amount of estradiol-17 $\beta$  produced daily is a thousand times the amount derived from progesterone of 500 g of treated meat.

Table XI. Estradiol Production Rates in Humans

|                   | <u><math>\mu</math>g/day</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Women</u>      |                              |
| Follicular phase  | 445                          |
| Luteal phase      | 270                          |
| Late pregnancy    | 37,800                       |
| Postmenopausal    | 8                            |
| Prepubertal girls | 31                           |
| <u>Men</u>        |                              |
| Adult             | 48                           |
| Prepubertal boys  | 6                            |

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