In the United States, antibiotics may be used in fish culture for control of bacterial infections, if necessary and under the direction of a U.S. licensed veterinarian.

NOTE: These recommended steps are provided as general information only and are not intended to represent authoritative positions of NOAA, AFWA, AVMA, or USFWS. Consult with a veterinarian before considering any antibiotic use.

**Acronyms and Abbreviations**
- VCPR: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship
- Vet: U.S. Licensed Veterinarian
- FDA: Food and Drug Administration
- VFD: Veterinary Feed Directive
- CPG: Compliance Policy Guide
- Rx: Prescription
- CFR: Code of Federal Regulations

**Antibiotic Use in Finfish**

What to do when considering using approved finfish antibiotics

**Step 1:**
Establish a Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)

**Step 2:**
Vet makes diagnosis and treatment plan in accordance with VCPR (including use for skeletal marking).

**Step 3:**
Review whether the antibiotics under consideration have an FDA approved medication.

**Step 4:**

- **YES**
  - **VFD (medicated feed):** Obtain VFD order from the vet and proceed with use in accordance with the VFD.

- **NO**
  - **VFD (medicated feed) Extralabel Use:** Vet determines whether extralabel use of an FDA approved medicated fish can be authorized via VFD order in accordance with CPG 615.115 (see websites below for more info). Therapy requires a VFD order from the vet.

**OR**

- **Rx (immersion or injection):** Obtain a prescription (immersion, injection) from the vet and proceed with therapy.

**OR**

- **Rx (immersion or injection) Extralabel Use:** Vet determines whether extralabel use of an FDA approved drug can be authorized under a prescription in accordance with 21 CFR part 530 (see websites below for more info). Therapy requires a prescription from the vet.
**Authorization and Use of Prescribed Antibiotic or Medicated Feed**

**Medicated feed:**

- **Aquaflor**, **Romet-30©**, and **Terramycin© 200**
  - **VFD order** signed by a vet in accordance with VCPR. If the medicated feed is being administered for extralabel use, then the VFD order and recommendation are signed by a vet and in accordance with CPG 615.115 (see websites below).
  - **Licensed feed mill**
    - Proceed with therapy
  - **Distributor**
  - **Unlicensed feed mill**
    - Proceed with therapy

**Prescription:**

- **Terramycin© 343, OXYmarine™, Tetroxy© 343, Pennox 343©, Tetroxy© Aquatic**
  - **Rx** signed by a vet and under a valid VCPR. If the drug is to be administered for extralabel use, then the prescription should be used in accordance with 21 CFR part 530 (see website below).

**Summary of Use Requirements for Approved Finfish Antibiotics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antibiotic, Authority, and Authorized Actions</th>
<th>Aquaflor©</th>
<th>Romet-30©</th>
<th>Romet-TC©</th>
<th>Terramycin© 200</th>
<th>Terramycin© 343, OXYmarine™, Tetroxy© 343, Pennox 343©, Tetroxy© Aquatic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VFD Order</strong> signed by a vet in accordance with a VCPR. If this is an extralabel drug use, then the VFD order and recommendation are signed by a vet with a valid VCPR and in accordance with the provisions of CPG 615.115.</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Licensed feed mill +/- distributor</strong> (manufactured in accordance with cGMP 225.10 through 225.115).</td>
<td>✔</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unlicensed feed mill +/- distributor</strong> (manufactured in accordance with cGMP 225.120 through 225.202).</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rx</strong> signed by a vet. If this is an extralabel drug use, then the Rx should be signed by a vet with a valid VCPR and in accordance with 21 CFR part 530.</td>
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