

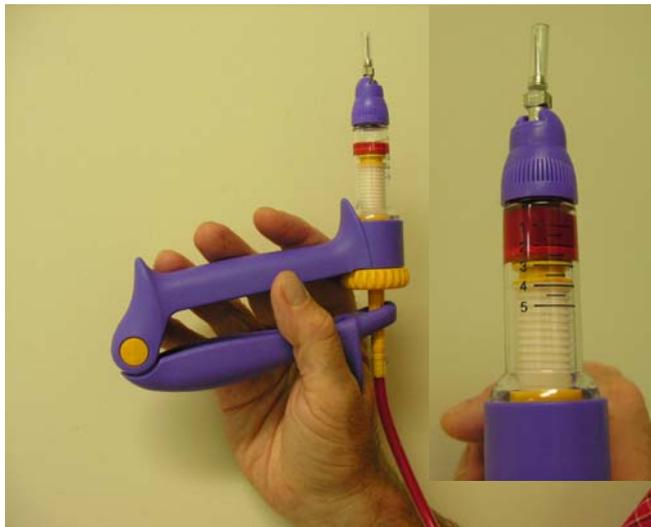
# HOW TO GET THE RIGHT NUMBER OF DOSES FROM THE TICK FEVER VACCINE PACK

## *Setting and calibrating the automatic vaccination injector*

Check the instructions for setting the dose and calibrating each brand of gun. Note that the following pictures are of a Simcro™ Injector STV Variable 5ml, which the Tick Fever Centre supplies with vaccine orders if requested. The principles are the same for other brands of vaccinating gun, but read any instructions associated with each brand of gun.



The dose is set by lining up the **front face** of the plunger with the required dose calibration on the barrel. The dose of tick fever vaccine is 2 ml.

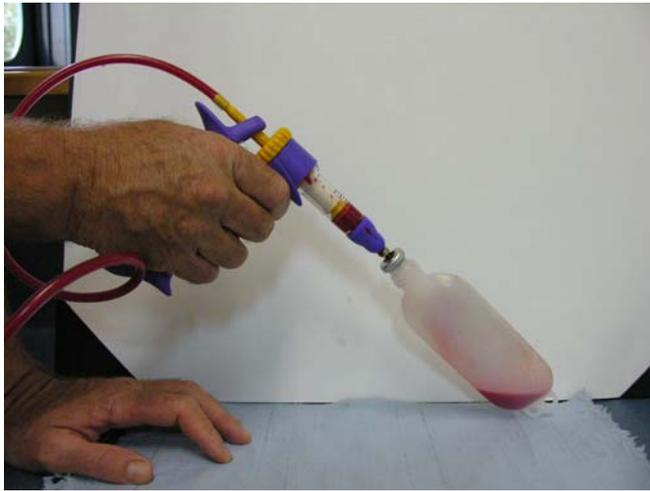


Once the draw-off tube is connected to the gun and vaccine pack, hold the injector with the needle pointing upwards and pump gently to expel all air prior to commencing vaccination



The vaccinator can be calibrated before use, by injecting a number of doses of cooled boiled water through the syringe into a measuring device. In this case, 10 doses of 2 ml should equal a total of 20 ml. We have used a 20 ml syringe barrel with the tip blocked with BluTack. Other small accurate measuring cylinders are also useful. The blue water is just to show up in the photo!

*Note: all water must be expelled before using the injector for vaccination*



When using multiple vaccine packs, and a new pack is being loaded, the connecting tube and vaccinating injector can also be primed by injecting a few doses back into the used vaccine pack and returning it to the esky and ice-bricks. Note that once the vaccine pack is empty, the draw-off tube full of vaccine still holds 8 doses of vaccine.

***How can you be sure that tick fever centre vaccine packs have the correct volume of vaccine?***

The picture below shows parts of TFC's Quality Assurance system that ensures the right amount of vaccine is dispensed according to the number of doses required for that pack. The dispenser is calibrated daily to provide the required volume plus an additional 10% to allow for any problems with gun calibration and other minor mishaps. Each pack is also weighed and the weight recorded to a printer; then each day a printout is produced of the weight of every pack and checked.

