



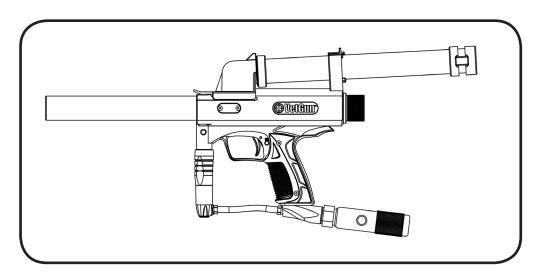
**COMPLETELY READ** this Manual carefully before use and, strictly observe all product label directions and the specific safe practice recommendations for each item of equipment. This equipment is designed solely for use by ranchers experienced in handling and applying livestock insecticides AND with the AgriLabs' AIM range of compatible VetCap products.

Do not use the VetGun to fire any other type of projectile. Also read label of AIM VetCaps product being used with VetGun.



This safety alert symbol indicates important safety messages in this Manual. When you see this symbol, be alert to the possibility of personal injury and carefully read the message that follows.

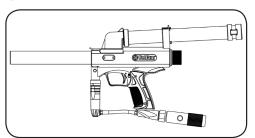
For more VetGun information, watch the videos at www.agrilabs.com/vetgun or text VETGUN to 283 342.



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## **OVERVIEW**



The VetGun Insecticide Delivery System relies on a pressure regulated pneumatic design to launch Insecticide VetCaps in semi-automatic fashion. This valve system is self-cocking and very simple to maintain.

#### CO<sub>2</sub>:

The VetGun is powered by compressed carbon dioxide gas. CO<sub>2</sub> is available in small disposable cartridges or larger refillable cylinders of the type used in the sport of paintball.

**Disposable**  $CO_2$  cartridges are designed for single-use operation and cannot be re-used once they have been emptied.

This VetGun comes with:

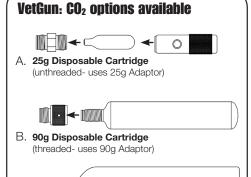
**A) 25g Adaptor** (2 pieces) suitable for 25g disposable CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges (25+ shots/cartridge), and

**B) 90g Adaptor** (1 piece) suitable for 90g disposable CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges (80+ shots/cartridge).

Note: cartridges sold separately.

**Refillable** CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders are available in a variety of sizes, with a greater storage capacity than the disposable cartridges. Additionally, integrated valves allow full or partially full cylinders to be removed from the VetGun for storage and re-attached later to make use of the remaining CO<sub>2</sub>.

**C) 14oz refillable** CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders are also available for optional purchase, better suited for larger herd sizes (390+ shots/cylinder). The Cylinder is sold empty and requires filling\*. No adaptor is required, it screws directly onto the VetGun.



C. 14oz Refillable Cylinder

(threaded, no adaptor required)

\*Due to transportation regulations, refillable CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders are always shipped empty and must be filled before use. Cylinders may be filled at many stores where paintball supplies are sold or by using a CO<sub>2</sub> fill station and bulk CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders from a welding gas supplier.



#### !\ IMPORTANT:

The VetGun's pneumatic trigger does not function when the VetGun is not charged with gas. Pulling the trigger of a de-gassed VetGun too hard in an attempt get a feel for the trigger pull may result in damage to the pneumatic trigger.

#### **VETCAPS:**

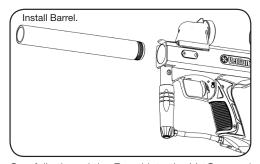
The VetGun Insecticide Delivery System is designed to launch only AgriLabs' AIM compatible VetCap products. Before operating this VetGun, ensure you have read and familiarised yourself with the AIM VetCaps Label and Instructions in addition to the reading of this Operation Manual.

#### **WARNING:**

Launching any other projectiles not specifically approved by SmartVet may result in damage to the VetGun or injury to cattle or the operator.

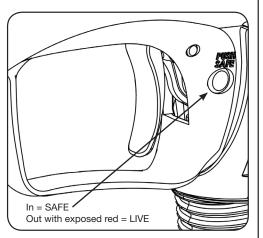
## PREPARING VETGUN

- Do not load the VetGun until in the field and preparing for use. The VetGun should always be de-gassed and unloaded for storage or transport.
- Always wear protective safety glasses and gloves when preparing; loading; using; unloading; degassing; cleaning or lubricating your VetGun.



Carefully thread the Barrel into the VetGun and turn it until it is snug. Do not over-tighten the barrel. The barrel o-ring will provide friction to keep the barrel from unscrewing.

Make sure the Safety Catch is engaged (fully pressed into the grip frame).



#### Installing CO<sub>2</sub> (sold separately):

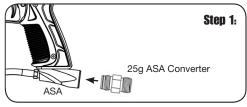
Installation of CO<sub>2</sub> to your VetGun depends on what size and format of CO<sub>2</sub> you plan to use.

## A. Using 25g disposable (unthreaded) prefilled cartridge (with 25g Adaptor Unit):

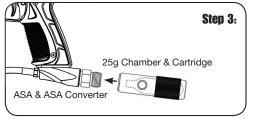
The 25g Adaptor Unit supplied with this VetGun has 2 parts -the ASA Converter; and the Chamber. Firmly thread the ASA Converter into the VetGun ASA located beneath handle until tight. Only tighten by hand. Slide 1x25g unthreaded cartridge into Chamber.

Thread Chamber containing 25g cartridge into the ASA Converter and turn it tight, until the

#### **Using 25g Disposable Cartridge**







CO<sub>2</sub> can be heard rushing into the VetGun. Note: as the ASA Converter pierces the 25g cartridge, turning too slowly or not tightening sufficiently may cause excessive CO<sub>2</sub> to escape unnecessarily. Only tighten by hand. When unloading gas, please refer to UNLOADING/DEGASSING instructions on Page 8. To reload a new cartridge, repeat steps 2 & 3.

#### B. Using 90g disposable (threaded) prefilled cartridges (with 90g Adaptor):

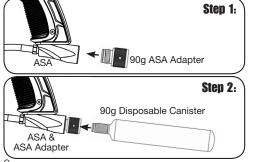
If choosing to use this CO<sub>2</sub> format: select the 90g ASA Adaptor supplied in VetGun box.

Thread the 90g ASA Adaptor into the VetGun ASA located beneath handle until tight. Thread 90g (threaded) cartridge into the ASA Adaptor and turn it tight, until the CO2 can be heard rushing into the VetGun. Note: as the ASA Adaptor Converter pierces the 90g cartridge, turning too slowly or not tightening sufficiently may cause excessive CO2 to escape unnecessarily. Only tighten by hand.

When unloading gas, please refer to UNLOADING/ DEGASSING instructions on Page 8.

To reload a brand new canister, repeat Step 2. To reload a partially used canister, refer to UNLOADING/DEGASSING instructions on Page 8.

#### **Using 90g Disposable Cartridge**



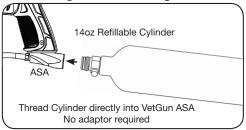
#### C. Using 14oz Refillable Cylinder (no adaptor required. CO2 cylinder sold empty and must be filled before use):

If selecting to use this CO2 format; you will need to purchase this VetGun Cylinder. You will not need to purchase an ASA Adaptor as the VetGun Cylinder fits directly into the VetGun ASA located beneath handle. Thread the Cylinder into the ASA Adaptor and turn it tight, until the CO<sub>2</sub> can be heard rushing into the VetGun.

Note: turning too slowly or not tightening sufficiently may cause excessive CO2 to escape unnecessarily. Only tighten by hand. When detaching gas, please refer to UNLOADING & DEGASSING instructions on Page 8.

Once detached, Cylinder will not discharge gas, and can be re-used and/or refilled.

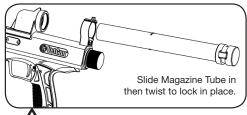
#### **Using 14oz Refillable Cylinder**





The VetGun should not be considered "safe" when it is charged with gas but is not loaded with VetCaps. Bursts of CO<sub>2</sub> from the VetGun can propel dust and debris causing eye injury. Never look directly into barrel, even after gas canisters have been detached. Some gas may remain in VetGun if not dry-fired sufficiently, and cause eve or other injury.

If the Magazine Tube is not in place, it must be installed in the VetGun. Slide the Magazine Tube through the rear Tube Guide and into the Breech Cover. Lock the Magazine Tube in place with a clockwise quarter-twist.



#### CAUTION: DO NOT LOAD VETCAPS YET.

Do not unseal your VetCaps or load them at this point. Refer to 'Using the VetGun' section first as dry-firing will be required before loading VetCaps. Premature unsealing of VetCaps may further affect performance of VetCaps.

## PREPARING THE HERD

Every Rancher knows their own herd best. Handle the cattle as they are used to being handled - whether herding them from horseback or ATV.



#### IMPORTANT:

Never approach the cattle head on. Approach them at an angle so as not to present a direct "challenge" and always ensure the cattle have a clear escape route. Cattle that feel trapped are more likely to become stressed and react negatively.

Always ensure you are in a safe position where you can quickly and easily avoid any cattle that panic or become aggressive.

Always provide positive reinforcement such as a lick, blocks, cubes, hay, molasses or any other feed. This helps distract the cattle and will help offset any negative association from the VetGun sound or VetCap impact.

Use the following simple 3 step process to get the best results. Only advance to the next step once the cattle have become fully accustomed to the previous step.

**STEP 1 - DISTANT DRY-FIRE:** Lay down the cake or feed. Allow the cattle to move in and begin feeding. Then start off by dry-firing the VetGun (gas only, no VetCaps) at a distance of about 100 yards (91m). Gradually work your way toward the cattle while they are distracted by the lick or feed.

If the cattle show signs of nervousness, stop and wait for them to relax before resuming. If the herd continues to be nervous, stop and return for short periods on subsequent days until the herd becomes totally desensitized to the sound.

**STEP 2 - FEED DRY-FIRE:** Once the cattle show little reaction to the VetGun sound at a distance of 20 to 30 feet (6-9m), then on subsequent days start dry-firing the VetGun while you lay down the feed. For best results, build an association between the sound of the VetGun firing and the positive experience of introducing food.

If time is taken at the start to positively condition the cattle, they will often begin to approach you at the sound of the first VetGun shots, actively seeking out the food reward in response to the auditory stimulus.

**STEP 3 - BEGIN DOSING:** Once the cattle are accustomed to the sound of the VetGun and begin to associate it with the positive experience of being fed, begin dosing them with VetCaps. Using positive reinforcement ensures that over time the cattle become conditioned to the dosing process. Positively conditioned cattle become progressively easier to dose. The whole principle is similar to training a bird dog to associate the sound of a shotgun with a positive experience.

## **USING THE VETGUN**

**Double check** that you have prepared the area and notified everyone involved as recommended before dosing the individual cattle.

- Release the Safety Catch and dry fire a few shots at 20 second intervals to acclimatize the herd. Re-engage the Safety Catch.
- 2. When ready for use, tilt the VetGun forward and open the Magazine Tube. Load the Magazine Tube with VetCaps.
- Tilt the VetGun as needed to ensure that a VetCap has rolled into the chamber and release the Safety Catch.
- 4. At a distance of 15-30ft, take aim at the upper flank of the target animal from an upwind position. Pull the Trigger and fire the VetCap.
- 5. Re-engage the safety catch and follow the same procedure for dosing each animal. In the event of a VetCap burst inside the VetGun, follow the cleaning procedures described in this manual.
- Always hold VetGun level. Tilting barrel towards ground causes excessive gas pressure. See TROUBLESHOOTING Point 1 on Page 10.

Implement a farm procedural protocol through which any first and subsequent dosages are either all administered to the right flank or all administered to the left flank of the animal. This helps to identify the animals already dosed. Apply VetCaps to the upper two thirds of the flank of the animal, anywhere between the shoulders and 6 inches ahead of the tail. Always apply from an upwind position to avoid possible exposure.

## **EFFECTIVE APPLICATION**

Once the cattle are accustomed to the dosing process, using a few simple rules will help you to maximise the effectiveness of VetCap:

- Always target the shoulder region or an area that is well muscled. This will produce minimal discomfort for the animal and keep stress low.
- Always make sure you are within range and have a clear shot at the targeted animal.
   Never target the head or fire when there is a chance of missing and hitting another animal in the head or eye.
- Always dose the most relaxed cattle first. Leave the more nervous animals until last and do not dose any animals that show signs of severe nervousness or aggression.
- If the herd becomes nervous or unsettled, give it a break – provide more positive reinforcement and take it slowly.
- It may take several cycles of conditioning the herd to becoming accustomed to the dosing process. By always being mindful of keeping the cattle distracted and quiet, you will achieve the best results.

## **UNLOADING & DE-GASSING**

Always unload and de-gas the VetGun before transport or storage. While still wearing eye protection and gloves, unload any unused VetCaps from the VetGun by tilting it upward so that a VetCap in the Chamber will roll back out of the Magazine Tube. Store VetCaps in their original container, making sure it is sealed.

#### **A. USING 25G DISPOSABLE CARTRIDGE**

Once disengaged, a 25g cartridge will lose all remaining gas and not be reusable, even if disengaged with 25g Adaptor. Unthread 25g chamber & cartridge from ASA converter and dryfire to release any excess gas or pressure. Discard cartridge safely.

#### **B. USING 90G DISPOSABLE CANISTER**

A back-check valve built into the 90g cartridge adaptor allows the  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  in a partially used 90g cartridge to be saved for later use. To remove a partially-used cartridge for later re-use, unthread adaptor from the VetGun with help of pliers - see sketch under Troubleshooting Section.

To remove an empty cartridge, simply unthread cartridge from ASA Adaptor.

**CAUTION:** Do not remove a full or partially full disposable CO₂ cartridge from its adapter, as expanding gas may cause it to launch violently, resulting in injury. Only unscrew the adapter from the VetGun. Only unscrew the cartridge from the adapter when it is completely empty.

#### **C. USING REFILLABLE 140Z CYLINDER**

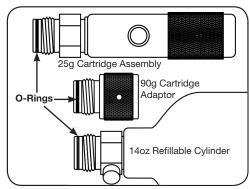
Unscrew cylinder from the VetGun while dry-firing to release pressure.

IMPORTANT: Be sure that the CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder's valve is unscrewing from the ASA, and that the cylinder is not unscrewing from its valve.

attached, the VetGun may still contain enough pressurized CO<sub>2</sub> to fire 2 or more times. Always dry-fire until the VetGun is completely de-pressurized.

#### **CHECKING ADAPTOR O-RINGS**

Occasionally the o-ring on the adaptor can perish; break or split. Check the o-ring upon disengaging adaptor from the VetGun, and replace in need with correctly sized spare o-ring as supplied in VetGun box.



## **STORAGE**

The Barrel may be unscrewed from the VetGun by turning it counter-clockwise, and the Magazine Tube may be twisted a quarter-turn counter-clockwise and removed.

The VetCap shells are made of soft gelatin and are affected by extreme temperature and humidity. Always follow these steps to preserve the VetCaps in optimum condition:

- Store in a cool, dry location in the original container with the lid sealed.
- Do not allow the capsules to become exposed to freezing temperatures or expose them to direct sunlight.
- After application, quickly return any unused VetCaps to their original container and reseal.
- Only load the VetGun when ready to dose.

CAUTION. The pressure level compressed CO<sub>2</sub> rises with temperature. Always store CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges or cylinders in a cool location, away from heat sources or direct sunlight. Refillable CO2 cylinders are equipped with a safety valve that may rupture at temperatures above 130°F (54°C). emptying the cylinder rapidly. If this occurs, stay clear of the cylinder while it vents, as the iets of released CO<sub>2</sub> are cold enough to cause injury, and the CO<sub>2</sub> may displace oxygen in an enclosed space. A ruptured safety disk must be replaced by the same pressure rating and type installed to the manufacturer's specified torque before the cylinder may be re-used.

## **CLEANING / LUBRICATION**

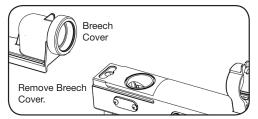
Always ensure you wear protective glasses and gloves when cleaning and maintaining your VetGun.

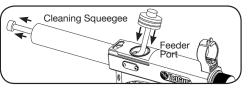
The efficient design of the VetGun Insecticide Delivery System requires a minimum of maintenance and allows for a simple cleaning procedure, that should only be performed every 5,000 shots or to solve a problem.

**CLEANING A RUPTURED VETCAP:** If a VetCap has ruptured in the VetGun, do not fire further VetCap rounds. Thoroughly clean VetGun per below instructions. Dispose of ruptured VetCap contents in accordance with Disposal instructions on AIM VetCaps box label.

Only perform cleaning and maintenance after the VetGun has been unloaded and de-gassed. Remove the barrel from the VetGun.

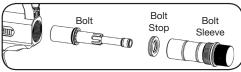
Remove VetCap magazine tube with a counter-clockwise quarter-twist, and slide out backwards. Lift the catch on the front of the Breech Cover, and slide the Breech Cover off the front of the VetGun.





Using supplied cleaning squeegee, feed through top VetCap port hole and out barrel. Repeat several times until thoroughly cleaned. Do not use a screwdriver or other hard tool as it may scratch the interior of the Body causing a leak.

#### **LUBRICATION:**

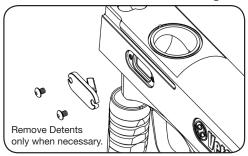


Unscrew and remove the bolt sleeve from the rear of the VetGun. A wooden dowel may be used to push the Bolt and Bolt Stop out the back of the VetGun Body.

Use a soft cloth to wipe any debris or residue from the Bolt, Bolt Stop, Bolt Sleeve, Barrel, Chamber and interior of the VetGun Body.

Inspect all o-rings and replace any that are damaged or worn. Lightly lubricate the Bolt, Bolt Stop and Bolt Sleeve o-rings with Dow-33 lithium grease, and smear a light coating of the same grease over the sliding surfaces of the Bolt. If lithium grease cannot be obtained, only synthetic cold temperature grease may be used as a substitute. Do not use oil.

A pair of spring-loaded Detents on either side of the Breech prevent VetCaps from rolling forward into the barrel and double-loading.



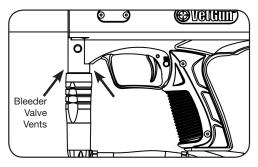
The Detents may be easily checked by reaching into the top of the Breech and pressing on them. If they cannot be easily pressed flush with the side of the Breech or do not spring immediately back when released, cleaning is necessary. The Detents can be removed for cleaning by using a 1/16-inch allen-wrench to unscrew the pair of screws that holds each Detent in place.

Re-assemble the VetGun by sliding the Bolt Stop onto the Bolt, placing the two components in the Bolt Sleeve, and sliding the three parts into the back of the VetGun Body. Screw the Bolt Sleeve in hand tight. Do not over-tighten. Heavy torque is not necessary and may permanently damage the VetGun. Slide and lock the Breech Cover into place, and reinstall the Detents if they were removed.

## **TROUBLESHOOTING**

## 1. CO<sub>2</sub> is occasionally released from around the top of the VetGun's foregrip.

This is normal operation of the Bleeder Valve built into the VetGun's Regulator. **This is NOT a leak** - it is the Bleeder Valve protecting the VetGun's internal components from a pressure spike typically caused by a rise in temperature or operating while pointed towards the ground. Always hold VetGun level, tilting barrel towards ground causes excessive gas pressure.



## 2. Gas leaks from CO<sub>2</sub> Adaptor connection to VetGun ASA.

Ensure Adaptor is not loose, tighten by hand. Occasionally the o-ring on the adaptor can perish; break or split. Check the o-ring upon disengaging adaptor from the VetGun, and replace in need with correctly sized spare o-ring as supplied in VetGun box.

## 3. VetGun fails to discharge or shots do not go far:

- In weather below 70°F (21°C) the VetGun may experience pressure drops, especially after firing multiple shots in rapid sequence. If this occurs, wait a moment for the CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge to warm back up, then resume operation. Do not wrap the CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge in cloth or other material to "keep it warm" as this will have the opposite effect, preventing it from absorbing heat from the air.
- Make sure the Barrel, Breech and internal components of the VetGun have been thoroughly cleaned and properly lubricated and any damaged o-rings have been replaced.
- Use only VetCaps which have been properly stored and remain round and firm to the touch.
- If using a refillable CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder, be sure the cylinder has recently been filled.
- If using a disposable CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge, be sure a new cartridge is in use and that it has been inserted all the way into its adapter, piercing the seal at the end of the cartridge.

## 4. VetCaps arc in flight, rather than flying straight to the aim point:

This is normal, due to the relatively low velocity of the VetCaps used to prevent injury to the cattle. With a little practice, the small amount of drop in the VetCap's flight path is easily compensated for while aiming.

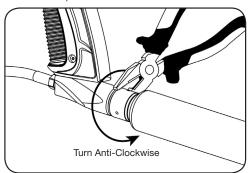
## 5. After many VetCap applications with no problems, the VetGun delivers VetCaps with less and less force and reduced range.

The supply of  $CO_2$  is nearly exhausted. Unload and de-gas the VetGun, then re-load with a fresh disposable cartridge or refillable cylinder.

# 6. A partially used disposable CO₂ cartridge is empty after being stored for several days. This is normal due to slow leakage around seals in regulator. Re-load with a fresh disposable cartridge.

## 7. CO<sub>2</sub> Adaptor is tight and cannot be unscrewed by hand.

To remove adaptor from VetGun, un-thread adaptor from the VetGun with help of pliers. Before doing so, ensure you have read and followed all instructions and cautionary statements under the Unloading/Degassing section of Operation Manual.



## 8. A VetCap has ruptured in the VetGun barrel

The VetGun kit includes a cleaning squeegee. Use it according to directions to clean out the barrel. If the squeegee is not readily available, remove all VetCaps and the Feeder Tube, then dry fire 3-4 shots to clear the barrel of any residue or pieces of the broken shell. Always point the VetGun in a safe direction, follow instructions in the VetGun Operation manual and never look down the barrel!

## 9. VetCaps bounce off animal or do not fragment upon impact

VetCaps may bounce off animal un-ruptured if they've become too humid and soft. Once the seal on a tube of VetCaps is broken, they become susceptible to the elements so cannot be stored indefinitely. If they've been removed from packaging and not used straight away, they can humidify quickly. Remove from packaging and load VetGun just before ready to use. If inadvertently exposed to high heat and humidity for any extended period of time over 1 hour, the capsules can normally be restored to ideal conditions by placing them (exposed) for 24 to 72 hours in cool & dry conditions where relative humidity is between 20% and 50% and temperatures do not exceed 70F. before resealing back in tubes. Refer separate VetCaps label for full instructions.

## **WARRANTY & REPAIRS**

Warranty: Limited 1 year Warranty (Original Purchase Receipt Required)

## Please complete and return separate Warranty Registration card supplied.

For one year from date of purchase, AgriLabs will repair or replace this VetGun free of charge if defective due to materials or workmanship. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.

# Service is available by calling our distributors, AgriLabs, Customer Service / Technical Support at 1-888-727-8125.

If advised to return your VetGun, you will be given a return authorization number and shipping address. The return authorization number must be marked clearly on the outside of the shipping package to be accepted.

DO NOT return any products via non-trackable services such as regular mail or parcel post. Such products may become lost and neither SmartVet nor AgriLabs will be responsible for replacement.

#### Out of Warranty, Repairs, Spares:

For spare parts and repair of out of warranty VetGuns, you should first call: **1-888-727-8125.** 







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