

Chicken Farmers of Canada Antimicrobial Use Strategy

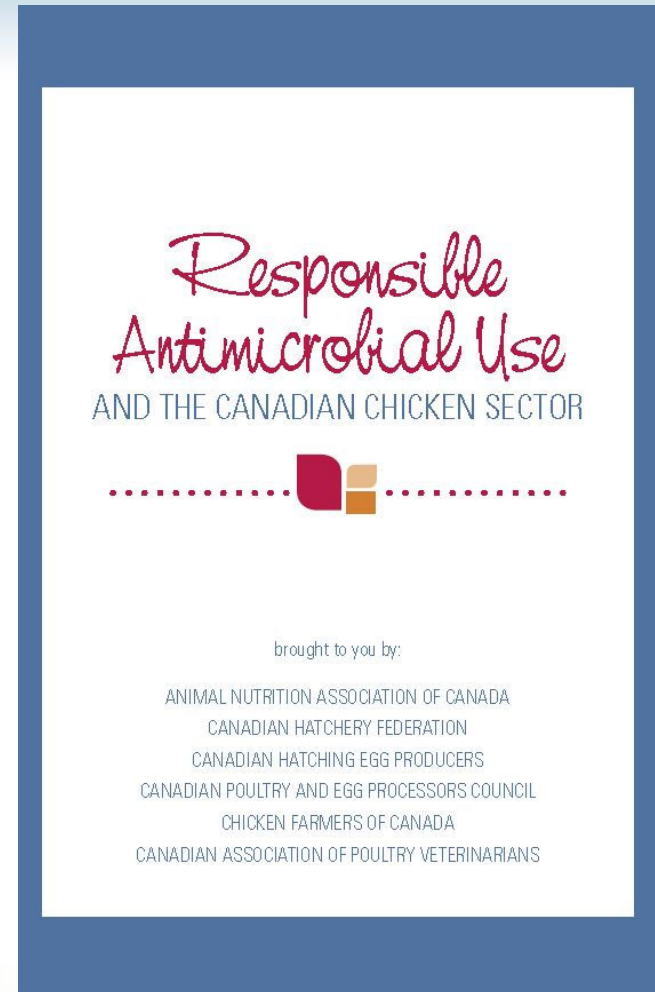
National Farmed Animal Health & Welfare Council
2014 Forum



CFC Strategy

> The chicken supply chain needs to proactively manage antimicrobial use to provide continued confidence to government and consumers

» Industry would be benefited by controlling and reducing antimicrobial use in order to preserve effective treatment options



CFC Strategy Elements

- Participation in government AMU/AMR surveillance programs
- Examine Category I AMU in the poultry sector
- Reduction Strategies
- Controlling over-the-counter water AMU
- Develop responsible use guidelines
- Education sessions for all stakeholders
- Re-examine best management practices
- Continue AMU reduction research

Participation in Government AMU/AMR Surveillance

- PHAC/CIPARS On-Farm Chicken Surveillance
 - » Antimicrobial use and resistance surveillance
 - » Began in 2013
 - » BC, AB, SK, ON and Qc – with future expansion planned
 - » First results in Fall of 2014
 - » On-going surveillance
 - » Independent
 - » These results will help provide knowledge into the industry discussions on future use strategies

Preventive Category I Use

- Elimination of the preventive use of Category I antibiotics by:
 - » May 15th 2014 for the broiler hatching egg, chicken, egg and turkey sectors

Category	Examples of AMU
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ceftiofur™• Baytril™

- » Attestations on both the Chick Delivery Slip (hatchery) and Flock Information Reporting Form (farmers) – Mandatory OFFSAP requirement

Reduction Strategies

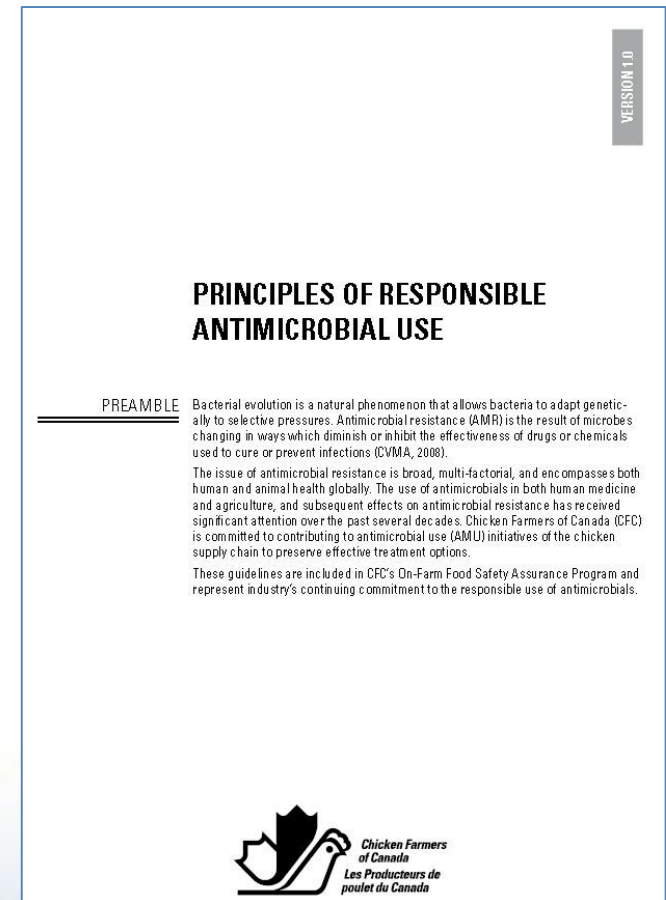
- > Category I use
 - » Critical importance to humans
- > Next steps
 - » Focus on reduction
 - » Expert review of CIPARS AMU/AMR data
 - » Recommendations to allow for further reduction
 - Education vs. regulations

Controlling Over-the-Counter AMU

- > CFC cross-country consultation in 2012
- > Objective:
 - » Farmers should not use over-the-counter water medications without a veterinary prescription
- > Implementation:
 - » Issues of veterinary capacity and assuring animal welfare present significant hurdles resulting in a longer implementation timeline
 - » In the meantime, farmers and industry stakeholders should work together to establish the processes to reach this objective

Responsible Use Guidelines

- CFC has developed guidelines to demonstrate industry's commitment
 - » Eliminating the preventive use of Category I antimicrobials
 - » Farmers should not use over-the-counter water medications without a veterinary prescription
 - » All antimicrobial prescriptions must be obtained within the confines of a valid Veterinary–Client–Patient Relationship
 - » Not permitted for use:
 - Own-Use Importation (OUI)
 - Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API)



Education on AMU/AMR

> Producer Training

- » Veterinary epidemiologist
- » Antibiotic-free production farmer experiences
- » Initiate the discussion with industry members...

> Producer Videos

- » AMU, AMR, CFC strategy, and farmer involvement

> Recording all antimicrobial use

- » OFFSAP requirement

Best Management Practices

➤ Timely euthanasia poster

➤ Focus on management during the brooding period

Timely Euthanasia of Compromised Chicks

Chicken farmers are committed to producing high quality, safe and affordable food while ensuring high welfare and health for their flocks. Despite the quality procedures and diligence at the hatcheries and in early brooding in the barn, there will always be a small proportion of chicks that are unable to thrive. These chicks can act as reservoirs of bacterial and viral infections.

One of the most effective tools available to the farmer is the early culling of unthrifty, ill or injured chicks. The greatest positive impact is achieved when culling is performed immediately after those chicks are identified.

In many cases, an effective culling program can improve animal welfare, food safety and minimize or replace the need for antibiotic therapy. Reduced use of antibiotics may benefit flock health, and can minimize the risk of antimicrobial resistance, which is a priority for agriculture.

It may be necessary to euthanize chicks for a variety of reasons, all of which impact the health, welfare and productivity of a flock. The following is a guide to identify compromised chicks in the first 10 days of life.



Starve Outs / Unthrifty Chicks

For 2-3 days after hatch, chicks can meet all their nutritional needs by absorbing the nutrients from their yolk. If growth rates and resources are not competitive, chicks must transition to feed and water supplied in the barn within the 2-3 day period. Failure to transition will result in a weak chicken which is unlikely to recover. These chicks should be euthanized.

Yolk Sac / Navel Infection (Mushy Chicks)

As chicks internalize the yolk from the egg, the navel is left as the last point where the body wall seals off. If the yolk sac is not completely reabsorbed, or if bacteria enter the chick through the navel before it closes, the yolk acts as a nutrient source for bacteria, resulting in an overabundance of bacteria. Antibiotic treatment often keeps chicks alive but fails to resolve the original infection. Loss will occur when treatment is required. Euthanasia will reduce suffering and limit the amount of bacteria shed into the environment.

Injury

Chicks may be injured through the hatching, sorting, transportation and brooding processes. Injuries can result in wounds and lameness, which are painful to the chick. Due to competing for food and the inability to compete for feed and water, injured chicks should be euthanized immediately.

Disease

Compromised chicks/poults are more susceptible to other disease challenges which will have detrimental effects to her in the flock. Euthanizing these chicks early will reduce the possible spread of disease to healthy birds.

Deformed, Abnormal Chicks

Chicks that are improperly formed, abnormal or unable to perform normal activities such as walking, feeding and drinking should be euthanized. These chicks will not compete well, will become small and weak and their welfare will suffer if they are not cullled.

If you are concerned, contact your veterinarian.



Chicken Farmers of Ontario



Chicken Farmers of Canada
Les Producteurs de poulet du Canada



Nestlé Poultry Council



OSHECC



Ontario



Aviagen

Research

> Canadian Poultry Research Council

» CPRC has invested \$1.4M, which has been matched to over \$5.1M on antibiotic use and antibiotic alternatives

- Alternative products
- Gut health
- Vaccines

Regulatory Harmonization

> Antibiotic-Free Production* (ABF)

Country	AMU - prevention	AMU – treatment	Use of Ionophores	Use of Chemical Coccidiostats
Canada	No	No	No	No
USA	No	No	No	Yes
Europe	No	Yes – with a vet prescription	Yes	Yes

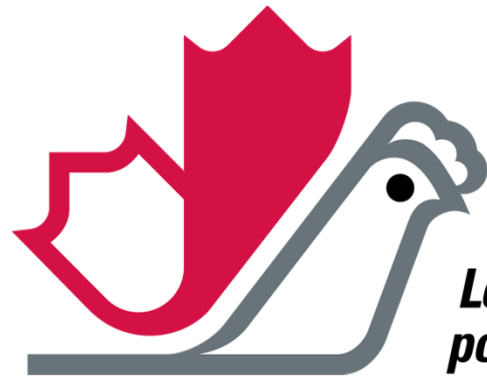
*Adapted from M. Boulianne (2014)

> Feed additives – alternative products

» Numerous products approved in Europe and the United States are not available for use in Canada

> Processing agents

» Only 50% of the products approved in the United States are available for use in Canada



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