# Antimicrobial Use in Broiler Production

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## The Development of Poultry Production

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#### 1920's and 1930's













## 1960's through Present

U.S. per capita availability of beef, pork, and chicken, 1909-2013





## 1960's through Present

- 2017 US production:
  - 8.8 billion birds
  - 54.3 billion lbs
  - \$26 billion
- States that produce more chicken than Canada annually:
  - Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas



## Key Innovations that Allowed this Growth

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- Genetics-
  - Huge improvements began in the 50's when dedicated genetics companies focused on selective breeding
  - Chicken meat no longer came from mixed-use birds



- Genetics-
  - Huge improvements began in the 50's
- Nutrition-
  - Improvements began in the 50's with the development of vitamins and mineral sources for feed use



- Genetics-
  - Huge improvements began in the 50's
- Nutrition-
  - Improvements began in the 50's
- Management/Housing-
  - Improvements began in the 50's with commercial housing, larger flocks
  - But also challenges...



#### The Challenges of Confined Housing

#### Coccidiosis-

- Caused by Eimeria species
  - Ubiquitous
- Various species that cause damage to the small intestine/ceca
- Very detrimental to growth/efficiency
- Can cause significant mortality

- Necrotic Enteritis
  - Clostridium perfringens
    - Ubiquitous
  - Usually follows Cocci
  - Causes extreme mortality
  - Exacerbated by wheat based diets

- Genetics-
  - Huge improvements began in the 50's
- Nutrition-
  - Improvements began in the 50's
- Management/Housing-
  - Improvements began in the 50's
- Antibiotics and Anticoccidials-
  - Availability in animal agriculture took off in the 1950's



## What does Antibiotic Use Look Like?

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#### What Does Antibiotic Use Look Like

- Broiler chickens/Turkeys
  - Most hatching eggs are injected with an antibiotic at 18 days
  - (60% in 2013, 40% in 2015)



#### What Does Antibiotic Use Look Like

- Broiler chickens/Turkeys
  - Most hatching eggs are injected with an antibiotic at 18 days
  - Approx. 90% in Canada are fed antibiotics
  - Cradle to Grave
  - Prevention of Necrotic Enteritis and Coccidiosis
- Rotations/Shuttles used to prevent resistance

|         | January                  | February | March    | April    |  |  |  |
|---------|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|--|--|
| Starter | Nicarbazin/Virginiamycin |          |          |          |  |  |  |
| Grw/Fin | Monensin/BMD             |          |          |          |  |  |  |
|         | May                      | June     | July     | August   |  |  |  |
| Starter | Coyden/Virginiamycin     |          |          |          |  |  |  |
| Grw/Fin | Salinomycin/BMD          |          |          |          |  |  |  |
|         | September                | October  | November | December |  |  |  |
| Starter | Deccox/Virginiamycin     |          |          |          |  |  |  |
| Grw/Fin | Narasin/BMD              |          |          |          |  |  |  |
|         |                          |          | I        |          |  |  |  |

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#### • The Benefits

- Mortality now averages about 5%
- Condemnations are <2%</li>
- Feed conversions are significantly lower
- Feed costs per kg are lower
- Animal welfare is improved
- The Drawbacks
  - Antibiotic resistance is growing, and animal agriculture is most likely contributing

#### What about Oversight?

- CMIB- Labelled claims
  - Compendium of Medicated
     Ingredient Brochures
  - Contain Government approved claims, medication levels, combinations, cautions, warnings, withdrawal times etc.
  - Growth promotion, disease prevention, treatment claims

#### • Off-Label Use

Require veterinary oversight

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- Vet-client relationship
- cGFARAD withdrawal time

#### Some Statistics

- Canada has way more animals than people (approx. 19x)
- On a weight adjusted basis, we use 1.6 to 1.9 times more medically important antibiotics in animal production than we do in human medicine

Figure 1. 3 Proportion of total kilograms of antimicrobials distributed and/or sold in Canada by sector

with feed.



#### Not all antibiotics are created equal...

#### according to Health Canada.

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- Category 1- Very High Importance
  - Used to treat serious human infections,
     Enrofloxacin where no alternative exists

 Banned for preventative use in 2014

Ceftiofur

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 Category 1- Very High Importance
 Used to treat serious human infections, where no alternative exists

#### Category 2- High Importance

 Used to treat serious human infections, where there are some alternatives

- Penicillin ritchie smith feet
- Virginiamycin
- Erythromycin
  - Tylosin
- Gentomycin
- Lincospectin

- Category 1- Very High Importance
   Used to treat serious human infections, where no alternative exists
- Category 2- High Importance
  - Used to treat serious human infections, where there are some alternatives
- Category 3- Medium Importance
  - Not the preferred treatment for serious human infections

- Bacitracin
- Tetracycline
- Sulfamethazine

- Category 1- Very High Importance Used to treat serious human infections, where no alternative exists Category 2-High Importance Used to treat serious human infections, where there are some alternatives Category 3- Medium Importance Not the preferred treatment for serious
  - human infections
- Category 4- Low Importance
  - Not used in human medicine

- Ionophores
  More

  - Salinomycin
  - Lasalocid

• Etc.

## The Problem-Antimicrobial Resistance

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#### How does Resistance Develop?

Whenever there is a high number of bacteria, few of them are resistant to antibiotics

Antibiotics kill the bacteria that cause the illness, as well as good bacteria that protect the body from infection The resistant bacteria can now grow and multiply without competition Some bacteria can even transfer their resistance to antibiotics to other bacteria, which causes more problems

#### Timeline for the Development of New Antibiotics, and the Discovery of Resistance

Ventola, C. L., 2015. The Antibiotic Crisis. Pharmacy and Therapeutics. 40(4):277-283



#### The Pressure for Change

- Due to Resistance
  - Many medications used in poultry production are also used in human health
  - Overuse anywhere causes resistance to develop
  - Bacteria in poultry barns can "share" resistance with other bacteria leading the multiple resistance genes in one bacteria

- Due to Perception
  - Our industry needs to be seen making the right choices for our customers

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- CBC Marketplace- Feb 11, 2011
- Increasing RWA production suggests public attention

#### The Approach- What is Changing?

#### CFIA/Health Canada

No more use of Medically Important Antibiotics without prescriptions

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- No more "growth promotion" claims for antibiotics
- Greater emphasis on the Vet-Client relationship

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#### CFC/TFC self imposed regulations

- No more sub-therapeutic use of Class 1 (2014) or Class 2 (2019) antibiotics
- Potentially eliminating Class 3 as well (2020 for TFC, 2021 for CFC)

#### The Impact- Eliminating Class 1

- January 2015, no more preventative use of Class 1 antibiotics (May 15, 2014)
  - Excenel injected into eggs discontinues across Canada
  - Significant impact on the levels of resistant E. coli

CIPARS 2015 Annual Report

Figure 1. 9 Reduction in reported use of ceftiofur on farm and changing resistance to ceftriaxone in *Escherichia coli* from chicken sources, 2003–2015

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#### What is the Impact at the Farm Level?

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#### This is NOT RWA production

- Can use Cat. 3 for at least 2 more years
- Can use ionophores, chemical anticoccidials
- Can treat when disease is diagnosed

|                          | Condemns | Mortality | 36d Wt | 36d FC | EPI |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|--------|-----|
|                          | %        | %         | kg     | kg/kg  |     |
| Current                  | 1.37     | 5.47      | 2.156  | 1.601  | 355 |
| No Cat 2 + Anticoccidial | 1.32     | 5.22      | 2.188  | 1.609  | 357 |
| No Cat 3 + Anticoccidial | 1.32     | 6.03      | 2.133  | 1.663  | 341 |
| Chemical Anticoccidial   | 1.34     | 6.42      | 2.054  | 1.641  | 335 |
| Unmedicated              | 2.61     | 5.36      | 2.090  | 1.641  | 341 |

#### What about "Antibiotic Replacements"?

- Vaccinations
- Probiotics
- Prebiotics
- Organic Acids
- Medium Chain Fatty Acids
- Butyric Acid
- Essential oils
- Yeast cell walls

- Yeast metabolitesYucca products
- Enzymes

• Etc.

• But do they work?

#### What about "Antibiotic Replacements"?

- The short answer is "No"
  - None of these products prevent cocci or Necrotic Enteritis with the same efficiency as an anticoccidial or antibiotic
  - These products promote gut health and improve the birds ability to resist these diseases on their own

- So what do we do now?
  - 2019- Not a lot will change
    - BMD will replace the other antibiotics
    - NE and cocci will not likely be any more of a problem than they are now
    - 140 Possibly more wet litter
      - Likely higher feed conversion as time goes on
  - 2021- A bigger issue
    - Performance is likely to suffer when we lose Category 3s

#### Summary

- After 60+ years of using antibiotics to prevent disease, improve growth and welfare, the industry is voluntarily reducing use in order to preserve efficacy for use in humans. And to avoid bad PR.
- The first step, occurring January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, will have little impact on broiler producers in the short term as Category 3 antibiotics will fill the gap. Categories 1 and 2 will remain as treatment options.
- January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, if it occurs as planned will be a more serious step. Our experience suggests mortality will not be an issue, but performance will suffer without antibiotics in the feed.

## Questions?

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