



# THE CHICKEN FARMER

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## Salmonella Prevalence Survey Kicks off in January

Chicken Farmers of Canada is set to begin a national *Salmonella* prevalence survey in the New Year. The main objective is to determine the on-going monitoring and mitigation needs that are appropriate for Canadian chicken farms in the future. Here is some background information about why this decision was made and what the survey will entail.

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, the government, led by the Public Health Agency of Canada, has placed a high priority on reducing *Salmonella*-related illnesses among Canadians. The priority placed on this issue is based on the increasing rate of illness over the last 10+ years, with several outbreaks of *Salmonella* illness across the country linked to raw chicken. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) took steps last year to mandate maximum *Salmonella* levels in frozen raw breaded chicken products.

However, the federal government has made clear its concerns about *Salmonella* in all types of poultry products.

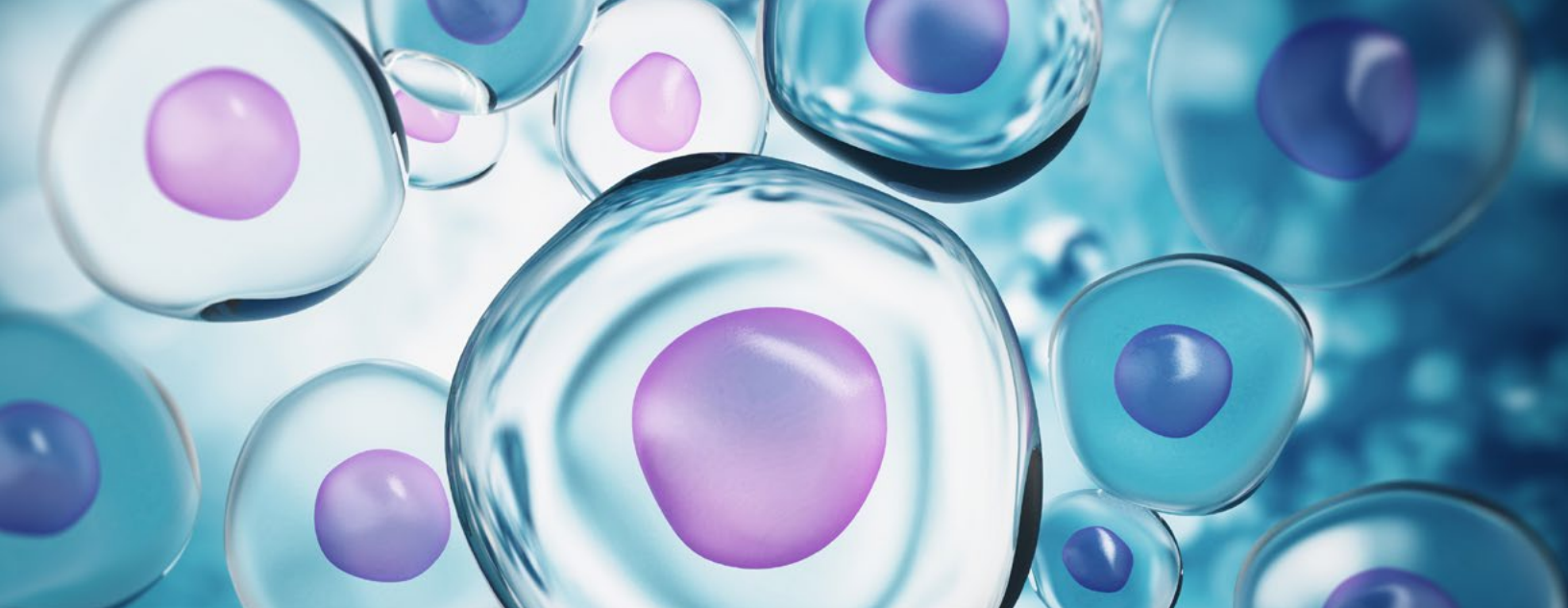
This issue will remain a high priority for government for the foreseeable future, and this is also reflected in Chicken Farmers of Canada's work, where pathogen reduction was designated as a critical priority for the organization in 2019. As such, much of 2019 was spent working with supply chain members (broiler breeders, hatcheries, and processors) to determine the best way forward for the chicken industry to



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address this. Each sector is taking additional steps to address pathogen reduction, and for chicken farms, a decision was made in August by the Board of Directors to begin a national *Salmonella* prevalence survey.

Although there have been *Salmonella* illnesses of various serotypes, the main culprit has been *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE), and this will be the focus of the survey. In addition to determining the extent of monitoring and mitigation needed in the future, this survey will act as a pilot to assess the operational possibilities of future surveillance – this includes laboratory capacity, shipping samples, ability to plan and take samples, and the lab results turn-around time.

The survey will be done on approximately 10% of farms across the country (based on a standardized sample size calculation), with samples being taken in every province throughout the entire year to account for seasonality. Each provincial board will determine the personnel who will be taking the samples and will also be responsible for ensuring confidentiality of data; farms will only be identified by confidential identifiers and only aggregate results will be reported.

For this initial survey, the timing of results will not coincide with the marketing of the surveyed flock. As a result, there will be no required actions for the surveyed flock, but a report will be provided to the farmer which will include recommendations in the case of a positive result.

### COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS

Another major component of Chicken Farmers of Canada's work on pathogen reduction involves increased communications to consumers about safe food handling practices. We recognize that farmers and other supply chain members all have a role to play in reducing pathogens, but consumers have an important role at home as well.

Communication efforts will be increasing over the next year to get the message out to Canadians about the importance of properly handling and cooking chicken to avoid any chances of foodborne illness. This will involve increased food safety messages online and through our various social media channels and may also feature on traditional media like radio or TV.

For example, food safety messages will be incorporated into every consumer newsletter that we send out in 2020, which currently reaches an audience of 64,000 Canadians. We'll also be using infographics, video clips, and short messages to get the word out, so stay tuned to our social media channels and share these with your networks as well.

**Facebook:** @chickenfarmers

**Twitter:** @chickenfarmers

**Instagram:** @chickendotca



# Raised by a Canadian Farmer

# MEANS EVEN MORE NOW



**Chicken farmers are proud to raise the Canadian chicken you trust!**

Canadians want fresh, high-quality Canadian chicken and our farmers are proud to raise it to some of the highest standards for food safety, animal care, and sustainability.

That's what *Raised by a Canadian Farmer* means.

[www.chickenfarmers.ca](http://www.chickenfarmers.ca)  
[www.chicken.ca](http://www.chicken.ca)





# The Raised by a Canadian Farmer Animal Care Program

## YOUR ROLE, AND OURS



We know that the *Raised by a Canadian Farmer* Animal Care Program impacts daily life and routines on the farm. We also know that it's hard sometimes to see the bigger picture, to understand why this program is so important, and it's easy to wonder whether it's worth it.

### WE'RE HERE TO TELL YOU THAT IT IS.

The standards you uphold each day have an impact, and absolutely drive the credibility that chicken farmers have with consumers. Farmers are trusted, for good reason, and in order to maintain that trust, we all have a role to play. When you are committed to these programs, Chicken Farmers of Canada can work with partners throughout the value chain to provide them the assurance they need that farmers value the animals in their care and are committed to doing the right thing.

WE'RE ALWAYS READY TO ADAPT TO THE CHANGING CANADIAN PALATE – BUT WE'RE NOT WILLING TO DO IT WHEN IT'S BEING DRIVEN BY ACTIVISTS WHO ULTIMATELY WANT TO TELL CANADIANS WHAT TO EAT AND TO FORCE OUR FARMERS OUT OF BUSINESS.

As you know, the commitment of Canadian chicken farmers to animal welfare has become the target of various campaigns, most specifically against restaurant and retail companies, where they have been pressured through extortion of their brands into mandating changes to our industry's practices.

As a counter to this, staff from Chicken Farmers of Canada and the Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council (CPEPC) have been holding meetings with major retail and restaurant companies all across the country. The primary objective of these meetings is to ensure that value chain members know that we are the primary source to

turn to when they are confronted with activists, rather than caving to pressures that push unrealistic demands on their suppliers (processors and farmers). We need them to understand that they don't need to reinvent the wheel when it comes to animal care – that the system we have in Canada is not just good enough – it's very good, and in fact, it's the envy of much of the world.

In these meetings, we take the opportunity to explain the key differences between animal rights and animal welfare. We ensure the company understands while claiming to be advocating change for the betterment of industry practices, the real objective is to make it more difficult, more frustrating and more expensive for chicken farmers to do their jobs and ultimately, make it too expensive for consumers. It's a "death of a thousand cuts", designed to slowly chip away at the ability of farmers to raise animals for food.

We're fine with people choosing to eat a vegan diet, but that choice must be made with facts, not myths. We're always ready to adapt to the changing Canadian palate – but we're not willing to do it when it's being driven by activists who ultimately want to tell Canadians what to eat and to force our farmers out of business.

Within the strategy we are being proactive and trying to avoid what our friends and colleagues in the egg industry experienced a couple years ago. At that time, animal rights groups collectively decided that 2015 would be the "year of the egg," and focused pressure on the U.S. and Canadian egg industry to make commitments for phasing out cages for laying hens. Companies and their brands were threatened, social media campaigns were launched, and to make the activists go away, many companies decided it would be easier to simply say yes. This saw the **Retail Council of Canada** (RCC) commit to sourcing only cage-free eggs by the end of 2025.

Of course this was never really the activists' end goal, and now, we are seeing that these groups are **criticizing** the very systems they advocated for – and, as always, ratcheting up their demands.

And now, the activists have turned their attention to broilers.

Activist activity has increased in last two years, and after a small break this year, there's been an increase in the last month (it seems that 2019/2020 may be the "year of the chicken"). Groups are sending emails to companies directly, demanding change and requesting to meet. When those requests are not answered, the groups subsequently make demands that the company commits to "higher welfare standards" for their Canadian broiler chicken supply. Among the demands they are making is a switch to slow growing broilers, and we see this as the next big topic in animal care that our industry will have to tackle. When that commitment isn't made, the next step is to organize loud social media campaigns and demonstrations, designed to bully the companies into changing their policies.

In response, we've developed what we like to call our "travelling roadshow." To-date we have met with 14 companies (including McDonald's, Metro, Loblaws, Walmart), as well as RCC and the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFIG). A meeting is planned for the Fall with Restaurants Canada, who represents all the major restaurant and food service companies in the country. As a result of these meetings we are confident that if companies are faced with activist demands, they will come to us first to find out the facts. We will provide them with all the support and information they need to defend our Canadian system and our *Raised by a Canadian Farmer* Animal Care Program. Feedback from the roadshow has been overwhelmingly positive and very complimentary towards the farming and processing sectors for the work being done within animal care, food safety, and sustainability.

But how does this all relate back to the Animal Care Program and what you're doing on-farm? YOU, all 2,800 broiler chicken farmers in Canada, are the reason we have a great program to promote and defend. Your commitment to the program, the fact that we can say 100% of our farms are certified, is an essential element for gaining the confidence of consumers, and retail and restaurant companies. We have a system they can defend to the activists or to their customers when they get questions. The goal has always been to maintain one national standard for farmers, and while there may always be a handful of stakeholders that want a different audit, overall, we are able to uphold our program as THE program in Canada. And it is your implementation of the program, each and every day, which allows us to do that.

You are the reason we can say that chicken raised by Canadian farmers is truly excellent. And we do:

The *Raised by a Canadian Farmer* brand was launched about five years ago, in the hopes that we could meet the growing demands of consumers to know where their chicken comes from – and we delivered.

Shortly after launching the brand, though, we learned that consumers wanted the brand to stand for more than just country of origin – they wanted it to stand for quality, for excellence, and for commitment. We're delivering again.

The brand now also represents farmers' commitment to excellence in food safety, in animal care, and in environmental stewardship. That commitment resonates strongly with consumers. They know now that the *Raised by a Canadian Farmer* brand means that the chicken bearing the logo is a nutritious choice for their families, and that it's raised by farmers they can trust.

It's resonating with restaurants and retailers, as well. More and more companies are adopting the brand to assure their customers of their commitment to sourcing Canadian chicken and to the excellence that the brand represents – which is what you are contributing to every day on your farm. **CF**

# Cluster 3:

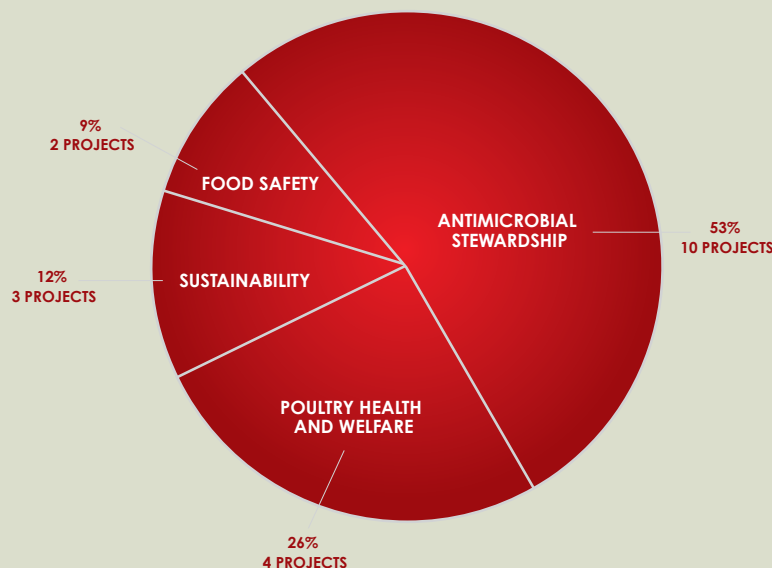
## Innovative, Grassroots Research for Canadian Poultry Sector

Researchers across Canada are addressing timely topics for the poultry sector with the latest round of poultry science cluster funding. Earlier this year, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) announced a \$8.3 million contribution to a \$12 million, five-year poultry research cluster as part of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) program. This commitment is the third “cluster” program co-funded by AAFC.

There are four areas of focus for the projects – antimicrobial stewardship, poultry health and welfare, food safety, and sustainability. “The majority of these third cluster projects are closely aligned, as many of the components relate to how poultry products are produced, with an emphasis on antibiotic stewardship,” says Bruce Roberts, executive director of the Canadian Poultry Research Council (CPRC) – the organization coordinating poultry science cluster work in Canada.

This made-in-Canada research is searching for new answers and options that will improve sustainability, productivity, and welfare throughout the entire poultry value chain from genetics to hatching through to production and processing. Research was selected that reflects the priorities of the industry and Canadian consumers.

### Poultry Science Cluster Priorities



Antimicrobial stewardship has the lion’s share of funding with 53% of the research investment and 10 projects. Several of the projects include a collaborative, multidisciplinary team as they work on effective alternatives to antibiotic use in poultry production.

The second largest area of focus is on poultry health and welfare with 26% of the funding on four projects. This area also includes research teams from universities across Canada working on topics including behaviour and health of laying hens, and stocking densities in turkey hens.

Food safety research is looking at producing healthier and safer products through the poultry food chain. And research under the sustainability area includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions in poultry operations.

“We’ve seen a shift in the approach to research in the last several years with teams including researchers from a broad range of disciplines working together,” says Roberts. “These cooperating scientists bring a perspective and synergy that allows projects to look at bigger, broader questions facing Canada’s poultry industry and research community.” In this third cluster of poultry projects, collaborating researchers are from fields including human health, engineering, genetics and other biosciences. “It’s a refreshing and proactive synergy that we are seeing more and more in the research community.”

Projects are funded through government and industry – with 68% of funding from AAFC, 26% from industry and another 5% from other government. There are 12 Canadian universities involved in research projects, two AAFC research station locations and more than 55 individual researchers.

“The support from industry is vital to poultry research in Canada as we look to advance knowledge and practices that will benefit the entire poultry value chain from input suppliers to consumers,” says Roberts.



Watch for updates and progress on these projects at [www.cp-rc.ca](http://www.cp-rc.ca).


In addition to the on-going work being done through the Cluster 3 projects, CPRC continues its annual cycle of funding for research related to key priorities for the poultry industry. The 2019 call for proposals was for three research categories that align with the *National Research Strategy for Canada’s Poultry Sector*: food safety, poultry health and welfare, and productivity and sustainability.

Nine projects were approved this year by the CPRC board.

- » Understanding the management practices required for raising successful RWA (raised without antibiotics) broiler flocks – K. Schwean-Lardner, U. Saskatchewan
- » Glowing bacteria to monitor and control *Salmonella* in poultry – W. Koester, VIDO, U. Saskatchewan
- » Cocci and NE: Field testing molecular tools quantifying *Clostridium* and *Eimeria* simultaneously in commercial broilers – J. Barta, U. Guelph
- » The use of red osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*) to prevent *Salmonella* infection in broiler chickens – D. Adewole, Dalhousie University
- » Epidemiological study of cellulitis in broiler chicken flocks in Ontario – M. Guerin, U. Guelph
- » Novel metabolomics-based disease diagnostic tool for enhancing poultry production and antimicrobial use reduction – S. Gomis, U. Saskatchewan

- » Optimizing body condition for reproduction: A multiphasic approach to growing broiler breeder pullets – M. Zuidhof, U. Alberta
- » Development of green processes for egg shell decontaminations via electro-nanospraying techniques – L. Zhang, U. Saskatchewan
- » Development of a novel attenuated live vaccine with oral administration for control of histomoniasis – J. Barta, U. Guelph

Additionally, for the last few years Chicken Farmers of Canada has separately funded research which addresses a specific priority for the chicken industry. Requests for proposals were sent out seeking research to address the removal of the preventive use Category II and III antibiotics. Two projects will be funded this year for Chicken Farmers of Canada-specific research:

- » Bacteriophage treatment for controlling Necrotic Enteritis in broiler chickens infected with *Clostridium perfringens* – S. Theriault, Cytophage Technologies Inc.
- » In ovo vaccination platform as effective alternative to antibiotics to reduce harmful bacteria in poultry – W. Koester, VIDO-InterVac, U. Saskatchewan 

# TRADE UPDATE

## Canada-Mercosur Free Trade Negotiations



Canada's negotiations with the Mercosur trade block of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay have been put on hold until after the Canadian federal elections.

During Round 7, the most recent round that which took place in Ottawa between July 29 and August 2, negotiators were successful in reaching an agreement on modalities, which set the desired level of ambition. Although it is known that Round 8 will be held in Brazil, so far, no dates have been scheduled for the talks.

Chicken Farmers of Canada will continue to closely monitor these negotiations as Mercosur includes both Brazil – the largest chicken exporter in the world – which controls 33% of the global chicken market, and Argentina, which aims to increase its broiler meat exports 11% from 187 million kilograms in 2018 to 210 million kilograms in 2019. Currently, Brazil is Canada's

second largest source of chicken imports after the United States, with 11.1 million kilograms of imports in 2018.

### CANADA-UNITED STATES-MEXICO AGREEMENT (CUSMA)

Although the Canadian government introduced Bill C-100, the bill to implement CUSMA, this summer, the dropping of the writ on September 11<sup>th</sup> has suspended Parliament, meaning that there will be no further movement forward to ratification until after the federal election. While Mexico has already notified that its ratification process was complete, the United States has so far delayed tabling its legislation to implement the agreement in Congress.

The agreement will only come into force on the first day of the third month following the completion of its ratification by all three members.

### COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (CPTPP)

The CPTPP has already been in effect since December 30, 2018; however, the only current CPTPP member that could benefit from the new market access into the Canadian chicken market, Chile, has yet to finalize its ratification process. Nonetheless, the Chilean legislative process is moving forward. On August 20, the Chilean Senate Finance Committee approved the agreement, and it is now under review by the full Chilean Senate.



AMONG THE ECONOMIES THAT HAVE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED THEIR INTEREST IN JOINING THE TRADE PACT, THAILAND POSES A PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THE CANADIAN CHICKEN SECTOR.




The CPTPP will come into effect for Chile 60 days following the conclusion of its ratification process.

Furthermore, the Canadian government has undertaken a public consultation regarding the accession of new countries to the CPTPP. It is Chicken Farmers of Canada's position that Canada already made generous market access concessions to current CPTPP members and any additional future members must be satisfied with sharing this existing access.

Among the economies that have publicly announced their interest in joining the trade pact, Thailand poses a particular concern to the Canadian chicken sector. Already the world's fourth largest chicken exporter after Brazil, the U.S., and the European Union, Thailand's global exports are expected to grow from 835 million kilograms in 2018 to 900 million kilograms in 2019. It is currently Canada's third largest source of chicken imports (cooked chicken products only), which have grown 261% from 2 million kilograms in 2010 to 7.4 million kilograms in 2018.

In the 2019 Federal Budget, the Liberal government committed to

providing full and fair support to mitigate the impacts resulting from the CPTPP and CUSMA agreements on Canada's poultry and egg farmers. Representatives from these sectors participated wholeheartedly in the Agriculture and Agri-Food Poultry Working Group that was convened in December 2018, working alongside government officials to calculate final impact estimates and develop a detailed list of programming recommendations, which was presented to the Minister in April. The suggested programs and initiatives were developed to ensure the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the Canadian poultry and egg sectors.

Consequently, the Canadian chicken sector was deeply disappointed when it was informed that no new programming would be announced before the dissolution of Parliament. Immediately following the election, it will be imperative that the new government build on the extensive work that has taken place and the recommendations already developed through the Poultry Working Group process. 

## All about water lines

In a world where there is an increased focus on reducing antimicrobial use, there has been a corresponding increase in attention paid to all aspects of in-barn management. One of these many aspects includes water quality and waterline management.

Chicken Farmers of Canada created a series of videos related to water management, many of which were featured in the last **AMU magazine**.

Here's a complete list of the videos and where you can go to watch them. Check them out, and let us know what you think, and what we should work on next!

### Water line settings

### Testing the medicator

### Water line cleaning and disinfection

### Water line sampling



# Eliminating the preventive use of Category III antibiotics:

## Have your say!

Chicken Farmers of Canada is seeking stakeholder input on the antimicrobial use (AMU) reduction strategy to conduct a re-assessment of the goal to eliminate the preventive use of Category III antibiotics by the end of 2020. Effectively, the sole antibiotic impacted is Bacitracin.

The Board of Directors will be considering this re-assessment in December 2019.

To help gather input from stakeholders, a survey was conducted in June – thank you to all those who provided input at that time. The survey provided valuable information to Chicken Farmers of Canada as the impacts of and opportunities of eliminating the preventive use of Category III antibiotics are considered.

Given that the elimination of preventive Category II use only recently occurred, Chicken Farmers of Canada wants to provide the opportunity to hear about the impacts and to understand if there have been changes since the 1<sup>st</sup> survey was done in June.

THE STRATEGY HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE A SUSTAINABLE MEANS OF MEETING CONSUMER EXPECTATIONS, WHILE PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF BIRDS, AND PRESERVING EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OPTIONS.

The objective of the second survey is to:

- » validate the first survey results, providing as much info to Chicken Farmers of Canada Directors as possible
- » allow stakeholders to provide any further experiences as to the impacts of the preventive Category II elimination
- » assess the level of preparedness for the elimination of the preventive use of Category III antibiotics by the end of 2020

Feedback on this questionnaire is being requested from all stakeholders in the Canadian chicken production value-chain. This second survey will be open to all stakeholders, whether they completed the first survey or not.

The survey will be open from October 4<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> and can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/FallCategoryIII> or by clicking on this [link](#). The survey can be completed via computer, tablet or phone.

Please forward this reassessment questionnaire to others that would have an interest in providing input.

### BACKGROUND – AMU REDUCTION STRATEGY

Chicken Farmers of Canada's antimicrobial use (AMU) reduction strategy is a step-wise approach to eliminate the preventive use of antimicrobials of human importance (Category I-III). The strategy has been developed to provide a sustainable means of meeting consumer expectations, while protecting the health and welfare of birds, and preserving effective treatment options.

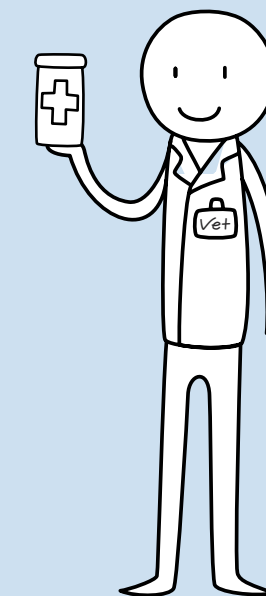
#### Reduction Timelines:

- Step 1:** Elimination of the preventive use of Category I antibiotics in May 2014
- Step 2:** Elimination of the preventive use of Category II antibiotics at the end of 2018
- Step 3:** Goal to eliminate the preventive use of Category III antibiotics by the end of 2020

The AMU reduction strategy only focusses on preventive use of Category I, II, and III antibiotics. This is not a "Raised Without the use of Antibiotics" strategy and continues to allow:

- » The use of antibiotics for treatment of clinical or subclinical infectious diseases identified in a flock of birds
- » The preventive use of ionophores (Category IV antibiotics)

Category III	Importance to humans
	Medium



### THE USE OF CHEMICAL COCCIDIOSTATS

For more information on the AMU strategy, please visit: <https://www.chickenfarmers.ca/antimicrobial-strategy/>.

### CATEGORIZATION OF ANTIBIOTICS

Antibiotics are ranked (Categories I-IV) by Health Canada based on their importance to human medicine. The following table provides the classification of antibiotics:

CATEGORY	DRUG FAMILY	BRAND NAME
<b>I - Very High Importance (Essential for serious human infections with limited or no alternatives available)</b>		
	Ceftiofur	Excenel (extra-label)
	Enrofloxacin	Baytril (extra-label)
<b>II - High Importance (Essential for treating serious human infections and few alternatives available)</b>		
	Virginiamycin	Stafac, Virginiamycin
	Penicillins	Paracillin SP, Pot-Pen, Penicillin G Potassium, Pen-P, Penicillin G Procaine, Vibiomed Booster, Medivit, Super Booster
	Tylosin	Tylan
	Gentamycin	Gentocin
	Lincosamides	Lincomix, Lincomycin, Linco-Spectin, L-S soluble powder
	Trimethoprim-Sulfadiazole	Uniprim (extra-label)
<b>III - Medium Importance (Important for treating human infections and alternatives are generally available)</b>		
	Bacitracin	BMD, Albac, Zinc Bacitracin
	Sulphonamides	Sulfa, Sodium Sulfamethazine, Sulphaquinoxaline, Quinoxine S
	Apramycin	Apralan (extra-label)
	Spectinomycin	Spectam (extra-label)
	Tetracyclines	Aureomycin, Oxy, Oxysol, Oxytetracycline, Terramycin, Onycin, Neo-Tetramed, Tetra, Tetracycline
	Neomycin (Sulfate, Oxytetracycline, Tetracycline)	Neomix, Neomycin, Neomed, Neo Oxymed, Neotet, Neox, Neo-Chlor, Neo-Tetramed
<b>IV - Low Importance (Not used in human medicine)</b>		
	Bambermycin	Flavomycin
	Ionophores	Rumensin, Monensin, Coban, Monteban, Maxiban, Aviax, Salinomycin Premix, Sacox, Bio-Cox, Coxistac, Posistac, Cygro, Bovatec, Avatec
<b>Uncategorized</b>		
	Avilamycin	Surmax

Chemical coccidiostats are not defined as antibiotics. These products include: Nicarb, Robenz, Amprol, Zoamix, Coyden, Stenerol, Clinicox, and Deccox.



# Hill Watch

## Farm Visits Across the Country

As part of Chicken Farmers of Canada's 2019 election strategy, farmers across the country have been inviting incumbent MPs and candidates to visit their farms in order to highlight the importance of chicken farming to Canadians. Farmers have stressed that supply management should be highlighted in each of the parties' platforms, the import control issues, and the Raised by a Canadian Farmer Animal Care and On-Farm Food Safety programs.

### CHICKEN FARMERS OF CANADA'S ELECTION STRATEGY


Now that the writ has dropped, and the 2019 Federal Election is well underway, party leaders are spreading out across Canada to sell voters on why he or she should be the next Prime Minister. Since agriculture makes such a significant contribution to the Canadian economy, and every voter eats, Chicken Farmers of Canada has implemented a federal election strategy to get farmers involved. Farmers are encouraged to engage with candidates in person or on social media, attend debates, and invite them to visit a chicken farm. The goal is for farmers to get talking about the importance of supply management to their livelihoods and their communities, how the chicken they raise is safe, nutritious, and raised to the highest standards of care, and get parties to commit to support for the poultry and egg farmers affected by recent trade deals.

Farmers can visit our website at [www.chickenfarmers.ca/election-2019](http://www.chickenfarmers.ca/election-2019) for more information on how to get involved in this year's election. Ask your provincial board for the password to the site where you'll find many more resources to help you get involved, including: suggested tweets, sample correspondence, and informational handouts to provide to candidates at your door. The most recent handout for candidates is included below. We've also provided your provincial boards with "Support Supply Management" political lawn sign toppers to put in your window or staple to the top of a lawn sign. Get em' while they're hot and show your support for supply management!

### PRODUCING PROSPERITY IN CANADA CAMPAIGN

If you are looking for more ways to learn about what the different political parties are saying about agriculture, check out



the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's "National Agriculture Leaders' Debate" that took place on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The debate is part of the CFA's ongoing Producing Prosperity in Canada campaign. The campaign is a non-partisan initiative leading up to this year's federal election and promotes Canadian agriculture as a significant economic engine in Canada, a champion of food security, and as an innovative contributor to national environmental stewardship. For more information on the campaign, please visit <https://producingprosperitycanada.ca/> 



Top: Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and MP Sean Fraser visit Steven and Brian Eadie's farm in Antigonish, Nova Scotia

Left: Conservative MP Earl Dreeshen learns about how the barn keeps chicken safe and comfortable at Christian Guenter's farm in Red Deer, Alberta

Bottom: Liberal MP Steven MacKinnon stops by Ferme aux Saveurs des Monts Inc. in Val-des-Monts, Quebec



# The Young Farmers Program 2020-2021 Application is here!

The 2020-2021 Chicken Farmers of Canada Young Farmer's Program application process has been launched!

Each year, five young farmers will be selected to partake in the 18-month program, where they will gain valuable experience to help bolster their entry into the chicken industry and reinforce the timeless values that are the backbone of rural Canada. The Program will give young farmers the tools and training to continue growing their involvement in the industry, with the long-term goal of having them play a larger role in promoting and advocating for chicken farming in Canada.

The program is an 18-month commitment with interactive meetings, training and events, such as attending the Canadian Young Farmers Forum, networking and communications training, Chicken Farmers of Canada Board Meetings and much more!

Interested in applying? The ideal candidates:

- » Should have some experience with community involvement
  - » Must demonstrate a willingness to learn and participate fully
  - » Must have, or be willing to develop, a social media presence
  - » Each participant will be required to agree to and sign various forms, such as a Code of Conduct and Confidentiality Undertaking, similar to the one signed by members of the Chicken Farmers of Canada Board. **CF**
- » Should be between the ages of 18-40 (highly recommended, but not required)
- » Must be in good standing with their Provincial Board and be in compliance with all orders, regulations and rules of the Provincial Board and of Chicken Farmers of Canada



For more information about the Young Farmers Program or to apply to the program, visit [www.chickenfarmers.ca/young-farmers-program/](http://www.chickenfarmers.ca/young-farmers-program/). You can also contact your Provincial Board for more information. Deadline to apply is November 1<sup>st</sup>.