



THE CHICKEN FARMER

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Canadian Chicken Industry Further Reducing Antimicrobial Use

Second Phase of Antimicrobial Use Strategy Announced

Media release issued July 18, 2017 — Following the successful elimination of Category I antibiotics for disease prevention in Canadian chicken production, Chicken Farmers of Canada has established timelines to further its strategy to eliminate the preventive use of antimicrobials of human importance.

The antimicrobial use (AMU) strategy eliminates the preventive use of Category II antimicrobials by the end of 2018, and sets a goal to eliminate the preventive use of Category III antibiotics by the end of 2020.



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Chicken Farmers of Canada's policy will maintain the use of ionophores (those antimicrobials not used in human medicine) along with antibiotics for therapeutic purposes to maintain the health and welfare of birds.

"Chicken Farmers of Canada has been a leader in antimicrobial stewardship, and this strategy provides continued confidence to consumers, customers, and to governments," said Benoît Fontaine, Chair of Chicken Farmers of Canada. "This strategy provides a sustainable means of meeting consumer expectations, while maintaining the ability for farmers to protect the health and wellbeing of their birds."

Consumers can be assured that Canadian chicken is free of antibiotic residues, and has been for decades. Canada has strict regulations with respect to antibiotic use and withdrawal times to ensure that chicken reaching the marketplace does not contain residues, which is monitored by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

This decision builds on the objective of eliminating the preventative use of antibiotics of human importance, guided by a comprehensive strategy that involves reduction, surveillance, education, and research.

The AMU strategy is consistent with the Canadian government's Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance and Use. 

NAFTA: Stability for Chicken Producers on Both Sides of the Border

With the United States set to launch the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as early as August 16th, now is a good time to take stock of the impacts this 23-year-old trade agreement has had on the chicken trade between Canada and the United States.

Overwhelmingly, NAFTA has been a success for chicken businesses in Canada and the United States. Since its implementation, the growth in the trade of broiler meat between the two countries has outpaced the growth in trade of many other industries. From 1993, the year preceding NAFTA's implementation, to 2016, the value of U.S. chicken exports to Canada grew by 406 per cent while the total value of all U.S. goods exported to Canada has grown by 166 per cent.

The United States is Canada's number one origin of broiler meat imports. In 2016, 142 million kilograms of U.S. broiler meat were imported into Canada, accounting for 86.3 per cent of all broiler meat imports. In fact, since 2012, Canada has been the second largest destination for U.S. broiler meat after Mexico in terms of both volume and value. Additionally, when considered on a per capita basis, the value of Canadian imports of U.S. chicken are three times greater than the value of Mexico's U.S. chicken imports.

The U.S. has enjoyed a consistent positive balance in its poultry trade with Canada. Between 2012 and 2016, the American chicken trade surplus with Canada averaged around \$200 million CDN per year. While the benefits of NAFTA in the U.S.-Canada poultry trade are spread across the United States, they are greatest in Georgia; there, between 2012 and 2016, chicken exports to Canada generated on average \$182 million CDN annually. Arkansas, North Carolina and Mississippi follow behind, with respective annual averages of \$55 million, \$51 million, and \$46 million CDN in exports to Canada. Thanks to NAFTA, all of these exports have entered Canada duty free.

Through NAFTA, Canada provides stable and predictable access to the United States, something that is highly valued in the trade world. Our tariff

rate quota provides real market access to our American trade partners, and removes the risk of the erection of non-tariff barriers, as is a current practice in many other countries. For instance, unlike many other U.S. trade partners, Canada did not take advantage of the extensive 2015 avian influenza outbreak there to block exports. Such certainty has enabled the U.S. chicken sector to invest in significantly increasing its exports.

For Canada, the import predictability provided by the NAFTA regime has allowed our unique Canadian supply management system to thrive next door to the largest chicken producer in the world. By matching production levels to domestic requirements, the Canadian chicken sector does not generate surpluses that would then in turn be exported potentially, displacing U.S. production and creating disruption on the U.S. market. Instead, the Canadian sector can remain focused on satisfying its domestic market, most notably through the implementation of the rigorous production and animal care practices that Canadians want.

The renegotiation of NAFTA must do no harm to this balanced, fair, and mutually beneficial trade relationship. **CF**



IN 2016, 142 MILLION KILOGRAMS OF U.S. BROILER MEAT WERE IMPORTED INTO CANADA, ACCOUNTING FOR 86.3 PER CENT OF ALL BROILER MEAT IMPORTS.





Hill Watch

Conservative Leadership Race

For well over a year, the Conservative Party of Canada membership, media, and Canadians alike waited for the party to choose its new leader from a very large initial pool of thirteen candidates. On May 27th, after an impressive thirteen rounds of ballots, Regina-Qu'Appelle Saskatchewan MP, and former Speaker of the House of Commons, Andrew Scheer, emerged as the winner, with 50.95 per cent support. The runner up was Beauce Quebec MP, Maxime Bernier, with 49.05 per cent.

Chicken Farmers of Canada representatives were at the Conservative Leadership event, with a keen interest in who would be the next party leader, in addition to continuing to build relationships with Conservative MPs and members. We look forward to working with the new leader and his office, and reaffirming the party's strong support for supply management and the Canadian chicken sector.

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

For the fourth year in a row, Chicken Farmers of Canada, along with Egg Farmers of Canada, Turkey Farmers of Canada, and Canadian Hatching Egg Producers, sponsored this year's Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference and Trade Show, held in Ottawa from June 1–4.

FCM is the national voice of Canada's municipal governments – representing over 2,000 municipalities from coast to coast – and ensuring their interests are heard by the federal government. Members include Canada's largest cities, small urban and rural communities, and over 20 provincial and territorial municipal associations.

To highlight Canada's 150th birthday, the theme of this year's conference was "Shaping Canada's Future" and sessions featured how to tackle 21st century challenges like climate change, forging better relationships with Indigenous people, building hubs of innovation and sustainability, and ensuring diversity. Over 3,500 elected officials and public servants from all over Canada attended.

Delegates at the conference heard keynote speeches from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Conservative Finance Critic Gérard Deltell, and NDP leader Tom Mulcair. Many federal

Ministers and Members of Parliament attended breakout sessions and plenaries as well.

This year, the poultry and egg groups highlighted how our farmers have been feeding Canadians for generations, while raising awareness of the contribution supply management makes to both rural and urban communities. CFC staff, alongside Ontario Director Tim Klomp maker and farmers and staff from the other groups, served up delicious chicken, turkey, and egg treats throughout the weekend at our trade show booth. Once again, the poultry and egg booth proved to be one of the most frequented booths of the weekend.

On the Saturday afternoon, the SM4 group took a study tour group of 44 delegates to Joly Drouin et Filles, a turkey farm about an hour from downtown Ottawa. Marie-Pier Drouin and her father Jean-François welcomed delegates to their farm, gave a brief family history, and discussed why biosecurity is important before entering the barn. **CF**



Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Food Policy for Canada

As part of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food's mandate letter from the Prime Minister, the department has been tasked to "Develop a food policy that promotes healthy living and safe food by putting more healthy, high-quality food, produced by Canadian ranchers and farmers, on the tables of families across the country." A Food Policy for Canada will be the first-of-its-kind for the Government of Canada and will cover the entire food system, from farm-to-fork.

In developing a food policy, AAFC is consulting all Canadians and stakeholder groups that have an interest in health, food safety, nutrition, the environmental, indigenous practices, and food production. A Food Policy for Canada will set a long-term vision for the health, environmental, social, and economic goals related to food, while identifying actions that can be taken in the short term. The policy will also be a way to address issues related to the production, processing, distribution, and consumption of food.

AAFC hosted a day and a half Food Policy Summit on June 22 and 23 in order to bring together stakeholders and have a dynamic, thoughtful discussion on what should be encompassed in the new policy.


Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Jean-Claude Poissant, and on behalf of Minister of Health, Greg Fergus, Member of Parliament for Hull-Aylmer, were on hand on the first day of the Summit to welcome participants from across the country. Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister, Lawrence MacAulay, along with Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Yvonne Jones, and Adam Vaughan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development (Housing and Urban Affairs), spoke to participants this morning, on the second day of the Summit. The Minister and



Parliamentary Secretaries highlighted the importance of hearing from Canadians, including experts and key stakeholders, in developing a food policy.

Participants at the Summit included representatives from community organizations, academics, Indigenous groups, industry, stakeholders, and officials from all orders of government, who added their voices and contributed to discussions on a broad range of food-related challenges and opportunities in areas related to:

- » increasing access to affordable food
- » improving health and food safety
- » conserving our soil, water, and air
- » growing more high-quality food

The government wants to hear from Canadians about what is important to them when it comes to food opportunities and challenges. Engagement on the development of the policy will continue throughout the summer and fall. With over 22,000 Canadians having completed the online survey launched on May 29, the comment period has been extended to August 31, 2017, to allow even more Canadians to share their views on A Food Policy for Canada. For more information, please visit www.canada.ca/en/campaign/food-policy.html 

Need to Get Rid of Some Farm Waste? Cleanfarms Can Help

CleanFARMS Inc. is a national organization that partners with industry and farmers to develop and deliver agricultural waste stewardship programs across Canada. Their permanent programs include recycling agricultural plastic containers and empty pesticide bags as well as the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of obsolete pesticides and livestock medications.


The CleanFARMS recycling program boasts 1000 collection sites and has collected over 5 million small agricultural containers (<23L) across Canada. In 2016, CleanFARMS launched a non-deposit bulk container collection program across the Prairie Provinces, which resulted in an 80% recover rate and has more programs on the horizon including bale/silage wrap, twine and grain bag recycling.

The obsolete pesticide collection program was launched in 1998 and since then more than 2 million kilograms of pesticide waste has been collected and safely disposed of through high temperature incineration. In 2009, CleanFARMS partnered with the Canadian Animal Health Institute (CAHI) to launch a pilot program in Ontario, now known as the Obsolete Livestock Medication Collection Program. CleanFARMS and CAHI have since cemented their partnership and expanded the program to include collections right across the country. In 2016, CleanFARMS collected almost 20,000 kilograms of obsolete livestock medication, which was its largest collection to date. CleanFARMS and CAHI hope to increase the volume of collections as awareness about the program increases.

The obsolete pesticide and livestock medication collection programs are delivered in tandem and occur regionally in each province, every three years. This fall, collections will take place in the Southern Region of Saskatchewan, British Columbia's

Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island as well as province-wide in Quebec and Prince Edward Island.

To make pesticide and medication collections as convenient and hassle free as possible, CleanFARMS partners with local agricultural retailers and co-ops to establish its collection sites. The livestock medications program is funded by CAHI members and delivered at no cost to producers. It is important to note that at this time, sharps are not being collected as part of the obsolete livestock medication program, however, any livestock or equine medication with a DIN or PCP number will be accepted at collection sites.

For more information on the fall 2017 obsolete pesticide and medication collection dates and sites in your area please refer to the links below and for more information on any of the programs mentioned above, visit <http://cleanfarms.ca/obsoletepesticidelivestock.html>. 

Quebec (Province Wide) – **September 19th to 29th**

British Columbia (Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island) – **October 3rd to 19th**

Saskatchewan (Southern Region) – **October 23rd to 27th**

PEI (Province Wide) – **November 6th**



Life Cycle Assessment of Canadian Chicken

Chicken Farmers of Canada (CFC) is conducting a life cycle assessment (LCA) of the Canadian chicken industry. This includes collecting data from industry stakeholders and farmers in each province. A life cycle assessment is a way to assess the impacts and efficiencies associated with all stages of bringing a product to market – chicken, in this case.

We invite you to take part in this important study for our industry. It will help us promote chicken farming and the chicken industry to Canadians.

Why is this being done and what will be the benefits?

- » To maintain public trust, sustainability is very important. We know chicken production has a low environmental impact and many great programs to address social concerns – we need good Canadian data to promote you!
- » The study will also provide information to develop industry education tools based on areas for improvement
- » Interested participants will receive a personalized sustainability scorecard

AGECO, a firm specialized in social responsibility in the agrifood sector, has been contracted by CFC to conduct the study. All responses are strictly confidential. Only consolidated data – provincial and national – will be reported to CFC by AGECO. Individual farms will never be identified because there is no identifying info required in the survey. Questions on quantitative data (i.e. feed conversion, mortality and live weight) will only be used to help calculate the environmental life cycle assessment and will not be reported on individually.

The study will include both an environmental and social life cycle assessment.

- » Environmental: energy, water, land use etc.
- » Social: animal health, food safety, worker well-being etc.
- » It will also compare Canadian chicken with other protein sources, and include a historical comparison to demonstrate our improvements and efficiencies over time.

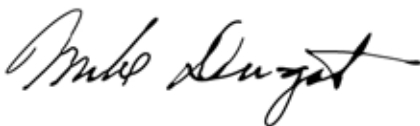
What do we need from farmers?

- » Farmer surveys are needed to complete the study:
 - The survey is mainly yes-no, or checklist-type questions
 - It will only take approximately 20 minutes to complete
 - Please click here to fill in the survey before August 4th, 2017

The more surveys we can get completed, the better the study results! As thanks for your time, every survey respondent can be entered into a prize draw for a \$500 Visa gift card (12 available in total)!

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact CFC at lca@chicken.ca.

Thank you for your valuable input.



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Devices and Tools for Ammonia Monitoring

Using monitoring tools to measure ammonia in the barns is now part of the Animal Care Program. The following provides info on different devices available and companies that supply them. There are likely other suppliers or devices; this just provides some examples to start from.



Ammonia test paper: This is the least expensive and simplest way of measuring ammonia

- » Small strip of paper is moistened with distilled water and exposed to the air for 15 sec
- » Accurate compared to gas tubes, but not precise. The colour changes are associated with 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 ppm
- » Useful for indicating if ammonia is getting out of range (20 ppm), but not useful for determining the precise level of ammonia in the barn
- » Each roll can take over 75 measurements

Approximate cost: \$130 for a 10-pack of 15-foot rolls or less than \$0.17 per measurement

- » Available to order by phone from Fisher Scientific, 1-800-234-7437, catalogue number FSSP9702692
- » Available online from Micro Essential Lab on [amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca): Micro Essential Lab AM-40 Hydrion Ammonia Meter Test Paper Roll, 0 to 100ppm Range, 15' Length
- » Search online for ways to make distilled water at home, or it can be found in the bottled water section of most grocery stores

Short duration detection tubes: Utilizes a pump and a glass tube to measure ammonia levels

- » Ends of the glass tube are broken off and it is placed into a small piston pump
- » Chemicals in the tube react with ammonia in the air to change the colour along the length of the tube
- » Accuracy can vary due to the difficulty in determining exactly where along the tube the colour changes
- » Can purchase tubes to measure other gases as well such as carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide

Approximate cost: \$52 for box of 10 tubes, \$275 for the pump

- » Available from Cole-Parmer, 1-800-363-5900, www.coleparmer.ca
 - RAE Systems gas detection tubes for ammonia, 5 – 100 ppm (item RK-86260-51)
 - RAE systems manual gas detection pump (item RK-86260-00)

Passive dosimeter tubes: Can measure average ammonia concentration over a period of time

- » As with the short duration tubes, the colour changes along the length of the glass tube when exposed to ammonia in the air. Accuracy can vary due to difficulty in determining exactly where the colour change is
- » Takes an average measurement over a period of time, up to 10 hours
- » Does not require the use of a pump
- » Can provide a more representative measurement, as ammonia concentration may change from minute to minute depending on ventilation and fans

Approximate cost: \$54 for 10, single-use tubes.

- » Available from Levitt Safety, 1-888-453-8488, www.store.levitt-safety.com
 - Gastec dositube for ammonia, 2.5-1,000 ppm (part number IG3D)

Portable gas detection monitors: Can detect up to 6 gases simultaneously from a portable unit

- » Benefits include the ability for datalogging and continuous operation for up to 18 hours
- » Requires calibration which can be done with a kit or by sending the unit in for service (calibration interval depends on the specific device and frequency of use)

Approximate cost: \$3,500 (may be more or less depending on the specific gases it is configured to measure)

- » Available from Argus-Hazco, 1-800-361-3201, www.argus-hazco.com
 - RKI Instruments Eagle 2 one to six gas monitor
 - o 0-75 ppm ammonia, 0-10,000 ppm carbon dioxide
 - RAE Systems MultiRAE wireless portable 6 gas monitor
 - o 0-100 ppm ammonia, 0-50,000 ppm carbon dioxide
- » Available from Cole-Parmer, 1-800-363-5900, www.coleparmer.ca
 - BW Technologies 5 multigas detector
 - o 0-100 ppm ammonia, 0-50,000 ppm carbon dioxide

Fixed gas detection monitors: Installed in the barn to detect multiple gases

- » As with portable monitors, they are capable of data logging and continuous operation
- » Calibration is recommended every 3 to 6 months

Approximate cost: \$1,600 (cost can vary if multiple gases are required)

- » Available from Argus-Hazco, 1-800-361-3201, www.argus-hazco.com
 - RKI Instruments M2A (sensor and transmitter in one)
 - o 0-75 ppm ammonia, 0-5,000 ppm carbon dioxide **CF**

