

CANADIAN *Chicken industry* REDUCES *antimicrobial use*

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 by the end of 2018

Step 3

Goal to eliminate the preventive use of Category III antibiotics by the end of 2020

Following the successful elimination of Category I antibiotics for disease prevention in Canadian chicken production in May 2014, Chicken Farmers of Canada (CFC) has established timelines to further its strategy to eliminate the preventive use of antimicrobials of human importance.

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

The objectives and approach of CFC's strategy works in collaboration with the Canadian government's Pan-Canadian

Framework on Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Use.

CFC's policy will maintain the use of ionophores (those antimicrobials not used in human medicine) along with the use of antibiotics for therapeutic purposes to treat disease.

The key guiding elements of the reduction strategy include surveillance, stewardship, and research. CFC will continue collaborating on industry and government surveillance programs to monitor antibiotic use and the impacts of the reduction strategy, while CFC will invest in research to provide innovative solutions. Stewardship of antibiotic use will be promoted by reviewing best

management practices, by increasing the availability of feed additives, and by focusing on quality throughout the stakeholder chain.

This strategy provides a sustainable means of meeting consumer expectations, protecting the health and welfare of birds, and preserving effective treatment options.

As always, consumers can be assured that Canadian chicken is free of antibiotic residues. 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.

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