AAAP ENTERIC DISEASE COMMITTEE
1999 SURVEY

Chair: Steven Clark

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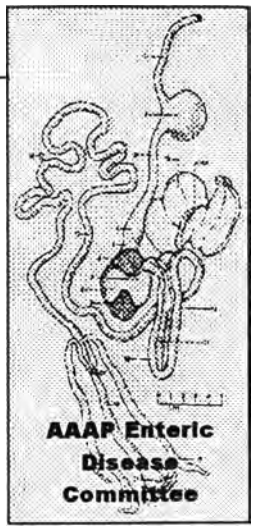

June 15, 1999

Dr. Bob Eckroade
Univ of PA, New Bolton Ctr
AAAP
382 W Street Rd
Kennett Square PA 19348

Dear Dr. Eckroade,

As chairman of the AAAP ENTERIC DISEASE COMMITTEE, I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the 1999 Survey Report. This will also be given to the AAAP Board at the annual meeting in July. I appreciate those that made comments and suggestions.

A total of 124 questionnaires were distributed to all AAAP Enteric Disease Committee members and to select US/Canada poultry industry field veterinarians. A total of 62 (50%) individuals responded to the survey. Not all of the questionnaires were filled out in its entirety. Of 61 responding, 4 (7%) were employed in academia, 3 (5%) in diagnostic laboratory, 7 (11%) in allied industry, 41 (66%) as field veterinarians and 6 (10%) as "other". Of the 41 field veterinarians, 17 (41%) work with broilers, 19 (46%) with turkeys, 4 (10%) with both broilers and turkeys, and 1 (2%) with broilers/turkeys/layers. Of the 79 species-surveys returned, 35 (48%) were for broilers, 35 (48%) were for turkeys, 6 (8%) were for layers, and 3 (4%) were for "other" (ratites, etc.). Forty-eight (76%) said they are involved with food safety issues. Campylobacter, listeria and salmonella were all equally ranked in regards to their relative importance to food safety. This reflects a summary of all responses for questions # 1-6.

Questions # 7-16 (the remainder of the survey) were more species-related. The majority of the incomplete responses came from this section and from "non-field veterinarian" responders. Considering the responses, we will give a brief summary (Table 1-4) of field veterinarian responses for broilers (n = 22) and turkeys (n = 24) only. The majority of field veterinarians use (or recommend the use) of competitive exclusion products, antibiotics via the drinking water (mostly neomycin) and growth promoters (mostly bacitracin) in the feed for enteritis (Table 1). For all field veterinarians, cost per unit of production (Table 2) and performance (Table 3) were of most importance. In broilers, coccidiosis was the most important enteric disease issue (Table 4). For turkey field veterinarian responses, ranking enteric disease was spread evenly among many causes, including coccidiosis, protozoa, worms, HE, coronavirus, salmonella, viral, PEMS and feed passage (Table 4).

I hope this summary is sufficient and that you have found this information informative. If you have any comments or need further details of the survey results, please contact me. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Enteric Disease Committee or in possibly administering a survey next year (I am still not sure if we need to do this annually or not), please contact me. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Steven Clark, DVM, Diplomate ACPV
Senior Manager of Technical Services
Roche Animal Nutrition and Health

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Table 1. Summary of broiler (n = 22) and turkey (n = 24) field veterinarian survey responses. Indicates the use of a product to treat, prevent and/or control enteritis.

	Broiler		Turkey	
Product	n=	%	n=	%
Use or recommend the use of competitive exclusion (CE).	13	59%	17	71%
Use or recommend the use of prebiotics.	2	9%	5	21%
Antibiotics.	21	95%	24	100%
Growth promoters.	18	82%	16	67%
Vaccines.	5	23%	19	79%
Bacitracin in water.	16	73%	9	38%
Neomycin in water.	13	59%	20	83%
Lincomycin in water.	7	32%	11	46%
Chlortetracycline in feed.	4	18%	5	21%
Chlortetracycline in water.	4	18%	6	25%
Oxytetracycline in feed.	5	23%	3	13%
Oxytetracycline in water.	4	18%	7	29%
Tetracycline in feed.	1	5%	0	0%
Tetracycline in water.	1	5%	4	17%
Bacitracin in feed.	21	95%	15	63%
Bambermycins in feed.	13	59%	4	17%
Lincomycin in feed.	11	50%	1	4%
Nitrasone in feed.	2	9%	4	17%
Roxarsone (3-Nitro) in water.	6	27%	8	33%
Roxarsone (4-Nitro) in feed.	16	73%	1	4%
Virginiamycin in feed.	18	82%	10	42%
Coronavirus vaccine in turkeys.	n/a		0	0%
HE vaccine in turkeys.	n/a		20	83%
Enterovirus vaccine.	0	0%	0	0%
Reovirus vaccine.	6	27%	2	8%
Supplemental vitamins in feed.	6	27%	4	17%
Supplemental vitamins in water.	9	41%	12	50%
CE or prebiotic.	7	32%	10	42%
Diet (i.e., formulation) change.	6	27%	7	29%

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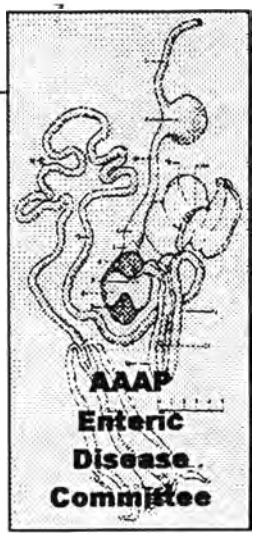

Table 2. Summary of broiler (n = 22) and turkey (n = 24) field veterinarian survey responses. Average ranking score (1 = most important, to 13 = least important) in order of importance for business.

	Broiler	Turkey
Ammonia	8.1	7.2
Carcass yield	4.0	4.8
Coccidiosis	5.7	6.8
Feed conversion	2.9	2.8
Cost per unit of production (meat, eggs, etc.)	1.3	1.2
Enteric diseases	7.1	4.9
Helminthic diseases	11.0	8.5
Methane	12.1	11.5
Nitrogen	11.3	10.7
Phosphate	9.8	10.1
Reproduction	7.2	6.8
Respiratory disease	5.2	4.3
Visual appearance (of final product)	5.6	6.5

Table 3. Summary of broiler (n = 22) and turkey (n = 24) field veterinarian survey responses. Average ranking score (1 = most important, to 6 = least important) in order of importance for business.

	Broiler	Turkey
Environment	5.7	4.7
Enteric disease	5.1	4.0
Food quality	3.3	4.0
Food safety	2.8	3.3
Performance	2.1	1.6
Prevention	3.7	3.0
Respiratory disease	4.7	4.3
Therapy	7.1	6.1

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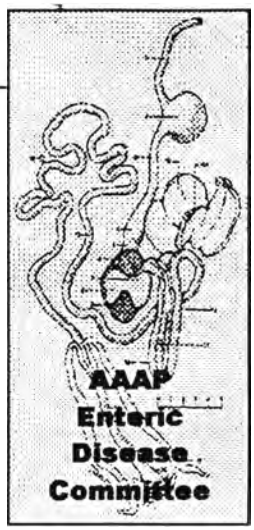

Table 4. Summary of broiler (n = 22) and turkey (n = 24) field veterinarian survey responses. Average ranking score (1 = not important; 2 = mild; 3 = moderate; 4 = severe importance; n/a = not applicable) for enteric disease issues.

	Broiler	Turkey
Coccidiosis	3.4	2.2
Protozoa (ie, trichamonas, cochlosoma)	1.4	2.3
Tape worms	1.5	1.2
Round worms	1.7	2.4
Cryptosporidiosis (enteric)	1.4	1.5
Hemorrhagic enteritis (HE, turkeys)	n/a	2.3
Clostridia	2.9	1.8
Coronaviral enteritis (TCV, turkey)	n/a	2.4
Campylobacter	2.8	1.7
Salmonella	2.9	2.5
Viral enteritis of unknown etiology	2.3	2.5
PEMS (turkeys)	n/a	2.3
Feed passage	2.8	2.2
other	4 (n = 2)	2.5 (n = 7)