



AgroLogic

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Coventry Chemicals

Diamond V

Dupont/Danisco

Honeywell

Hubbard

Innovad

Interheat

Jansen

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Perstorp

R2 Agro

Special Nutrients

Wisium

Introduction to vaccines

The use of avian influenza vaccines can be an effective option in a comprehensive control programme, providing that the programme also has:

- Biosecurity
- Education
- Diagnosis and surveillance
- Elimination of any poultry infected by avian influenza

History

At the turn of the last century, an important observation was made. Chickens that were infected by HPAI H7 survived an outbreak and then, when they were subsequently re-exposed to the disease, they remained healthy.

Early attempts to produce vaccines were unsuccessful because they either did not produce antibodies or induced clinical disease.

The development of vaccines to protect against LPAI started seriously in the 1960s due to the economic need for them. The occurrence of severe losses in Minnesotan turkey breeders in 1978 resulted in the first official USDA 'licence' for an inactivated influenza vaccine. This vaccine was first used in 1979 in Minnesota. This vaccine was primarily for turkey breeders which required two doses 4-6 weeks apart.

In 1980 polyvalent vaccines based on H5N2, H6N2 and H10N2 and Newcastle disease were used in Italy.

In the USA conditional licensing was allowed for non-H5/H7 vaccines in 1985 but these vaccines required government approval for their distribution and use.