

NECROTIC ENTERITIS & CALIBRIN-Z IN BROILER CHICKENS

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Progress. It's what happens when we discover new solutions for obstacles which prevent achievement of our goals or movement towards a higher state. Antibiotic use has come under intense scrutiny in recent years, and finding ways to alleviate some of the pressure caused by disease and toxins, while continuing to serve the needs of the industry, is essential. Products such as Calibrin-Z have proven to be very effective in controlling toxins originating from various mycotoxins. But can they exert their efficacy against toxins produced by disease causing organisms? Scientists at Amlan International have been making progress in that regard.



Necrotic enteritis is a disease that affects mainly poultry, especially broiler chickens (2-5 weeks old) and turkeys (7-12 weeks old). Toxins produced by the bacterium can damage the intestines and liver. *Clostridium perfringens*

exists naturally in the gut of healthy birds. However, numerous things including high protein diets, certain feed ingredients, high viscosity diets and intestinal damage from coccidiosis can cause a rapid increase in the *Clostridium perfringens* population resulting in an increase in toxin production and therefore, necrotic enteritis. Obviously it is an important disease from both a welfare and economic perspective, and while some aspects of the condition are well understood, much remains to be learned.

It is particularly important to take a multifactorial approach to the prevention of necrotic enteritis. Calibrin-Z is a unique toxin binder. It is broad-spectrum, fast-acting and binds toxins before they can exert their devastating effects. It also has a beneficial effect on toxins produced by necrotic enteritis. Calibrin-Z has proven itself to be very effective, supporting weight gain, feed conversion rates and reducing the tissue damage from necrotic enteritis. Including a product such as Calibrin-Z as part of any broiler program simply makes good sense. Now that's progress.



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BY DR. LEANN JOHNSTON

Diseases caused by bacteria like clostridium perfringens can result in substantial losses per flock. For example, estimates in the United States for clinical and subclinical diseases can have billions of dollars in losses annually. While precise cost measurements are unknown, the estimate is reasonable given the cost of treatment and performance loss.



Necrotic enteritis is a severe type of clostridial disease usually characterized by a sudden increase in mortality. Birds may also simply appear depressed, with ruffled feathers and diarrhea. Subclinical infections are often indicated by poorer feed conversion ratios along with detection of gross necrotic lesions in the mucosa of the small intestine.

Necrotic enteritis is an economically important disease, with mortality rates running as high as 1% per day with total mortalities reaching 30% to 50%. There has been an increase in occurrences in countries that have banned antibiotics used as growth promoters. Birds that are fed antibiotics may see an increase in mortality from necrotic enteritis during the withdrawal period.

Poultry producers must consider many factors when determining the most beneficial products for their facilities. Amlan International develops natural gut health products for livestock that combat diseases like necrotic enteritis. As consumers continue to voice their concerns over the use of antibiotics in poultry production, producers have become more aware and committed to the use of natural alternatives that provide protection and optimal growth. When used as part of a complete feeding program,

Calibrin[®]-Z
broad spectrum toxin binder

Calibrin[®]-Z broad spectrum toxin binder helps you achieve peak operational performance by fighting diseases like necrotic enteritis.

Calibrin-Z is sold outside the United States and Canada.



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