



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# HOW TO REDUCE THE USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN POULTRY PRODUCTION



**Prudent use of antibiotics** – Use antibiotics only to treat sick birds that have been diagnosed and their contacts, and better administered in water than feed. Do not use antibiotics preventively or for growth promotion.

**Keep a high level of biosecurity** – Restrict visitors, make sure they change clothes and boots and wash their hands. Clean and disinfect vehicles before they enter the farm. Control access to vermin, pets and wild animals that may transmit diseases. Practice “all-in/all-out.”



**Perform timely vaccination** – Use good vaccines that are quality-assured. Store, handle and apply them as instructed by the manufacturer.

**Inspect daily** – Inspect your poultry’s health and behaviour daily to detect changes promptly, whether sudden or gradual. During these inspections, remove and dispose of any dead birds.



**Provide a comfortable environment** – Follow recommendations regarding ventilation, feeding and drinking spaces, light and stocking density, and other conditions.

**Use special feed additives** – Prebiotics, probiotics, essential oils, organic acids and insoluble fibre may be beneficial. They promote useful bacteria in the gut, have antibacterial properties and keep intestines healthy.



**Prepare your farm** – Clean and disinfect your poultry house and equipment using detergents and/or hot water to remove organic material, followed by disinfection. Ensure appropriate downtime after each production cycle.

**Stock with healthy chicks** – Restock your flock from reliable sources. Parent source flocks should be vaccinated and free from diseases.

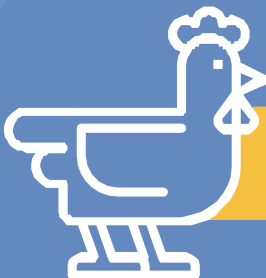


**Ensure a good start for your chicks** – After the arrival of the chicks to the farm, provide immediate access to feed and water. Make sure you meet all their nutritional and physiological requirements.

**Use high-quality water** – Ensure available water is of good hygienic quality. Clean and sanitize water systems often. Flush drinking lines weekly.



**Pay special attention to feeding** – Feed must be of proper hygienic quality and contain sufficient energy and minerals in an adequate balance. Store feed correctly. Plant-based diets are recommended.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO USE  
ANTIBIOTICS EFFECTIVELY AND RESPONSIBLY IN  
POULTRY PRODUCTION PLEASE SCAN ME



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