



poultry focus

business news for the poultry industry



POULTRY VACCINATION TRAINING SCHOOL FINE TUNE YOUR VACCINATION TECHNIQUE TO IMPROVE EFFICACY AND SAVE MONEY



Selection From Intervet's Live Vaccine Range

This is the offer we at Intervet are making to poultry producers across the country this autumn by launching a series of vaccination training school days.

The main objective of the novel scheme is to help you improve the effectiveness of poultry vaccination programmes. The meetings start in September and take place at our Milton Keynes offices, and are open to anyone wanting to brush up on the skills needed to successfully and effectively administer poultry vaccines.

Intervet already offers on-farm training and vaccination auditing to the UK's larger poultry units, and will continue to do so. Howard Birley, manager of Intervet's poultry business unit, says the reason for running the additional training courses is to offer the same service to all producers, irrespective of size.

Each of the training days will be made up of a number of educational presentations from Intervet technical staff on the most up-to-date methods for storing, handling, administering and monitoring the effectiveness of both live

to three. They also suggested adding a blue dye to the vaccine solution, so that we could see the vaccine at the drink nipples and in the birds, as they end up with blue tongues. If we have fewer than 95 birds out of 100 with blue tongues, we know that vaccination hasn't been done properly," he explains.

As chlorine affects the livability of the vaccine, Mr Bourns was advised to add skim milk powder to help to neutralise its effects, (Intervet now recommend Vac-Safe tablets to neutralise chlorine and at the same time stain the birds tongue blue).

Relatively simple measures can have a dramatic effect on the effectiveness of a vaccination programme. It is very easy to assume that what you have been doing for years is correct, and it is only when you use the services of a company like Intervet that you realise there you can improve, and potentially save a lot of money in the process, he adds.



Pullet Showing Blue Stained Tongue



Vac-safe Neutralises The Effect Of Chlorine In Drinking Water

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and inactivated vaccines. These presentations will be supplemented with sessions from independent specialist poultry vets, who will explain the benefits of vaccinating and demonstrate what can happen when things go wrong.



Administration Of Inactivated Vaccine

There will be training day every two months from September 2007. Each day will be dedicated to either live (e.g. spray or drinking water administration) or inactivated (e.g. injected) vaccines. There are places for up to 25 people on each of the courses, which will run from 10am – 4pm in Intervet’s state-of-the-art lecture theatre facility. Lunch and refreshments, a full set of course notes and a certificate of attendance will all be included in the £50 per person fee, or at a discounted price of £45 if bookings are made online via www.intervet-cpd.co.uk.

All proceeds from the training days will be donated to the British Chicken Marketing Association and the BEIC. For further information and to request for a registration form to book a place, please contact Intervet on 01908 685249 or email: poultry.uk@intervet.com.

Vaccination Training School Dates:

Date	Poultry vet	Live or inactivated vaccines
5th September	Grant Hayes, MRCVS - Slate Hall Veterinary Practice	Live
7th November	Steve Lister, MRCVS - Crowshall Veterinary Services	Live
16th January	Keith Gooderham, MRCVS - Independant Poultry Consultation	Live
19th March	Paul McMullin, MRCVS - Poultry Health Services	Inactivated
21st May	TBA	Live
16th July	TBA	Live
17th September	TBA	Live
19th November	TBA	Inactivated

CHARLES BOURNS TRAINING/AUDIT TESTIMONIAL

Getting a fresh pair of eyes from Intervet to look at his vaccination protocol has helped save Charles Bourns almost £20,000 a year in drug costs. The NFU poultry board chairman, who rears up to 400,000 broilers a year at his farm in the Cotswolds, says that while it’s always nice to find out what you are doing well – it’s invaluable to discover areas for improvement.

“Having Intervet look critically at what we were doing was definitely worth it. I thought we were doing everything correctly, but it turned out we weren’t. Intervet went through the entire process with us and suggested areas for improvement. The results from improved vaccination were clear,” he says.

“When we weren’t vaccinating properly, we could easily lose 1.5% of our birds. Now we don’t lose any as they are all better protected against disease. I was spending £20,000/year on drugs, and since we started using our vaccines how they should be used, it’s dropped to around £500-£1000/year.”

Mr Bourns takes full responsibility for vaccinating birds against Gumboro as he is keen for it to be done properly. Although, he scored well on correct storage and handling of the live vaccine (Nobilis Gumboro 228E), his errors meant birds were either not getting enough protection, or none at all. In addition, the vaccine was being inactivated by an over-long pumping time and the chlorine content of the water used.

“We were taking four hours to pump all the vaccine through the drinking lines, which Intervet said was too long, so we reduced it



Charles Bourns



Birds Drinking From A Nipple Line Containing Blue Marker Dye