

40
5655
A761
m118
c. 2
No. 7

V. P. I. LIBRARY

EXTENSION DIVISION
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

AUG 11 1969

Guard

Against

Fowl Cholera

BACTERINS IN A CHOLERA CONTROL PROGRAM

Within the past few years, research workers at State and Federal laboratories, as well as biological companies, have been working with renewed effort to develop bacterins that are more effective in immunizing turkeys against cholera.

During the past 18 months, a new cholera serotype P1662 has been isolated in South Carolina, Virginia and other areas of the U. S. Up until this time, the standard cholera bacterins usually had two serotypes, P1054 and X73, and these seem to be the serotypes that were the most wide spread in turkey production areas. One manufacturer has already added P1662 to their fowl cholera bacterin and several other firms have indicated that they are adding the new serotype to their bacterin in the near future.

Reports from the field indicate that this bacterin may provide better protection against the disease than those used previously. However, there is no vaccine, bacterin or other medication presently available for use against any disease that produces 100% protection under any conditions. A preventive management control program is still essential even though a bacterin is used. The combination of the two is the most effective means of combating the disease.

In using any bacterin for immunizing against fowl cholera, keep the following facts in mind:

1. Use only a product that has been tested on turkeys and has given a high degree of protection on challenge tests.
2. Follow the directions of the manufacturer and use at least two doses of the vaccine at an interval recommended by the manufacturer.
3. Immunize the flock before it is exposed to the infection.
4. Vaccination after the flock becomes infected gives poor results.
5. In turkey breeder stock, immunize for the last time just before the onset of egg production. However, immunize replacement breeder stock at least 2 to 3 times during the growing period.

If an outbreak should occur when the flock is within 2 to 3 weeks of marketing every effort should be made to control the outbreak through medication and recommended management procedures.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. W. E. Skelton, Dean, Extension Division, Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

If it is going to be a longer period before the flock can be marketed, then the use of a vaccine may be considered.

Prepared by D. D. Moyer of the Department of Poultry Science and reviewed by members of the Department of Veterinary Science.

MP 7