

July 29, 2022

VIA EMAIL

BC Hatching Egg and Chicken Stakeholders

Dear Stakeholders,

RE: DRAFT VACCINATION POLICY CHANGE

Background

On September 7, 2021, the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission (the Commission) and the BC Chicken Marketing Board (BCCMB) began a work plan to standardize the vaccination programs and costs associated with all hatching egg producers. This project stemmed from the cost inequity between hatching egg producers and the lack of lateral progeny protection between chicken grower suppliers. The lack of a uniform vaccination program has resulted in higher costs across the supply chain, including inequitable vaccine costs for hatching egg producers, high mortality costs for chicken growers, chick claims at the hatcheries and potential product loss at processing plants.

Work Plan

The Commission hired Dr. Jane Pritchard, retired BC Chief Veterinarian Officer, to prepare a report based on individual interviews with hatchery veterinarians to establish what each group believed to be required to protect broiler breeder progeny. Progeny protection is paramount when assessing a vaccination policy change but the hatching egg producer should not be paying for individual company philosophies when it comes to vaccines.

In accordance with the Commission's work plan, Dr. Pritchard conducted the company veterinarian interviews and provided the Commission with a letter from the veterinarian group dated November 4, 2021, attached, confirming and supporting a standardized vaccine program. This vaccine program will cost \$1.57, since updated to \$1.61, per bird and be implemented in an upcoming period in conjunction with the Commission's Cost of Production model roll-in. The private veterinarian group has also provided, within November 4, 2021, a letter of vital information for stakeholders, especially hatching egg producers.

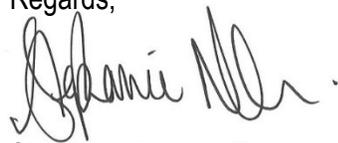
Next Steps

Phase 3 of the Commission's Work Plan, the update mechanism, requires a committee to oversee and verify the vaccination program on an ongoing basis to ensure it responds to the changing disease threats and new vaccine strategies with appropriate modifications. This technical committee will have

representatives from the private poultry veterinarians, a third-party chair, and a Commission staff member. The committee will establish its terms of reference, under the oversight of the two boards, which will include the importance of ongoing flock vaccine program monitoring. These reports will be forwarded to the two boards' Joint Committee for ongoing transparency within the pricing framework. Vaccines are one of many things the boards' Joint Committee will be reviewing on an ongoing basis. This committee will establish a process that manages costs and disease risk in a timely and equitable manner moving forward. The boards will also develop mechanisms for follow-up on titer scores and flock monitoring to support further the disease tools established by the Commission and the Egg Hatchery Association. The boards anticipate seeking advice from the veterinarian technical committee on these and other flock health matters.

Please review the attached package and submit your feedback, in writing, by April 19, 2022. To allow the Commission and the BCCMB to consider your input.

Regards,



Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Enclosure

cc: BC Hatching Egg Producers
BC Chicken Growers
BC Hatcheries
BC Egg Hatchery Association
BC Poultry Veterinarians
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers' Association
BC Chicken Growers Association
BCBHEC Pricing and Production Advisory Committee

BCBHEC Standardized Vaccination Program – DRAFT

Under the consolidated orders of the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission, the Hatching Egg Producers will be required to follow a standardized and uniform minimum vaccination program as laid out below.

Age of bird	Antigen	Comments
In-ovo to one week	Marek's Disease (Trivalent), Bronchitis, Salmonella, Infectious Laryngotracheitis, E. Coli, Coccidiosis	
2 to 4 weeks	Newcastle Disease, Bronchitis, Reovirus, Infectious Bursal Disease	
4 to 10 weeks	Newcastle Disease, Bronchitis, Reovirus, Infectious Bursal Disease Salmonella	
10 to 15 weeks	Newcastle Disease, Infectious Bronchitis, Reovirus, Infectious Bursal Disease, Salmonella, Infectious Laryngotracheitis, E. coli, Inclusion Body Hepatitis, Avian Encephalomyelitis, Chicken Anaemia Virus	
16 to 20 weeks	Newcastle Disease Bronchitis, Reovirus, Infectious Bursal Disease, Salmonella Enteritidis, Inclusion Body Hepatitis	
When required	Vaccines such as Fowl Cholera and Fowl Pox, must be administered when the risk level to the flock and the flock veterinarian indicate the need.	
The approximate median cost of the delivery of the vaccines on-farm is currently 1.55. Recommended to set it currently to 1.57. Note: Due to passage of time, recommended price now \$1.61.		

The selection of commercial product and the timing of vaccination deliveries may be modulated by each organization, but the number of applications is prescribed. A vaccination may only be applied outside of the manufacturers recommended age range, or the standards schedule, under the authority of the veterinarian overseeing the health program of the flock.

BCBHEC Standardized Vaccination Program – DRAFT

November 4, 2021

This letter is to confirm that the three veterinary groups representing the major hatcheries in British Columbia have reviewed and are supportive of the Broiler Breeder vaccination standard attached.

These veterinary groups also strongly recommend:

- adherence to a secure, reliable, and auditable cold chain for handling vaccinations,
- the use of trained designated vaccination crews for injected vaccinations.
- regular training of vaccination crews that is reviewed and overseen by qualified veterinarians
- oversight of producer administered drinking water vaccines by qualified veterinarians or vaccine supplier technical support with care and attention to the appropriate prepping and flushing of water lines.
- Regular use of the vaccine suppliers audit service to ensure accurate and appropriate practices are being followed when delivering the vaccines.
- Source vaccines from reliable and validated suppliers to ensure unintended diseases are not introduced with the vaccine delivery.

This is to ensure the reliable handling and administration of all vaccines that will result in optimal vaccination responses in the birds, and a reduced risk of accidental human injection with product, or disease introduction.

Vaccinations programs are a pillar in maintaining and improving the health of the BC Broiler Breeder and Broiler Flocks. Having an aligned vaccination program across the province will ensure a strong minimum standard of health.

Sofina

Carleton

Lilydale

Rosstown

Western Hatcheries

Canadian Poultry Consultants

Poultry Health Services

Fraser Valley Chick Sales