

Oral Application of Live Newcastle Decease Vaccine on day 14 and Gumboro Vaccine on day 18

To ensure broilers are kept in optimal health and production and to avoid large scale losses through death, vaccines prevent specific diseases by triggering the immune system of the birds to fight the disease through antibodies.

There are a number of diseases that broilers need to be vaccinated against of which Newcastle Disease (to vaccinate at all times) and Gumboro (to vaccinate only if already present in broiler house) are the most common.

To ensure effectiveness of the vaccine, the correct administration thereof is key, and the following important facts are to be noted:

- Never expose vaccines to direct sunlight.
- Store vaccines in fridge (not freezer) at temperatures of between 2 – 8 degrees.
- Transport vaccines in cooler box with an ice pack – wrap vaccine in paper to avoid direct contact between ice pack and vaccine.
- Use entire contents once opened and do not store for future use.
- Mild respiratory signs may be observed for 5 – 7 days after administration to fowls.
- Only healthy chickens should be vaccinated and it is advisable to provide stresspack two days leading up to and two days after vaccination.
- Birds need a minimum withdrawal period of 21 days between vaccination and slaughter.
- Remember number of doses is important rather than the dilution.

Step by step Instructions:

1. Wash drinkers.
2. To stimulate thirst, withhold water for 30 minutes to 1 hour before vaccination to ensure all birds drink.
3. Prepare non-chlorinated fresh cool water with 2g skim milk powder per liter of water or 2.5ml blue dyed water stabiliser per vaccine. The dye aids in assessing whether they all drank.
4. Open vaccine vial under the water and gently dissolve the tablet into amount of water that fowls will consume within 30 minute period i.e.

A basic guideline as to the amount of water to use is 1000 doses in as many liters as the age of the birds in days i.e. 14 liters for vaccination for 100 - 1000 birds at day 14, 28 liters for the vaccination of 1100 - 2000 birds at day 14 etc.

5. Distribute the final volume of vaccine water evenly among the clean waterers.
6. For less than 1000 birds, mix as above and discard water which was not consumed within the 30 minutes.
7. Resume regular water administration.

