PRODUCT INFORMATION SHEET

Vetech LABORATORIES INC.

IMMUCOX® FOR CHICKENS II

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Oral coccidiosis vaccine of live oocysts of *Eimeria spp*. designed to help healthy **Chicken Breeders** and **Egg Layers** to develop immunity to coccidiosis. This is a one-time vaccination that delivers protective immunity through the productive life of the bird. It is a vaccine approved for water or gel delivery in the hatchery or barn.

DISEASE DESCRIPTION:

Coccidiosis is a disease caused by coccidia of the genus *Eimeria* that is commonly observed in the digestive tract of chickens. The Eimerian parasites are host-specific and the immunity is specific for the Eimerian species. The fecal –oral route is the source of infection. They multiply in the intestinal tract causing tissue damage, which affect normal feeding, digestion and nutrient absorption, resulting in dehydration, blood loss, and making chickens more susceptible to other diseases. In Chicken Breeders and Egg Layers there are 5 important species with a life cycle between 5 and 9 days through asexual, then sexual generations before the production of oocysts or the infective form. Diagnosis is conducted by lesion scoring on necropsy of infected birds and microscopic examination of coccidial stages on smears taken from the lesions. Protective immunity to coccidiosis is based mainly on cell-mediated immunity and the level of infection depends on the number of ingested oocysts and on the immune status of the bird. **Vaccination is now the preferred method of control of coccidiosis in Chicken Breeders and Egg-Layers.**

COMPOSITION:

IMMUCOX ® FOR CHICKENS II is made up of two parts: diluent in pouches (Part 1 of 2) and vaccine vials (Part 2 of 2). The vials (15 ml) contain a mixture of the most economically important *Eimeria spp.* for Chicken Breeders and Egg Layers: (***Eimeria acervulina, E. maxima, E. necatrix, E. tenella*, and *E. brunetti***) in a minimum total concentration of 2.4 x 10^5 of live oocysts. The vaccine components include Water, Food Colorants, and Potassium dichromate.
The Diluent Powder for drinking water administration composes: Carrageenan, Carboxymethylcellulose, and Maltodextrin in water to produce a unique suspended solution of oocysts.

PRODUCT FEATURES:

This live oocysts vaccine gives immunity by introducing controlled low levels of oocysts in a uniform exposure. All vaccinal species require recycling or repeated exposure to oocysts shed by the vaccinated bird to achieve protective immunity. The Gel-Delivery in the hatchery is done by placing the gel-presentation vaccine in the shipping boxes.
The Barn Method can be done by administration of the vaccine via water or using the gel-presentation vaccine, recommended as the “first water” when the birds arrive. Gels offer advantages over water for vaccine delivery because the homogeneous suspension of the oocysts in water avoids sinking.

INDICATIONS FOR USE:

For use in healthy chickens less than 5 days old.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Carefully follow the directions given in the insert. Plan ahead the number of doses and diluent needed according to the number of birds to be vaccinated and the vaccine- type presentation.
Withdraw water before the vaccine is given, and no water from other sources should be given during vaccination. Allow the vaccine to be consumed entirely before turning water back on. For every 1,000 birds use one (1) 15 ml vial of vaccine and one (1) pouch of diluent. For 1000 birds calculate a total of 4 L water. The Diluent should be prepared first in cold water and when it is entirely dissolved, add the vaccine vial and mix evenly.
Supply the vaccine in bell drinkers as required to supply 4 ml to each bird. Distribute the gel pucks evenly when using the Gel-Delivery system. 1 puck of gel vaccinates 100 birds and is consumed within 2-3 hours. In the hatchery, the pucks can be given as a whole or cut in halves for undivided shipping boxes, or cut in quarters for divided boxes. **When using Water or Gel-Delivery System to vaccinate the birds, be sure that the vaccine is totally consumed.**

CAUTIONS:

Store the vaccine between 3 to 7 ℃ (38 to 45 ℉), and NEVER use frozen vaccine. The Diluent should be stored in a cool, dry place. DO NOT use Nipple drinkers for the water delivery vaccine. Be sure to vaccinate healthy birds ONLY. Do not over or under dose. Use anticoccidial, Tetracyclines, Nitrofurans, or Sulfas ONLY after 12 days of vaccination. DO NOT vaccinate within 21 days before slaughter.

PRESENTATION:

For Water delivery: suspension for oral administration after reconstitution in diluent. Diluent (part 1 of 2): 100 g/pouch. Vaccine (part 2 of 2): 1,000-doses/15 ml vial, 3,000-doses/45 ml.
For Gel delivery: edible pucks with vaccine are ready to use: 100-doses/gel puck, available as required.

COLOR CODE: Blue Label

SAFETY AND EFFICACY:

With recycling, the efficacy period lasts through the productive life of the bird. There is no risk of overdose. Normally, there is no mortality under 1000 times the recommended dose.

ADVANTAGES:

IMMUCOX ® FOR CHICKENS II is a natural and cost effective alternative to anticoccidial drugs, environmentally friendly, does not produce drug residues. Vaccinated flocks are more uniform for transfer to production barns. Vaccinated flocks also have longer peak production periods, and more eggs. The use of antibiotics such as Streptomycin, Gentamycin, Penicillin, Lincomycin, and Enrofloxacin are compatible with this vaccine. The Gel-Delivery System can also help to reduce transportation mortality caused by dehydration stress.

REFERENCES:

1. Saif, Y.M. 2003. Diseases of Poultry. Iowa State Press. Pg 973-991.
2. Soares, R., Cosstick, T., and Lee, E.H. 2004. Control of Coccidiosis in Caged Egg Layers: A Paper Plate Vaccination Method. Poulry Science Association Inc.
3. Vetech Laboratories Inc. 2000. Immucox Technical Manual.

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