

IMMUCOX[®] COCCIDIOSIS VACCINE FOR TURKEYS

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Oral coccidiosis vaccine of live oocysts of *Eimeria* spp. is designed to help healthy **Turkeys** develop immunity to coccidiosis. This is a one-time vaccination that delivers protective immunity through the productive life of the bird. The vaccine can be delivered by drinking water, gel pucks and gel spray.

DISEASE DESCRIPTION:

Coccidiosis is a disease caused by coccidia of the genus *Eimeria* that is commonly observed in the digestive tract of turkeys. The fecal-oral route is the source of infection. They multiply in the intestinal tract causing tissue damage, which affect normal feeding, digestion and nutrients absorption, resulting in dehydration, blood loss, and making birds more susceptible to other diseases. The infection with these Eimerian parasites is highly host specific and vaccination against one Eimerian species does not give protection against another species.

In Turkeys there are 2 highly pathogenic species with a life cycle of 5 to 6 days. This cycle goes through asexual, and 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 dependant on cell-mediated immunity and the level of infection depends on the number of ingested oocysts and on the immune status of the bird.

COMPOSITION:

IMMUCOX[®] FOR TURKEYS 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 Turkeys: (***Eimeria meleagritidis*** and ***E. adenoeides***) in a minimum total concentration of 1×10^5 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 exposures to oocysts shed by the vaccinated bird to achieve protective immunity.

In the hatchery, the vaccination can be done by Gel spray or by placing the gel-puck presentation in the shipping boxes. The Barn Method can be done by administration of the vaccine via water or using the gel-puck presentation, recommended as the "first water" when the birds arrive. Gels offer advantages over water for vaccine delivery because gel gives even suspension of the oocysts.

This versatility of presentations allows the delivery of the vaccines in water, gel, and gel-spray, facilitating their application in the hatchery or in the barn.

INDICATIONS FOR USE:

For use in healthy turkeys 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 type of vaccine presentation. Withdraw water before the vaccine is given, and no water from other sources should be given during vaccination.

Water delivery: for 1000 birds calculate a total of 4 L water or 4 ml per bird. Use one (1) 15 ml vial of vaccine and one (1) pouch of diluent. The Diluent should be prepared first in cold water and when it is entirely mixed, add the vaccine vial and mix evenly.

Gel-Delivery system: distribute the gel pucks evenly. 1 gel puck vaccinates 100 birds and is consumed in 2-3 hours. In the hatchery, the pucks can be given as a whole, in halves or in quarters for divided boxes. **When using Water or Gel-delivery System to vaccinate the birds, be sure that the vaccine is totally consumed before turning water back on.**

Gel spray vaccination: Dilute 100g of gel-spray diluent in 4 L of water and add 16 ml vials to make 16,000 doses. It can be delivered in the hatchery or in the barn at 25 ml per 100 poults.

CAUTIONS:

Store the vaccine between 3 to 7 °C (38 to 45 °F), 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:

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 or 3,000-doses/45 ml.

For Gel delivery: edible pucks with vaccine are ready to use: 100-doses/gel puck, available as required.

For Gel-spray: see dosage and administration

COLOR CODE: Red 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 TURKEYS is a natural and cost effective alternative to anticoccidial drugs, environmentally friendly, and does not produce drug residues. **Normally, vaccinated turkeys do not need anticoccidial medication.** Vaccinated flocks have live weights and feed conversions comparable to birds medicated with anticoccidials, but with better uniformity at the processing plant. The use of antibiotics such as Streptomycin, Gentamycin, Penicillins, Lincomycin, and Quinolones (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. Lee, E.H. and White, M. Vaccination to Control Coccidiosis in Turkeys. International Poultry Production. 9:5
3. Vetech Laboratories Inc. 2000. Immucox Technical Manual.

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