Efficacy of dried egg product administered to male broiler chickens during experimental necrotic enteritis

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> > Southern Poultry Research
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Source: nebi.nm.nin.gov

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**Bangkok**, Thailand

# **Necrotic enteritis (NE)**

- "NE is the most common and financially devastating bacterial disease in modern broiler flocks" (poultryhub.org)
- Wet litter, diarrhea, increase in mortality
- Depression of growth rate and feed efficiency
- Multifactorial disease
  - Coccidiosis: the trigger!
  - Clostridium perfringens
- Current efforts:
  - Vaccination, medication, and management











Figure 3: Score = 3

Figure 4: Score = 4

Source: poultryhub.org

# Interleukin-10

IL-10 is a potent anti-inflammatory cytokine that decreases:

- Innate immune response
  - MHC Class II proteins, costimulatory molecules, and reactive oxygen intermediates
- Adaptive immune response
  - Antigen specific T-cell generation
- Inflammation
  - Inhibits production of IFN- $\gamma$ , TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1, IL-2, IL-6 and GMCSF

#### **IL-10** main function

"Resolve" inflammatory processes



# IL-10 reduces IFN-γ production and release in ConA-stimulated chicken splenocytes *in vitro*



### **Role of IL-10 in pathogenesis**

- Epstein Barr Virus encodes for IL-10 and inhibits anti-viral response
- Yersinia pestis upregulates IL-10 production and favors its survival
- Leishmania donovani upregulates IL-10 and IL-10 KO mice are resistant
- Eimeria resistant chickens express low IL-10
- Eimeria infection increases IL-10 levels



Certain pathogens appear to use high expression of IL-10 to thwart and fool an immune response



### .... a cloaking mechanism

# Hypothesis

Neutralization of intestinal secreted IL-10 with an IgY may contribute to increase IFN-y production to elicit an appropriate immune response resulting in better growth performance of broilers with necrotic enteritis



# **Dried Egg Product (DEP)**

- Patents: 8652457; US20150037277; 9505836; US20160280778; US20160008436
- Laying hens are hyper-immunized with a patented peptide against chicken IL-10 (Arendt et al., 2016 Poult. Sci. 95:430)
- Eggs containing anti-chicken IL-10 IgY antibodies
- Eggs are dried in a manner to preserve IgY binding activity





# **Experimental design and analyses**

- Randomized complete block design
- Six DEP doses (0, 143, 287, 358, 430, and 573 U/MT)
  - Starter and Grower; no Finisher
- Cobb 500 males
- 50 birds/pen
- 70 floor pens (10 pens/treatment)
- Study length: 42 d
  - Starter (d 0 to 14), Grower (d 14 to 28), and Finisher (d 28 to 42)
- Southern Poultry Research

### **Experimental design and analyses, continued**

- Experimental necrotic enteritis
  - Coccivac<sup>®</sup> B52 (Merck Animal Health, Kenilworth, NJ) spray vaccination on day of hatch according to label
  - Clostridium perfringens
    - 10<sup>8</sup> cfu/bird/d in feed
    - Day 18, 19 and 20 of study
- 4 bird/pen randomly selected for NE lesion scoring on d 20
- Growth performance
  - Each feeding phase and overall
- Pen was the experimental unit with treatment as a fixed effect and block as a random effect (JMP v.14.1)

# Results





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Source: wikipedia.org

#### **Necrotic enteritis lesion scores (d 20)**



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#### **Overall average daily feed intake (d 0-42)**



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#### **Overall average daily gain (d 0-42)**



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#### **Overall feed conversion ratio (d 0-42)**



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#### **Overall production efficiency index (d 0-42)**



# Summary

- Inclusion of dried egg product containing anti-chicken-IL-10:
  - Reduced necrotic enteritis lesions
  - Improved growth performance

## Conclusion

 Use of dried egg product containing anti-chicken-IL-10 may be a viable alternative to reduce the negative effects of coccidiosis and thus ameliorating necrotic enteritis in broilers



#### References

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# Thank you, questions?

#### International Poultry Scientific Forum at IPPE 2020

- Efficacy of dried egg product administered to chickens during an enteritis infection caused by *Eimeria spp.* and *Clostridium perfringens*
- Binding kinetics of IgY contained in a dried egg product to recombinant chicken IL-10

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