

Newcastle Disease Vaccine Safe, Effective Says USDA

A safe, effective killed-virus vaccine for Newcastle disease in chickens has been developed by U. S. Department of Agriculture

scientists. A complete report on this development was made recently by Dr. Eugene Gill, veterinarian of USDA's Agricultural Research Service, at the American Veterinary Medical Association's annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Dr. Gill's report covered the final phases of work in the development and testing of the new vaccine. Earlier phases of this project included: (1) determination of the strain of Newcastle disease virus that produced the greatest degree of immunity in chickens, and (2) finding the best method of killing the virus with the least effect on its ability to immunize the chickens. Today's report dealt with the comparative efficiency of several adjuvants, substances that heighten immune response when incorporated in the vaccine.

USDA scientists found that following inactivation of the GB Texas strain of Newcastle virus, one of the most potent in its live state, a satisfactory degree of immunity was obtained in vaccinated test birds.

A new organic chemical intermediate, beta propiolactone, recently developed by a private manufacturer, is used to inactivate the virus — making it safe — while only slightly lessening its ability to induce immunity.

In the final phase of their work, the scientists found that two adjuvants — aluminum hydroxide and phosphorylated hesperidin — acted similarly in increasing immunity induced by the vaccine. A single injection of the killed vaccine when given to 14-day-old chickens was found to protect the birds throughout the broiler grow-

Dry Cows Need Proper Feeding

Many fall-freshening cows are now dry or will soon be dried-off. Chester County Agent Robert A. Powers, Jr. suggests dairymen adjust the feeding of these dry cows to enable them to freshen in good, working flesh.

Avoid over-conditioning, as well as under conditioning, because there appears to be a greater tendency for overly fat cows to be afflicted with ketosis and other difficulties. When cows are not in good flesh at calving, milk production is usually reduced for that lactation.

Dairy farmers should not over-estimate the quality of their pastures this summer, because heavy and prolonged rains lower forage quality through leaching. The amount of nutrients, above maintenance, required by the dry cow is equal to those necessary to produce about 22 lbs. of 4 per cent milk.

Regardless of the amount of flesh a dry cow is carrying feed at least 8-10 lbs. of grain fed daily beginning 7-10 days before expected freshening. Cows that receive good amounts of grain before calving are usually better eaters after freshening.

ing period. Revaccination at 12 weeks of age protected birds up to 32 week of age, the longest period tested in these trials.

USDA veterinarians have constantly stressed the need for safe vaccines to be used on farm animals. A safe vaccine is incapable of spreading a disease, is free of contaminating disease organisms, and retains its ability to induce immunity after prolonged storage. The use of killed vaccines offers the best possibility for the eventual eradication of Newcastle disease, Department scientists believe.

Cattle Active At Chicago

(Continued from page two) weighing over 1200 lbs. Utility and commercial bulls \$21-24. VEALERS: Good and choice vealers \$29-33, mostly \$29-32, utility and standard \$19-29, culls down to \$12.

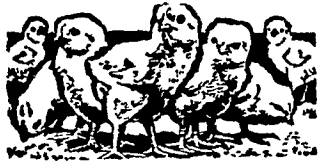
STOCKERS AND FEEDERS. Scattered sales stockers and feeders fully steady. Part load 760 lb. choice yearling feeding heifers \$27.50, few good 650 lb. stock heifers \$24.50.

HOGS: 1,000. Slow early, later trade and close fairly active, steady to 25¢ lower on barrows and gilts. Sows fairly active and steady. Good shipping demand and all local interests in trade. Larger proportion No. 1 and 2 butchers in receipts. U. S. No. 1 to 3, mostly No. 2 and 3, 210-280 lb. barrows and gilts \$19.75-20,

numerous sales at \$20, including most No. 2 and 3, 230-260 lb. lots. Several lots No. 1 and 2, mostly No. 1, 200-225 lbs. \$20-20.15 and around 250 head No. 1 these weights, most sorted for grade, \$20.25. Mixed grades 180-195 lbs. \$19-19.75. Mixed grades 400-500 lb sows \$17.25-18.25, weights over 500 lbs, scarce, most 300-400 lbs. \$18.25-19.25.

SHEEP: Receipts mainly spring lambs, only a few slaughter ewes included. Trade moderately active spring lambs mostly 50¢ lower. Slaughter ewes steady. Good to prime spring lambs 84-98 lbs. \$21.50-25.50, about 200 head at the outside price. Good and choice largely \$22-24.50. Culls and utility \$16.20-50. Three decks choice shorn spring lambs 95 lbs with No 1 pelts \$24 Cull to choice slaughter ewes \$6-8.50.

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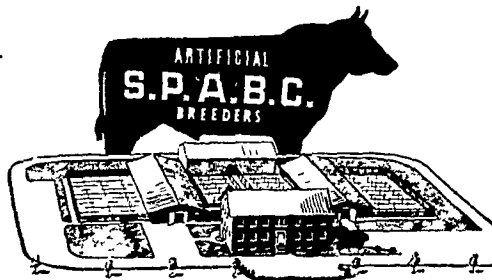
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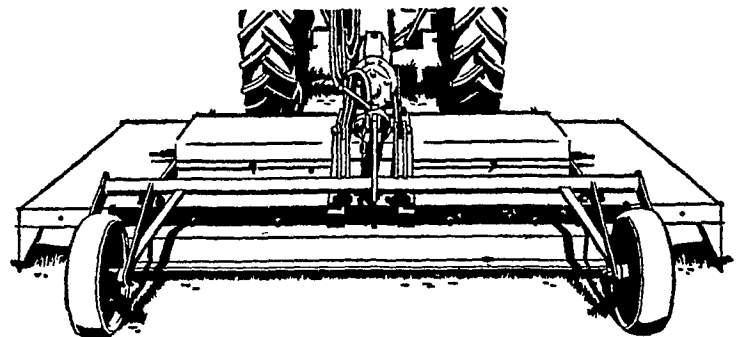
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