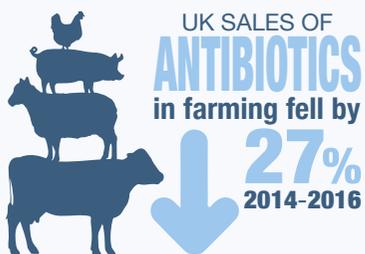


ruma Progressing towards the targets

Eight UK livestock sectors set specific antibiotic usage targets at the end of 2017 based on the work of RUMA's Targets Task Force. Six months on, the Targets Task Force's work has been officially recognised by winning the Prescribing and Stewardship category in Public Health England's Antibiotic Guardian awards, and plans to deliver the targets are being implemented.

Here is a snapshot of progress as of July 2018...

The **latest antibiotic sales figures** for UK food producing animals, released in the **2016 VARSS report**, show...



Highest Priority Antibiotics (mg/kg)	2015	2016	Comparison
Fluoroquinolones	0.34	0.24	↓ 29%
3rd & 4th Gen Cephalosporins	0.17	0.15	↓ 15%
Colistin	0.12	0.02	↓ 83%

Since then...

An industry-wide training programme '**Animal Medicines Best Practice**' with sector-specific modules on **antibiotic use** was developed by NOAH, and launched in July. Visit elearning.lantra.co.uk



Red Tractor tightened rules for dairy, beef, sheep and pigs between October 2017 and June 2018, and ran **dozens of farmer and vet meetings** to communicate the new requirements. Changes include **restrictions for the highest-priority antibiotics, mandatory reviews** of medicine use, and – for some sectors – **submission of antibiotic usage data online.**

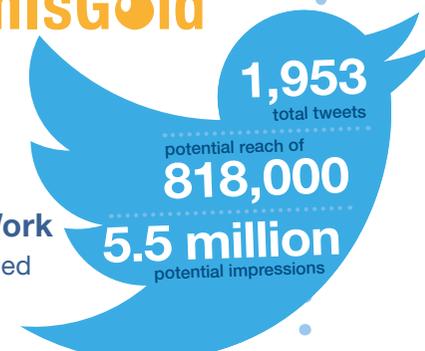
ruma 'Drop-in' Antibiotics Clinic

RUMA attended **two major trade events** to promote responsible use of antibiotics across **six different sectors.**



The award-winning **#ColostrumsGold** campaign promoted **better colostrum management** in February 2018.

A similar **#VaccinesWork** campaign is being planned for September 2018.

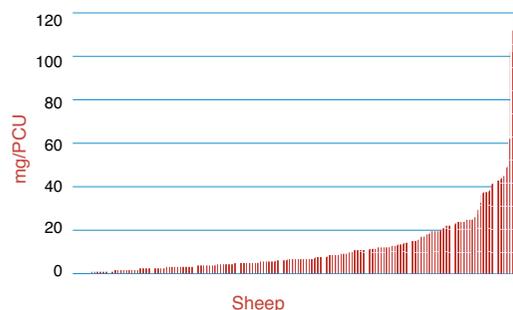


ANTIBIOTIC GUARDIAN

As well as **RUMA's Targets Task Force winning** the Prescribing & Stewardship category at the Antibiotic Guardian Awards 2018, **University of Bristol Veterinary School & #ColostrumsGold** also **won** their categories, and **British Poultry Council, ABP** and **Wayland Farms** were '**Highly Commended**'.

Sheep

Distribution of antibiotic usage compiled from prescribing records of eight veterinary practices over a 12-month period.*



Data from 207 farms which took part in a University of Nottingham antibiotic use study published late last year, show the spread in use of antibiotics on specialist sheep farms (above).

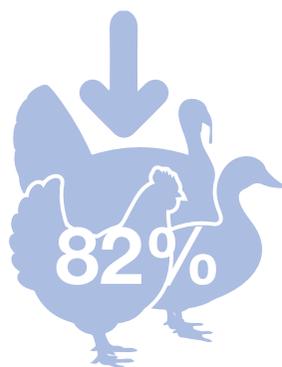
A consortium of leading sheep veterinary & farming organisations, brought together under the leadership of the Sheep Health & Welfare Group (SHAWG) to communicate simple co-ordinated messages, was recognised when shortlisted in the Antibiotic Guardian Awards 2018.

#ColostrumsGold supported a big push on reducing antibiotics to prevent Watery Mouth & Joint Ill at lambing time, which was communicated through social media, vet meetings and online tools.

Vaccine and antibiotic sales data are currently being analysed to gauge impact of these activities in the first year.

* Reproduced from Veterinary Record, Davies, P., Remnant, J.G., Green, M.J., Gascoigne, E., Gibbon, N., Hyde, R., Porteous, J.R., Schubert, K., Lovatt, F., Corbishley, A., 181, 511 (2017), with permission from BMJ Publishing Group Ltd.

Poultry meat



ANTIBIOTIC
use in the
POULTRY MEAT SECTOR
DECREASED
by **82%** between
2012 & 2017



BPC Antibiotic Stewardship's drive for excellence in bird health and welfare has achieved an **82% reduction in total use of antibiotics** in the past six years, despite production increasing by 10%.

In this time, participants have:

- stopped prophylactic use of antibiotics
- stopped use of colistin
- banned use of 3rd & 4th generation cephalosporins
- reduced fluoroquinolone use by 91%.

Use of antibiotics in both chickens and turkeys is now **below the Government-approved sector specific targets** developed by RUMA's Targets Task Force (TTF), which is **25mg/PCU for chickens** and **50mg/PCU for turkeys**.

Pigs



USE OF
ANTIBIOTICS
HALVED IN
UK
PIGS BETWEEN
2015 & 2017

The UK pig sector announced a further **28% reduction in antibiotic use for 2017, reaching 131mg/PCU**; this means it has now halved its use in two years and is on track to reach 99mg/PCU by 2020.

Colistin use was also recorded at 0.01mg/PCU for 2017, a **hundredth** of the EU recommended maximum.

The pig e-Medicine Book (eMB) recorded approx. **90% of the national pig herd's usage data** online in 2017.

A **benchmarking function** has been added to e-MB to help pig farmers **compare** their **antibiotic use** against similar farm types.



RESPONSIBLE USE OF MEDICINES IN AGRICULTURE ALLIANCE

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Laying hens



Use of **colistin** was banned in June 2016; **3rd & 4th generation cephalosporins** had already been banned in November 2013.

Fluoroquinolone use is completely **prohibited** in **day-old chicks**.

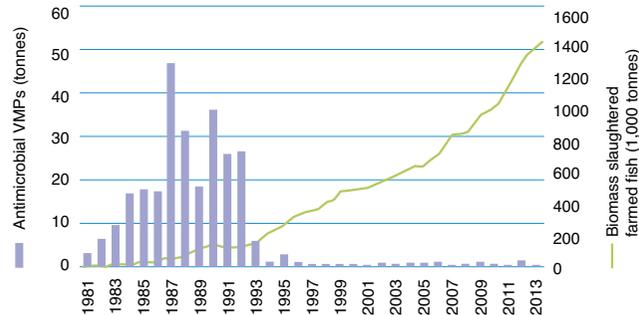
Fluoroquinolones can only now be used in **exceptional situations** to **protect bird welfare** once a specific pathogen is identified and sensitivity testing has confirmed that **no other medications** are appropriate.

The **Lion Code of Practice** requires any antibiotic use to be **immediately reported** to the subscriber.

In addition, **new antibiotic stewardship training** from the Lion Code of Practice is in place.

Fish

Antibiotic use in Norwegian salmon fell after the *furunculosis* vaccine was introduced, a development mirrored in the UK.



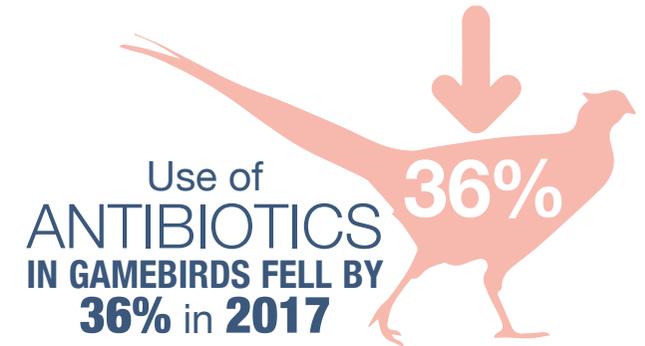
Use of **antibiotics** in **salmon farming** **remains low**, largely due to the effectiveness of the *furunculosis* vaccine developed in the early '90s (above) which transformed salmon farming in both Norway and Scotland.

A **Prescribing Vets group**, chaired by Prof Randolph Richards (Institute of Aquaculture, Stirling) has been created within Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation; this will help **collate usage data** to ensure it remains **below 5mg/kg**.

A joint Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation/ Fish Veterinary Society **antimicrobial resistance workshop** is being organised with the participation of specialist academics.

Both the salmon and trout sectors are on track to **submit usage data** for the UK's 2017 VARSS report, due to be published in autumn 2018.

Gamebirds



The gamebird sector reduced antibiotic use by **36% in 2017**; its target was 25%.

The **2018 reduction campaign is well underway** with figures due in November. This is aiming for a further **25% reduction** in total antibiotic use between 2018 and 2020.

To help achieve this, **key influencers** issued a **joint communication about responsible use** to game rearers, farmers and shoots at the start of the main antibiotic usage period for 2018.

Mycoplasma remains one of the main challenges facing gamebird rearers, with vets focusing on **biosecurity and selective breeding** to reduce risk.

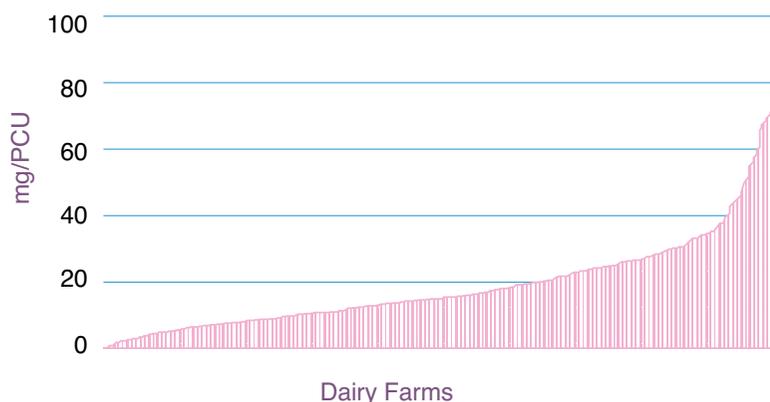
However, the warm, dry weather has been helping to keep **disease in check** this year as rearers make longer term changes to flock management.



Beef & Dairy

Antimicrobial usage (mg/PCU) from sales data to 292 dairy farms from four veterinary practices.*

* Produced by the authors from data supplied in Veterinary Record, Hyde, RM., Remnant, JG., Bradley, AJ., Breen, JE., Hudson, CD., Davies, PL., Clarke, T., Critchell, Y., Hylands, M., Linton, E., Wood, E., Green, MJ., 181, 683 (2017), with permission from BMJ Publishing Group Ltd.



A free **calculator** to help dairy vets and farmers quantify their **antibiotic usage on-farm** has been developed and published by University of Nottingham and AHDB. Data used in its creation (above) show a wide spread of use between different farms. Work is ongoing in the beef sector to identify and compile similar **antibiotic usage datasets**.

Dairy Antimicrobial Stewardship (DASG) and Beef Antimicrobial Use (BAMU) groups were set up late 2017. Each has put together a **strategy** which will be published in August 2018. Both include an **action plan** with specific responsibilities and timescales to achieve their **antibiotic use targets**.

AHDB is piloting a **'cattle' form of the e-Medicine Book** - for both dairy and beef - until the end of the year. University of Bristol has started work on creating a standard methodology for **benchmarking medicine use on beef farms**; this will feed into **eMB-cattle**.

Data on amounts of vaccine sold to protect against **five key cattle diseases – IBR, BVD, Leptospirosis, Pneumonia and Scour** – have been obtained for 2011-2017 and are being analysed.

AHDB is running **webinars on Responsible Use of Antibiotics in beef systems** in autumn 2018, as well as a series of farmer-facing meetings on **practical ways of improving calf health and reducing antibiotic use in youngstock**.

AHDB is also working with the Royal Agricultural University on a project to collate and communicate **best practice in dairy beef calf management** in farms, collection centres and livestock markets.

A **calf health campaign** is being launched in September by DASG & BAMU. It will include a focus on **respiratory disease**, one of the biggest challenges in young cattle and beef herds.

AHDB and the Universities of Bristol and Nottingham ran **eight roadshow events** in spring 2018 to promote a **responsible approach to use of antibiotics**.

The British Cattle Veterinary Association  has **trained over 1,000 vets** within the past year on reducing or targeting antibiotics to treat a range of conditions. Dedicated courses on **medicine use, prescribing, dispensing and best practice**, as well as training in **motivational interviewing**, have also been developed.



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