The Chicken Vet
Poultry Products
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Nutritional Supplements

**Chicken Vet Multivits 250ml**
A general booster to maintain health, at times of illness, stress, transportation and during extremes of weather throughout the year.

Use in drinking water at 25ml per 5 litres for 3 – 10 days.

**Chicken Vet Energy 250ml**
Acts as an energy supplement to give the broody hen, stressed or recovering hen an additional energy boost and will help to stimulate the bird’s appetite.

Use in drinking water at 25ml per 5 litres for 2 – 5 days.

**Mintamix 100ml**
Containing essential oils of peppermint and eucalyptus it acts as a nasal decongestant and is particularly useful when hens display signs of sneezing, runny eyes or upper respiratory disease.

Use in drinking water at 1.5 – 2ml per 10 litres drinking water for five days.
Contains herbal ingredients which produce astringent and antibacterial properties. Use in hens suffering with digestive upset and diarrhoea. Particularly useful following antibiotic therapy. For sick hens seek veterinary advice.

Use in drinking water at 2.5 – 5ml for 3 – 5 days.

**Beryl’s Friendly Bacteria**
(6 hen and 12 hen sachets)

It contains over 200 friendly bacteria that will aid in forming a barrier in the hen’s gut against harmful pathogens such as Salmonella and E.Coli. It is especially useful after illness and when antibiotics have been given to the bird to re-establish the friendly bacteria in the gut and aid a speedier recovery.

Administer directly to the bird or give in feed.

**REQUIRES COLD STORAGE**

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**Digestive Health**

**Biostop 100ml**

Contains herbal ingredients which produce astringent and antibacterial properties. Use in hens suffering with digestive upset and diarrhoea. Particularly useful following antibiotic therapy. For sick hens seek veterinary advice.

Use in drinking water at 2.5 – 5ml for 3 – 5 days.

**Oregano+ 250ml**

A natural antibacterial that aids in the control of harmful bacteria in the intestine. Oregano will also have a calming effect on birds during times of stress. Very useful when moving house or before and after showing.

Use in drinking water at 5ml per 1 litre for five days.

**Nutritional Supplements**

**Digesti-Health 2kg**

This supplement will maintain optimal digestive health and overall well being. The powder contains ingredients that will improve egg and egg shell quality and hatchability. It will absorb harmful fungal toxins and normalise gutflora reinforcing the hen’s natural defences. Great as a daily supplement to keep your hens in top condition.

Use in feed daily, one scoop per two birds.
Red Mite Treatments

**Chicken Vet Mite Powder** 400g and 1kg
An effective, non-pesticide for the treatment and routine prevention of red mite infestation in your coop and on your birds. Apply to the birds and also place some powder in a cat litter tray for the birds to dust bath in and self apply.

**Chicken Vet Anti Peck** 250 ml
A foul tasting spray that can be applied for seven days to deter aggressive pecking and bullying.

**Worm Egg Test Kit**
An easy to use kit that will test your hen’s faeces for worm eggs and coccidiosis infection.

The price of the kit includes the cost of the laboratory fee. Can be used to check whether your current wormer is being effective or use prior to routine worming to establish a need. The test will also confirm whether or not your hens are suffering from Coccidiosis.
Dilute one part Poultry Shield to nine parts water. To sanitise your coop and equipment. Remove all dirt and bedding and spray all areas, leave to soak for one hour and rinse. This product is extremely effective against control and treatment of red mite.

**Chicken Vet Poultry Shield Concentrate**

1 Litre and 5 Litre

Dilute one part Poultry Shield to nine parts water. To sanitise your coop and equipment. Remove all dirt and bedding and spray all areas, leave to soak for one hour and rinse. This product is extremely effective against control and treatment of red mite.

**BioVX 1 kg**

A DEFRA approved disinfectant effective against bacteria, viruses and fungi. Useful for routine disinfection at weekly cleanout and footdips.

Use at 1:200 on poultry housing and equipment, apply through a back pack sprayer.

**Bi-OO-Cyst 1 kg**

A DEFRA approved disinfectant that will destroy bacteria, viruses, fungi and is especially useful when used at a dilution of 1:30 against coccidial oocysts. It is a disinfectant and a coccidial control in one.

**Interkokask RTU 500 ml**

A ready to use disinfectant that is effective against bacteria, viruses, fungi, coccidiosis, worm eggs and red mite. Especially useful when you have sick birds and a thorough clean out is necessary.

Duggan Veterinary Supplies,
Holycross, Thurles,
Co. Tipperary.

Tel: 0504 43169 • Email: info@dugganvet.ie
Disinfectants

Interkokask Concentrate 1 kg
A DEFRA approved disinfectant, very concentrated and when used at 2% will treat up to 480m². Effective against bacteria, viruses, fungi, coccidia, worm eggs and can be used on equipment. Follow safety instructions carefully.

Chicken Vet dri bed 5 kg
A super absorbent powder that extends the life of bedding and inhibits the growth and spread of bacteria. It also contains a DEFRA approved disinfectant BioVX.

Chicken Vet Poultry Shield RTU 750 ml
A ready to use spray to clean and sanitise your coop and equipment. Remove all dirt and bedding and spray all areas, leave to soak for one hour and rinse. This product has also shown to be extremely effective against control and treatment of red mite.
Causes
A normal and natural occurrence for chickens. Not common in modern hybrids and ex-battery hens. Silkie chickens can go broody several times a year.

What to look out for?
Constant sitting on the nest with fluffed up feathers. When you approach she may peck you and will make a loud clucking noise and can appear quite aggressive. Prolonged broodiness of two or three weeks takes a lot out of the bird. She will lose weight and general condition during this time.

Management
This is a natural process and although quite frustrating it is best left to run its course. We do not recommend extreme forms of treatment to try and break the habit. During the broody phase take the hen off the nest once a day to eat, drink and defaecate.

If you do need to stop her being broody then placing your hen in a wire bottom dog cage propped up on bricks can sometimes help. The cool air circulating helps to cool her breast area down, she does not have a nice comfy nest to sit on and this will usually stop her being broody after a couple of days. Of course ensure you provide her with food, water and shelter.

Treatment
During and after broodiness hens can lose a lot of weight so give her 5-7 days of Chicken Vet Amino+ to help compensate for her lack of eating, combined with Chicken Vet Energy to give her energy. Chicken Vet Energy contains L-Carnitine to give the bird much needed additional energy, improve digestion and stimulate her appetite. Give 25ml per 5litres of drinking water daily for 5-7 days. Chicken Vet Amino+ and Chicken Vet Energy can be given at the same time. Make up fresh quantities daily. Ensure drinkers are scrupulously clean.
Causes
Several possible causes:
• Moulting is a natural process which happens to each bird annually whereby it replaces its entire compliment of feathers over a few weeks. Stress such as extreme heat, water deprivation and illness can induce moulting.
• Pecking by other birds usually around the vent or on the back is usually caused either by stress, boredom or protein deficiency.
• Cockerals can damage feathers on a hens back during mating.
• Mite or lice infestation.

What to look out for?
• Pecking one another.
• Bald patches around the head, back or vent.
• A cockerel preferentially and excessively mating with one hen.

Treatment
Depends on the cause
Moulting
Administer Chicken Vet Amin0+ as this helps provide the bird with additional protein whilst it’s trying to replace its feathers (feathers are over 80% protein) Administer in drinking water daily for up to five days, make up a fresh solution daily.

Protein deficiency
Ensure you are providing a correct and balanced diet, feed a good quality layer pellet from a reputable supplier. Provide additional protein to the diet via the drinking water in the form of Chicken Vet Amino+. If pecking from other birds is the cause then again provide additional protein in the form of Chicken Vet Amino+.

The pecked bird will need to replace lost feathers. Also the addition of Oregano+(containing Oregano) in the drinking water can be given with Chicken Vet Amino+ to calm the birds down.

Prevention
Anti Peck Spray can be sprayed on the affected areas of pecked birds for 7 days as this tastes horrible discouraging the other birds from pecking one another.

If cockeral damage is a problem then it’s best to separate the amorous lovers and again give the suffering hen some Chicken Vet Amino+ to encourage feather regrowth and aid her often slightly traumatic recovery.
Red Mites

Red mites (Dermanyssus gallinae) are tiny mites about 0.7 mm long. These mites dislike light so spend most of their daytime hiding in cracks and crevices in the perches and nest boxes of poultry houses. (note red mites love to hide in felt roofs.)

The mites emerge at night a pale grey colour and will crawl onto the birds sucking their blood. As they suck blood these pale grey mites become a red brown colour. Once fed they return to their hiding place.

What to look out for?

- Restlessness, not keen to perch or go into house.
- Weight loss in your birds.
- Drop in egg numbers.
- Red spots on your eggs (the mites are squashed during egg laying.)
- Red mites don’t like living on people but they will crawl onto people and cause itching.
- Lethargic birds that may be anaemic, this can lead to death.

Diagnosis

Red Mites hide during the day and come out after dark. Check your chicken house with a torch looking for evidence around the cracks and crevices of the perches and nest box areas.

Treatment

Remove all bedding away from the house and preferably burn it. Clean your coop with a suitable detergent and disinfectant with Chicken Vet Poultry Shield. For low levels of mites and prevention use Chicken Vet Mite Powder in the nest boxes, scratch areas, dust baths and on the birds themselves. This product contains silicates which damage the waxy cuticle on the mite’s surface allowing them to dehydrate and die. This product is entirely safe for both owners and their birds. Mites die within three days of its application. Use in coop and on birds weekly.

Prevention

As with all ailments red mite infestations stress your birds and they can be helped with vitamin supplements such as Chicken Vet Amino and Chicken Vet Energy to help them rebuild their body’s reserves.
Sneezing Chickens - Respiratory Disease

Cause
There are several viruses and bacterial species which can cause respiratory disease in chickens:
- Infections bronchitis (IB)
- Mycoplasma
- Avian Rhino Tracheitis virus (ART)
- Infectious LaryngioTracheitis (ILT)

Often many of these agents can occur together and it is difficult without blood sampling to know which ones are involved. Many of these infections are carried by the bird for life. They can flare up during times of stress such as moving to a new home, change in environment and affected birds can go on to infect their new or existing flock mates. Many of these diseases also attack the egg shell gland which can lead to abnormal egg shell quality and colour.

What to look out for?
Sneezing, runny eyes and nose, loss of egg shell quality or colour, depressed, hunched, ruffled bird.

Treatment
In mild cases the birds will recover but using a decongestant such as Mintamix (herbal menthol based product) may help the birds breathe more easily.

If your vet gives your birds antibiotic treatment such as Kariflox (Oral Enroflaxacin) we recommend giving Beryl’s Friendly Bacteria. Antibiotics destroy the good bacteria along with the bad bacteria. This product contains over 200 species of friendly bacteria to help repopulate the gut with friendly bacteria. Please note: Don’t give Beryl’s until at least a week after the use of antibiotics as their residues may kill Beryl’s Friendly Bacteria.
- Follow this with Chicken Vet Amino+ this contains essential B vitamins and protein to help build up your bird’s reserves after illness, also some Chicken Vet Energy to stimulate appetite and boost their energy.

Prevention
- Keep all housing and equipment clean, regular use of DEFRA approved disinfectants such as Interkokask.
Diarrhoea

Cause

Diarrhoea in chickens can be caused by a number of harmful agents including bacteria, viruses and coccidiosis. These agents damage the intestine wall and can cause reduced absorption of nutrients leading to weight loss and reducing the amount of water absorbed by the gut leading to dehydration.

Depending on the cause the diarrhoea may be contagious to other birds. Poor quality feed to excessive/inappropriate treats can lead to diarrhoea. Dirty feeders, drinkers and hens drinking from dirty puddles are all places that can harbour lot of bacteria to cause diarrhoea.

What to look out for?

- Wet bedding
- Loose droppings
- Weight loss
- Dull hunched up birds with ruffles feathers
- Blood droppings
- Pasted vents

Treatment

- If the bird looks bright and is eating and drinking then use BioStop. This contains tannins to help reduce bacterial growth in the gut and to bind up loose droppings.
- Once the diarrhoea is under control use Beryl’s Friendly Bacteria. This will help to restore normal gut flora. Beryl’s contains over 200 friendly bacteria that will help to form a barrier in the gut to prevent opportunistic bacteria invading and causing further problems.

Prevention

- Ensure clean drinking water that is changed daily.
- Keep bedding clean and dry.
- Give Beryl’s every eight weeks to keep the good bacteria in the gut topped up.
- Give Digesti-Health to your bird as a daily supplement to maintain optimal gut health.
Mareks Disease

Cause
Mareks disease is caused by a virus which attacks the body’s immune system by infecting the white blood cells of the body. The body is less able to fight off infections so the birds are more vulnerable to diarrhoea and respiratory disease. Eventually these infected cells go onto cause tumours to form in the internal organs and the nerves that supply the wings and legs leading to paralysis. Birds can only be affected in the first 10 weeks of life but these tumours take a long time to form so you might not see signs until your bird is one year old. Birds older than this are unlikely to have Mareks.

What to look out for?
• Poor growth in young chicks
• High prevalence of other conditions in your birds such as diarrhoea and respiratory disease.
• Paralysis in birds from 12 weeks to 12 months of age.

Diagnosis
The condition can only be diagnosed by post mortem.

Treatment
None.

Prevention
Mareks disease is picked up by chicks in the first 10 weeks of life from dust containing the virus which is shed by older carrier birds. Ensuring your chicks are not stressed and kept in a clean well disinfected environment as far away as possible from adult birds will help. Always use an approved disinfectant such as Interkokask. If you breed birds and have Mareks disease on site discuss the possibility of vaccinating your chicks with your vet.

Unfortunately Marek’s is a terminal disease and bird’s with the disease will become progressively worse. It is really important to give chicks the best start possible, stressed chicks are more likely to develop Marek’s and therefore we recommend supplementing their drinking water with Chicken Vet Multivit and Chicken Vet Energy. Both these products will ensure they are getting all of their nutritonal requirements, the products will also stimulate appetite and encourage drinking.
Coccidiosis

Coccidiosis is caused by a single celled parasite which enters the cells of the bird's gut to reproduce. In doing this the parasite destroys the cells lining the gut wall leading to intestinal damage. The damaged gut allows harmful bacteria to reproduce causing a secondary bacterial diarrhoea and in severe cases this will cross into the blood stream causing blood poisoning and possibly death.

What to look out for?

- Weight loss and diarrhoea, often with blood.
- Hunched, ruffled depressed bird.
- Dullness, pale comb and wattles.
- Anaemia.
- Sudden death.

Which birds are at risk?

Birds pick up the eggs from faeces and bedding. Birds that come in contact with their own droppings for the first time such as chicks from 2 weeks to 2 months of age that have no immunity.

Treatment

Coccidiosis eggs (oocysts) have a very thick wall and as such can survive years in the environment and can be resistant to many disinfectants so ensure that your disinfectant is licenced against Coccidiosis. This condition needs veterinary intervention as an anticoccidial agent will be needed possibly along with antibiotics to control secondary bacterial infections. Use Biostop for 5 days, a tannin based herbal product that will help to control the diarrhoea. Then follow this with Beryl's Friendly Bacteria, it contains over 200 friendly bacteria that will help restore normal gut flora and form a barrier against other opportunistic bacteria. Your hen will have gone through a long period of poor nutrient absorption from the gut and will have lost weight, follow the Beryl's with a course of Amino+.

Prevention

Good hygiene is essential. Regular cleaning and disinfection of the house is necessary especially if you’re breeding chicks. Always ensure you use a detergent before your disinfectant and that you use our recommended DEFRA approved disinfectants Interkokask or Bi-OO-Cyst.
Worms

Cause

There are two types of worms that affect chickens - Gape worms which live in the bird’s windpipe causing gasping (these worms are exceedingly rare) and intestinal worms which live in the birds gut. There are three species of intestinal worm - Capillaria, Ascaridia and Heterakis.

**Cappillaria** (Hair worm) are the smallest of these worms (up to 2.5cm in length) and can live in any part of the digestive tract from the crop to the intestine depending on the species of worm. Don’t be fooled by their small size as these worms are the most harmful of the gut worms.

**Ascarids** live in the small intestine and although the largest of the worms (up to 12cm in length) they tend to cause only moderate damage and inflammation.

**Heterakis** is a small worm living in the caecum (Large intestine/ blind gut). Whilst the worm is harmless it can carry ‘Blackhead’ (a parasite that is carried by the worm and causes liver damage and diarrhoea often resulting in sudden death in poultry).

What to look for?

- Weight loss
- Dullness
- Lack of egg production
- Mild diarrhoea

Prevention

When cleaning your chicken houses use an appropriate disinfectant such as Interkokask that is licensed to destroy worm eggs. Try to move your run if possible to prevent a build up of worm eggs on the pasture.
Duggan Veterinary
Leaders in Animal Health since 1984

Duggan Veterinary are the official distributors of the Chicken Vet range of products for poultry in Ireland. The Chicken Vet range is a complete approach to the most common ailments which affect chickens and it has been developed in conjunction with one of the UK’s largest poultry veterinary practices St David’s Poultry Team Ltd. (See Below). Duggan Veterinary based in Co Tipperary, supply a range of niche and select products to the veterinary trade only. For further information on the Chicken Vet range of products, please check out our website:

www.dugganvet.ie

St. David’s Poultry Team Ltd

St. David’s Poultry Team Ltd is a veterinary consultancy company providing a complete veterinary service to the poultry and game bird industry. Their aim is to offer a proactive rather than reactive service, focusing on preventive measures and health planning with regular farm visits and routine monitoring. The vets are leaders in their field and this has led them to develop Chicken Vet. This is a service for the owners of fancy fowl, keepers of domestic hens and backyard flocks. Many of the Chicken Vet products that Duggan Veterinary distribute have been repackaged for backyard use but are already proven in the commercial industry.

The products are designed with the specific needs of the owner of backyard poultry in mind. St David’s Poultry Team can be contacted in Ireland for advice on the care, health and well being of poultry problems which may have been presented. This service is only available to the trade.

St Davids Poultry can be contacted on 069 69640