

Press release

Poultry project aims to break down bacterial disease pathways

Infections cost money- especially in poultry production because of the large flock sizes. Annually, Danish poultry producers lose 10-15% of their production value due to bacterial infections and less optimal hygienic conditions in the poultry stables.

At the same time there is a strong demand for more poultry meat. The Danish consumers are buying non-Danish produced chickens that are cheap but more likely to contain pathogenic bacteria. Consequently, there is an obvious need to strengthen the competitiveness at all levels and to secure more product safety and animal welfare in the Danish poultry production.

Strong team

For this purpose all links in the chain of production (developer, producer and supplier) have formed an innovation consortium. The goal of the consortium is to break down bacterial disease pathways and reduce infections in the Danish poultry production.

A total of 13 partners participate in the CHIP consortium: DHI, Technological Institute, AgroTech, University of Copenhagen Faculty of Life Sciences, TCnano ApS, Brenntag Nordic A/S, TrioVA ApS, Novartis Healthcare A/S, BornPoultry A/S, Danæg A/S, DLG A.m.b.A., Danish Agricultural Advisory Service and The Danish Poultry Council.

Grant of 13.4 mio. DKK.

The Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation is funding the project over the next 4 years with a total of 13.4 mio DKK. The project is known as CHIP: Chicken and Hen Infection Protection.

Nanotechnology, management and modelling

The CHIP project will make use of the latest breakthroughs within nanotechnology and molecular microbiology. Stable environments will be screened for pathogenic bacteria and other risk factors for product safety will be assessed.

The main focus will be on optimizing the hygiene by testing new disinfection possibilities and by nano-coating selected surfaces in the stables. In addition drinking water and ventilation systems will be optimized. All results will be incorporated into models which are to act as future risk assessment and management tools. As a result the consortium will be able to offer unique solutions to ensure food safety and productivity. DHI is in charge of project management as well as the development of a risk assessment tool.

Spokesman of The Danish Poultry Council, senior consultant Thorkil Ambrosen, states: "With the participation all important players in the poultry production and by using the latest scientific breakthroughs this project will be of crucial importance for the Danish poultry production."

Contact

For more information please contact project manager Anders Permin: +45 4516 9173 or ape@dhigroup.com. Danish readers may also want to visit the CHIP homepage <http://www.chipprojekt.dk/>