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Development of antibiotic treatment frequencies and consumption quantities in the German Antibiotics Minimization Concept's new animal populations, 2023 to 2025

Inhalt

The German Antibiotics Minimization Concept was established in 2014 for the fattening livestock sector and defines a benchmarking system based on farm-level treatment frequencies with antibiotic substances (measured in days treated per time period and average animal held). In 2023, several new animal populations were included: purchased calves (≤ 12 months), dairy cows, breeding sows, suckling piglets, laying hens, and young hens intended for egg production. In addition, a weighting factor for AMEG B substances (3rd and 4th generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones, polymyxins) was introduced in order to de-incentivize their use. Here, we report on the development of population-wide treatment frequencies as well as antibiotic consumption quantities, stratified by antibiotic class, in the new animal populations.

Antibiotic treatment was most frequent in suckling piglets (> 50 days per year and average animal held in the total population), followed by purchased calves (~ 20 days) and breeding sows (~ 7 days). The largest total antibiotic quantities were used in treatments of purchased calves (> 50 t per year), breeding sows (35 to 40 t), and dairy cows (25 to 35 t). In comparison, treatment frequencies as well as antibiotic quantities for young and laying hens were low. In all new animal populations except young hens, use of AMEG B substances became less frequent over time.

Keywords

antibiotic use, treatment frequency, livestock

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Professional Status of the Speaker

Senior Scientist

Junior Scientist Status

No, I am not a Junior Scientist.

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Kommentare:

The (yearly) report on treatment frequencies and consumption quantities for 2025 will be published by the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment on August, 31st. The OH Symposium will be the first opportunity to present the new data.

Eingereicht von **FLOR, Matthias** <matthias.flor@bfr.bund.de> am **Montag, 29. Juni 2026**