A Vets View

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#### Half a World Away



## What are we going to do

- Look at the 2011 Aivlosin Field Trial for 'caught up breeders'
- The results from caught up birds in the 2009 – 2010 season
- Results in other species
- Aivlosin from my viewpoint

## Background

Very few drugs are licensed for game birds in the UK, because of market share

Drugs are used on the 'Cascade' System at the Veterinarians discretion

Difficult to get official field trials because drugs are not licensed

Authorities reluctant to sanction trials which may result in a welfare disaster if the drugs don't work

## Background

- Similarly it is difficult to get sanction to run an experiment with a 'no drug control' when you are expecting a disease situation within the trial
- This makes moving forward with Game Bird drugs very difficult.

- To compare 3 drugs two established and one new
- Caught up birds which usually have Mycoplasma
- Authorities would not allow 'control groups' in potentially diseased birds in a field trial

#### The 2011 Aivlosin Field Trial

- North Lancashire
- 3000 birds
- 3 groups of 1000
- Labelled A,B,C
- In 3mx3m pens with 10 hens and one cock
- Hens were French Commons
- Cocks were 2<sup>nd</sup> Cross Japanese Greens

#### 2011 Trail Continued

- Custom Laying Site
- An all 'girl' management team Mum and two Daughters
- Field space rented
- Birds and pens supplied by Hy-Fly
- Paid by eggs hatched

## The Birds



A Common Hen

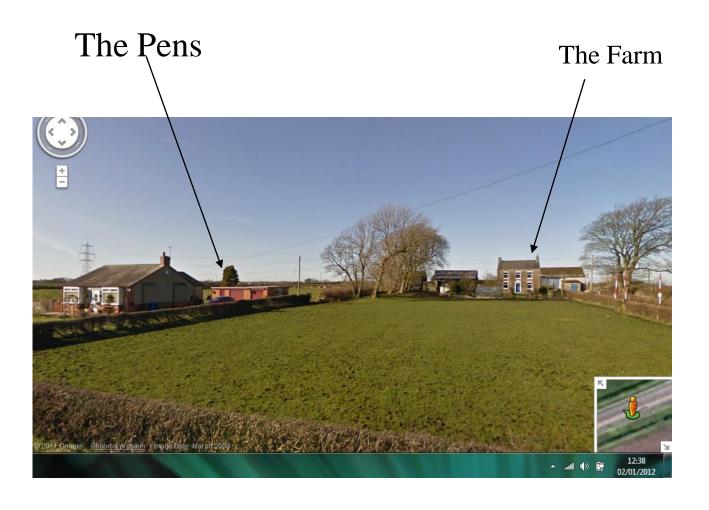
A 2<sup>nd</sup> Cross Japanese Green Male

### The Location

#### Little Old England



## The Site



## The Trial Site



The Pens New Eskham Farm

## The Pens



## The Water Supply



A Dosatron pump was inserted into the water line for each group of birds and this gave each group an individually medicated line

# The Drugs Tylan

Tylan soluble – has been around for many years – it is an old standard but many authors suggest it is beyond it's sell by date and has been over-used of late



# The Drugs Tiamulin

This is the Drug name, there are several versions of this drug available on the market you will probably be aware of Denagard in the swine industry in the US

We used a version of this drug called Tiamvet

# The Drugs Aivlosin



A new drug
Licensed for Game Birds in the UK
Highly Palatable
Easy to use

- Eggs were collected daily
- Details were recorded per pen
- The calculations were done as follows
- Total eggs / pen /week
- Total eggs rejected /pen /week
- Total mortality /pen /week
- Bird Alive days

At the hatchery
The following were noted

- Any further rejections
- Number set
- Number hatched
- No study was done on the health of the chicks from each group, that may be a later study if Steve's purse is stretchable!

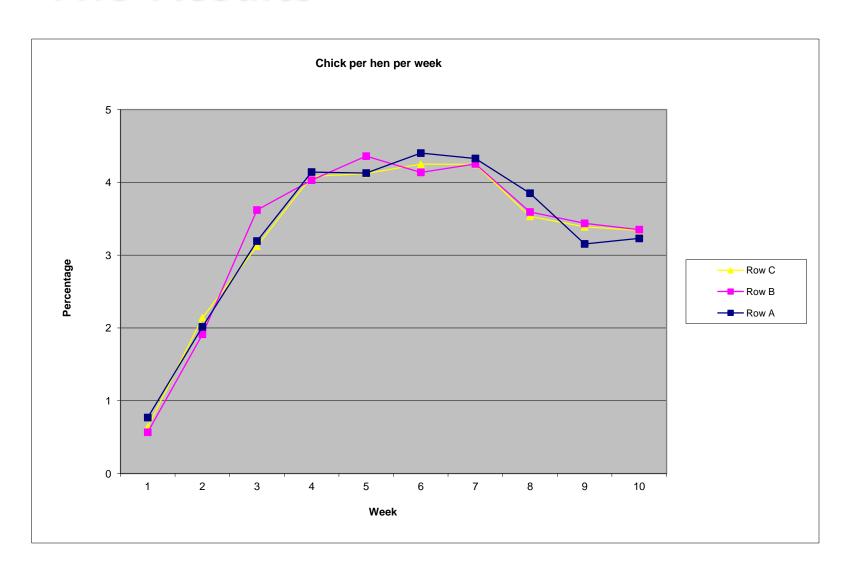
- The birds were placed from mid March
- The birds were caught up from one shoot and allocated randomly to the groups.
- Birds arrived in two lots
- The production started almost immediately but was not sufficient to record until all were placed and settled
- First birds were set w/c 31/03/11
- Last eggs were set w/c 02/06/11

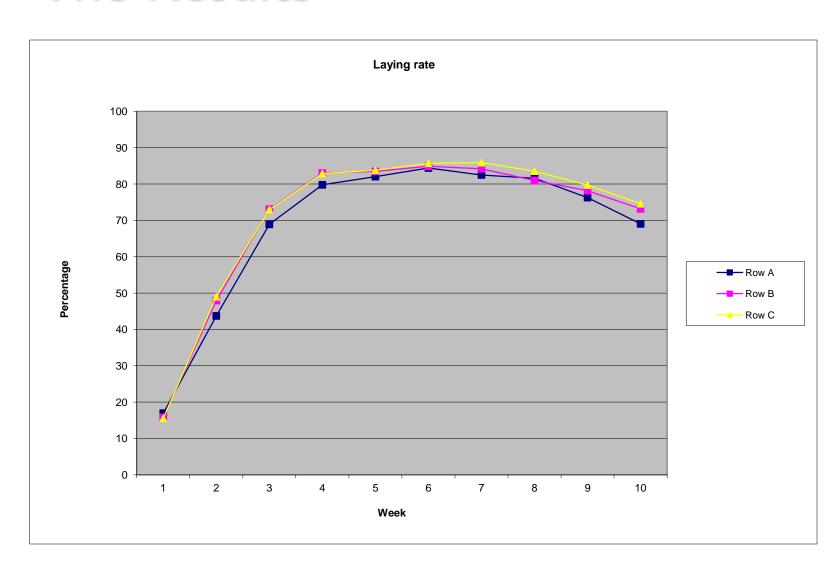
- Before and during the trial the birds were medicated 3 times
- The trial was blind a hatchery manager was the only person who knew which medication was received by which group
- The same drug was used in the same group each time
- Dead hens were not replaced, but dead or sick males were replaced

## The Trial – problems

- Escapees
- The electricity pylons
- Only one sick bird was recorded

- A few proviso's
- We were not allowed to run untreated controls so this is only a comparison between the drugs
- 2. This is a 'natural model' which means the birds were effectively 'wild' and may not behave like domestic chickens
- 3. There may be forces at work within the groups such as pecking which would affect the results.

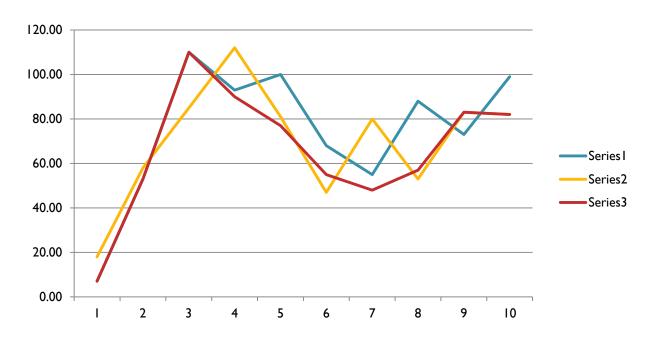




Group	% lay			Chicks per 1000 birds
A	68.5	69.6	47.7	477
В	70.4	66.2	46.9	469
С	71.4	65.7	46.9	469

- No real difference between the results
- Disappointing
- But remember the provisos
- Natural model
- 2. Other 'forces'

#### Corrections

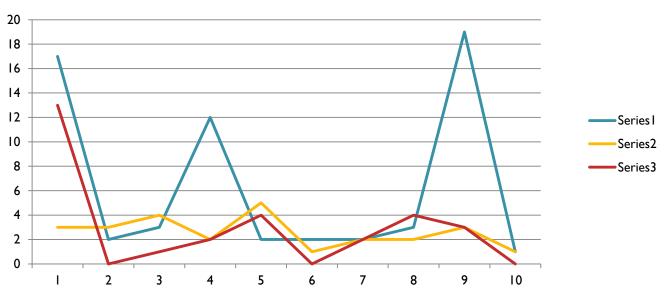


#### Rejected eggs

Rejection may not all be due to disease but also outside forces There is however a general pattern of early rise and mid-lay fall and final rise

So there is probably no difference between the drugs influencing the rejection of eggs

#### Corrections



#### Mortality

There is a no correlation between the mortality amongst the groups But no disease was reported so the causes of mortality are unlikely to be related to disease and therefore unlikely to be affected by the drugs So we re-did the calculations assuming all groups had a similar mortality

#### Corrected results

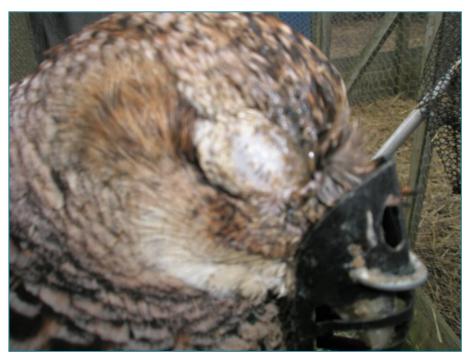
	Alive bird days	laying %	hatch %	Chicks / 1000 /week
Α	69249	68.45	69.64	3301
В	69249	70.36	66.62	3246
С	69249	71.37	65.7	3247

A = Aivlosin B= Tiamulin C= Tylan The corrected results show that groups B and C produced roughly the same amount of chicks per 1000 hens whereas the Aivlosin group appears to have created much better Hatchability and as a result produced in excess of 50 more chicks /1000 hens/week which is a 5% improvement

We are awaiting official confirmation of this re-working of the data

## Clinical Experience 2009 / 2010

3000 caught up hens came in with 'Bulgy – eye'



## Clinical Experience 2009 / 2010

- Treated with Aivlosin Water Soluble Granules [WSG]
- 3 day course
- 2% solution through the Dosatron
- Excellent initial clear-up
- Follow –up treatment as recommended by Eco Animal health in the data sheet was not undertaken

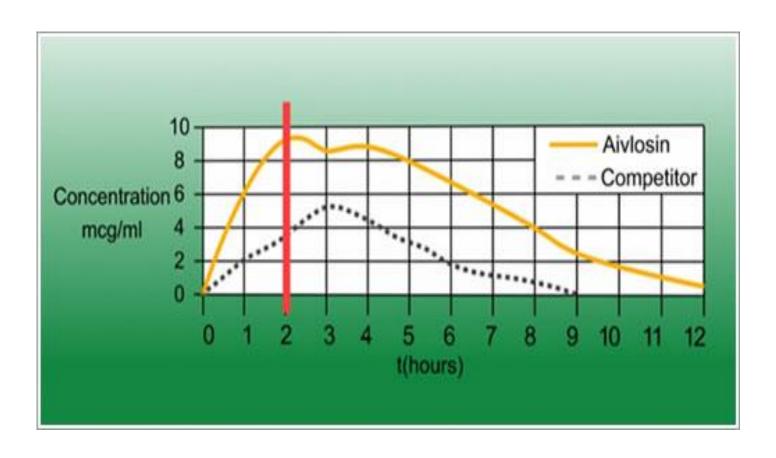
## Clinical Experience 2009 / 2010

- Result was a recrudescence of the disease which required a further two courses to ensure complete clear up
- Another smaller outbreak in the same year was treated according to manufacturers recommendations and the results were outstanding
- So Do what it says on the tin !!

## Turkeys

- As we are not far from Turkey country I felt it appropriate to add some comment about our experience in that species
- Used in both growing and fattening birds with great success
- One grower with an on site problem now using the drug preventatively with great sucess.

It's fast



- It gets to the site of infection
- It continues to act
- It is stable in water under field conditions
- [useful in outside applications]
- It is palatable
- It is very soluble
- It has a high safety margin

A Vets View --A great new drug Does what it says on the tin [packet!]

## Thank - you

