

**BPC ANTIBIOTICS STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2021**

# 10 YEARS OF STEWARDSHIP EXCELLENCE

With poultry being half the meat eaten in the UK, the British Poultry Council's Antibiotic Stewardship plays a vital role in delivering good bird health and welfare; ensuring the sustainable and responsible use of antibiotics, safeguarding the efficacy of antibiotics, and helping produce food that consumers trust.

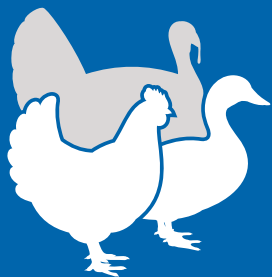
The British poultry meat industry has worked hard to mitigate the challenges brought around by **Covid-19**, **Brexit** and **Avian Influenza**.

With a responsibility to feed the nation, and a duty of care to protect the health and wellbeing of their birds, poultry meat producers have demonstrated phenomenal resilience and must continue to collaboratively drive improvements and best practice across the whole supply chain.

## ANTIBIOTICS USED IN THE BRITISH POULTRY MEAT SECTOR

**SINCE 2012 ...**

**74.2%** REDUCTION IN THE TOTAL USE OF ANTIBIOTICS



**97.2%**  
DECREASE  
IN THE USAGE OF  
FLUOROQUINOLONES

**95.5%**  
REDUCTION  
IN THE USE OF CRITICALLY  
IMPORTANT ANTIBIOTICS

# ANTIBIOTICS USED BY THE UK POULTRY MEAT SECTOR

IN 2020 WE USED:  
**21 TONNES** OF ANTIBIOTICS



**ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP**

The BPC Antibiotic Stewardship Scheme was set up in 2011, with the UK poultry meat sector “at the vanguard globally on antibiotic stewardship,” as noted by Professor Peter Borriello, former CEO, Veterinary Medicines Directorate.

The British poultry meat industry was first to voluntarily develop a strategy for the responsible use of antibiotics, finding the path for other sectors to follow suit.

Over the past ten years, BPC member businesses have successfully reduced their total antibiotic use by nearly 75%.

Looking into the data at a more granular level means that industry can get a better understanding of the reasons for use.

To continue to drive improvements in delivering excellence in bird health and wellbeing, the Stewardship must examine the link between antibiotic use and resistance in the poultry production chain.

We remain below the Government approved RUMA species specific sector targets and are committed to reporting our progress on an annual basis.



## A WIN FOR THE TURKEY SECTOR



A huge effort to reduce use of antibiotics, particularly **Critically Important Antibiotics**, in turkeys has seen usage fall to 25.7 mg/pcu.

This is nearly **50% lower than RUMA species-specific target** of 50 mg/pcu. Since 2014, the turkey sector has reduced mg/pcu by **88.2%**.

This success demonstrates the commitment of the sector to upholding the UK’s stance on tackling antimicrobial resistance. The responsible use of antibiotics keeps them effective for future generations.

## TOTAL USE OF ANTIBIOTICS 2012-20

