

Animal Welfare – Policy on the use of Antibiotics

Use of antibiotics:

- Faccenda Foods endorse the guiding principles of R.U.M.A (Responsible Use Of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance) which states that antibiotic usage should be “*As little as possible, but as much as necessary*”. Further details can be found can be found at: www.ruma.org.uk/poultry.htm
- Antibiotics are never used as an alternative to good management. Emphasis is placed on preventative disease management. Each of our farms has a Flock Health Plan supplied by an experienced poultry veterinary surgeon. A focus on good hygiene throughout the production chain linked with a planned vaccination strategy for birds in our care is fundamental to promote good health and welfare.

We do not administer antibiotics prophylactically, nor use any classed as critically important to human health:

- 3rd and 4th generation Cephalosporins are not used
- Macrolides are not used
- We do not use Colistin
- Fluoroquinolones are only used when all the following have been satisfied:
 1. Recommendation by a Poultry veterinarian following clinical investigation and evidence of a welfare crisis.
 2. No other alternative efficacious antibiotic is available.
 3. The use has been sanction by a Board Director of Faccenda Foods.

Antibiotic sensitivity testing is used to determine the most appropriate course of medication to be used.

