

How auditing encourages responsible use of antibiotics (and participatory innovation too!)

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RESPONSIBLE USE OF MEDICINES IN AGRICULTURE ALLIANCE

ruma

UK Five Year
AM Strategy
2013-2018

Sainsbury's

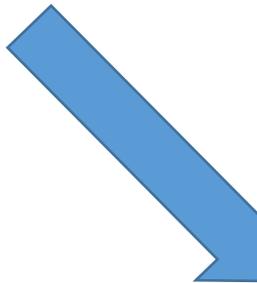
Waitrose **Iceland**



ASDA Budgens



Somerfield M&S **TESCO**

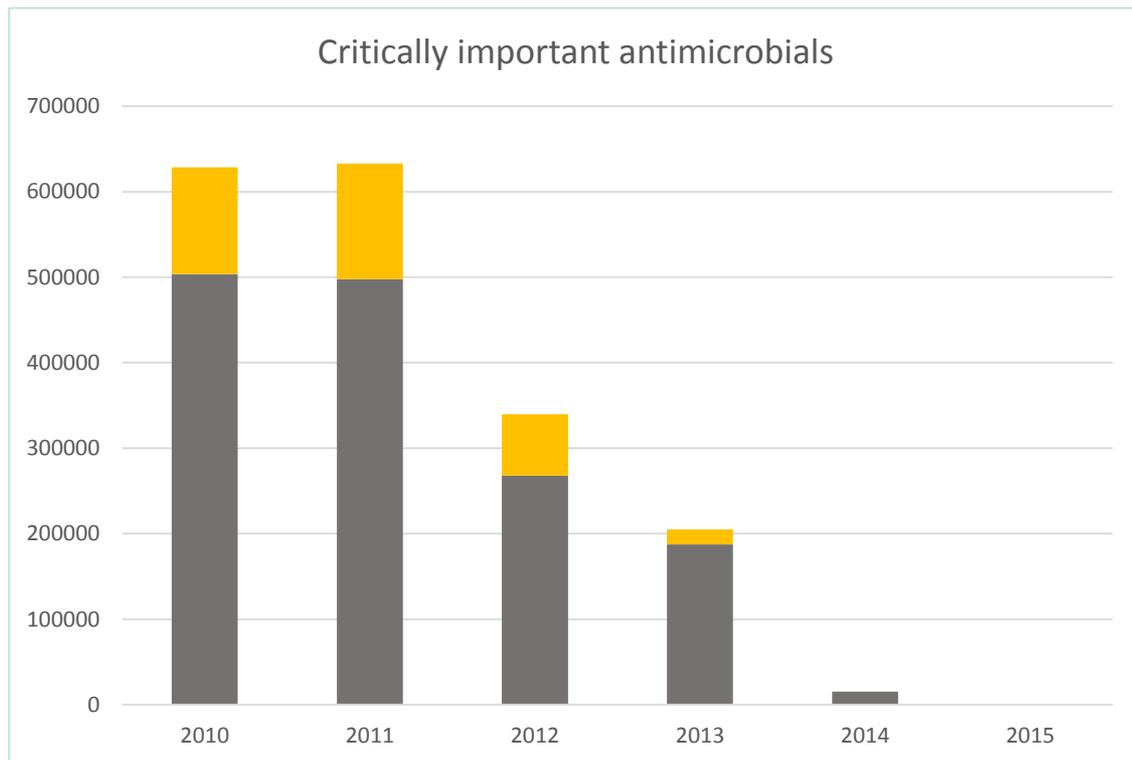


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Medicine audits

- UoB Farm Animal Practice
- Prescribing / herd health planning
- Particular emphasis on:
 - Fluoroquinolones
 - 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporins
 - (Long-acting macrolides)



Lessons learned

- It is possible to achieve marked reductions in the quantity of protected antimicrobials used whilst...
 - Keeping farmers on board
 - Continuing to improve animal health and welfare
- ... and without the need for legislation!
- The use of critically important antimicrobials (CIAs) as first line treatments cannot be justified.



Participatory
Policy Making
(PPM)

Participatory Policy Making

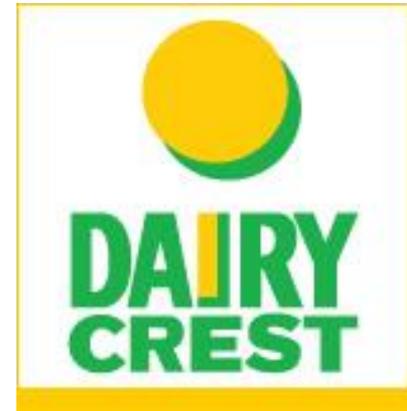
- **Innovative change to fill the void in public policy making**
- **Empowerment of stakeholders to**
 - Formulate
 - Implement
 - Monitor
 - Evaluate
- **Achieve sustainable farm practice change**
 - More practical and implementable
 - Maintain control and sense of ownership



WD Farmers



AM
stewardship
policy



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Stewardship policy

Conceptual model by Speksnijder *et al.*
(2015) provided a structure:

Principle 1: Disease reduction strategies

Principle 2: Ensuring correct use of medicines

Principle 3: Avoiding prophylactic use

Principle 4: Encouraging quality data
recording and use

Presentation to gain understanding of farmer & vet perceptions of use of AMs and AMR & to raise their awareness, then focus groups



Evaluation at end of workshops to identify challenges and benefits to farmers

1. Identify policy need

2. Convene policy development team

3. Set policy objectives

4. Formulate policy

5. Review draft policy

6. Consolidate draft policy

7. Approve policy

8. Communicate policy to all producers

9. Develop policy implementation tools

10. Implement policy

11. Evaluate & update

4 regional workshops - all producers and their veterinarians (n=97)



Follow-up meetings with farmer representatives to refine policy

Perceptions

- **Antibiotic use in the UK livestock sector is too high**
 - 79% agreed
- 73% able to reduce amount of AMs whilst **maintaining production levels and health of their herds**
- 53% indicated could reduce CIA use (fluoroquinolones, 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporins)





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Policy statements

- All producers use **animal production practices** that **reduce**, and, where possible, **eliminate** the need for AM therapies.
- All producers work with their veterinarians to **assess** and **address disease risk** regularly.
- On all farms, **all staff** engaged in using antibiotics use them **responsibly** or are adequately **supervised** by staff who are able to do so.
- On all farms, the use of antibiotics to **prevent** disease is minimalized.
- On all farms, **unified data** is collected and used to **benchmark** and compare medicine use within and between farms in order to work towards further reductions in AM use.

Participation in the process

- *“made me think about antibiotic use more”*
- *“knowing the opinions of my fellow producers”*
- *“ideas for moving our practice forward, using drug usage as part of the Herd Health Plan”*
- *“helped make policy that works for the farmer”*
- 42% felt participation was challenging
- 58% envisaged making changes to AM use as a result of their participation in the workshops





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Policy implementation

- 6 months:
- System developed, data exported from vets for benchmarking and development of KPI's
- Development of training material
- ~70% of farmers and veterinarians changed their use of AMs since workshops
- Next 6 months of data coming in!



ANTIBIOTIC
GUARDIAN

Conclusions

- First documented application of PPM to livestock health policy
- Intensive collaboration/dialogue between farmers, veterinarians, industry partners, researchers
- Development of credible and practical recommendations designed to deliver real on-farm change in AM use
- Initial step creating better understanding of how participatory approaches with farmers can be applied in a UK context and more widely
- Pilot for promoting more responsible use of AMs in other livestock species