

# Eye Drop

## Eimeriavax Coccidiosis vaccines



### Recommendation for vaccine preparation for eye drop vaccination

Vaccination for coccidiosis by **eye drop** is the most effective way to provide the **correct dosage** to each individual bird. Application of the vaccine in the eye is considered as an **oral vaccination**: the vaccine will enter the mouth by the nasolacrimal duct and will be swallowed by the bird.

### Step 1: Preparation of the vaccine solution for vaccination

The exact amount of water used depends on the drop size, specific to the dropper used. The vaccine is available in vials of 1000 and 5000 doses.

#### Vials of 1000 doses and a drop size of 0.025 ml

The vaccine can be used **undiluted** when an eye dropper\* is used which gives a drop size of 0.025 ml.

#### Vials of 5000 dosages and a drop size of 0.025 ml

The vaccine must be diluted as follows: Shake the vaccine vial thoroughly before to resuspend the oocysts. Add the entire contents of one vial to 100 ml water (total volume 125 ml). Rinse the vaccine vial at least 2-3 times to ensure that all oocysts will be removed from the vial.

### Step 2: Application of the eye drop

Hold each bird with its head tilted to one side. Allow a single drop of vaccine suspension to fall freely into the open eye, gently flooding it. The drop (before release) and the dropper tip should NOT touch the eye surface. Allow the bird to blink before releasing it.

If operator is unsure that the dose was administered successfully, then a repeat dose should be given.

\* Upon request, Bioproperties can provide the eye dropper for vials containing 1000 doses.

# Application recommendation

## Key points for a successful coccidiosis vaccination

The vaccine contains **live coccidian oocysts** and is dependent upon replication of the vaccinal lines within the chickens for building up of immunity.

To reduce the chance of coccidial challenge before the onset of immunity, litter should be removed and chicken housing should be **thoroughly cleaned** between rearing cycles. Make sure all rests of feed were removed from the previous cycle and that the feed lines were cleaned with a non-medicated feed if necessary. All drinker and drinker lines should be cleaned properly to avoid persistence from rest medication in the drinking water.

**Recycling of oocysts** is necessary for the development of immunity and for continued protection. Contact between the excreted vaccine and the birds after vaccination is guaranteed when birds are floor reared and housed at normal commercial density (the higher the density, the higher the possibility for recycling). In case of rearing on slatted floors care should be taken that recycling is guaranteed for minimum 3 weeks after vaccine application.

To guarantee an **optimal sporulation** of the excreted vaccine a minimum relative humidity of 60% in the poultry house, a dry matter content in the litter of maximum 80% and a litter temperature of minimum 25°C is advisable.

Do **not use products** with **anti-coccidial activity** at any time following vaccination since they will affect the live vaccine and will adversely affect the development of immunity.



Eimeria Pty Ltd



Bioproperties Pty Ltd  
36 Charter Street  
Ringwood VIC 3134  
Australia  
Ph: +61 3 9876 0567  
bioinfo@bioproperties.com.au  
www.bioproperties.com.au



V1.1

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