



## Introduction to Oralvax HE®

Hemorrhagic Enteritis (HE) is a viral disease of young turkeys characterized by sudden onset of depression, bloody droppings, immunosuppression and variable mortality. It is caused by a Type II adenovirus which is shed in the feces and spread by contact with infected litter.

Classical HE is characterized by sudden mortality. Birds are in good flesh and may still have feed in the crop. Dead birds may be pale due to anemia. Intestines are distended, dark in color and full of red or brownish blood.

The spleen is strikingly mottled and enlarged (up to four times the normal size).

Mild or subclinical HE has become more common in the industry. Birds 6-12 weeks of age may suffer immunosuppression and a mild enteritis. Damage to the gut wall allows *E. coli* to penetrate into the bloodstream and immunosuppression reduces the bird's ability to fight off the infection. Sickness and mortality due to *E. coli* infection can result in substantial losses.

### ORALVAX HE

Oralvax HE vaccine is a freeze-dried (lyophilized) live virus vaccine for administration via the drinking water. The vaccine is made from a Type II avian adenovirus of pheasant origin. The virus is not virulent for turkeys and affords protection against the death loss and immunosuppressive

effects of HE. Field trials in locations across the U.S. have shown Oralvax HE vaccine to be safe and effective. In one field trial, a large complex which routinely suffers losses due to HE-induced *E. coli* infection by ten weeks of age showed improved livability in Oralvax HE vaccinated flocks:

### PERFORMANCE OF ORALVAX HE VACCINATES

FLOCK	AGE	TOTAL MORTALITY		MORTALITY DIFFERENCE
		Oralvax HE Vaccinates	15 flock company average for age	
1	9 weeks	4.33%	4.92%	- 0.6%
2	10 weeks	3.87%	5.97%	-2.10%

\*15 flock company average includes flocks vaccinated with splenic homogenate or other commercial vaccines.

No immunosuppression or adverse effects as a result of vaccination with Oralvax HE vaccine have been reported in any of the field trials.

**Note:** Maternal antibody levels may interfere with the response to vaccination with Oralvax HE vaccine. We recommend vaccination at six weeks of age to minimize the possibility of interference.

[ Innovative Solutions in Poultry Health ]



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