

AN INTERVIEW WITH JACOB KUCHARSKI

VETASSURE - REVOLUTIONIZING HATCHERY BIOSECURITY STANDARDS

DanHatch Poland (DHP) stands as the foremost independent producer of one-day-old broiler chicks in Poland, with a steadfast dedication to productivity, animal health, and welfare, the company operates within the esteemed DanHatch Group.



Renowned for its relentless pursuit of excellent performance, DHP continually refines its methodologies and procedures, elevating every facet of hatching egg production and hatchery operations. Positioned as a leading entity in Europe, the company exemplifies efficiency and innovation, setting benchmarks within the industry landscape.

In March 2023, DHP embarked on a strategic initiative to fortify its biosecurity control program through the adoption of ATP Surface Testing. Leveraging VetAssure™ ATP surface swabs and EnSure® Touch luminometer, this new approach has strengthened the company's routine biosecurity procedures related to hygiene and sanitation.

Jakub Kucharski, a seasoned veterinarian overseeing comprehensive biosecurity procedures within the hatchery and across farms, sheds light on the rationale behind introducing this cutting-edge system and its practical benefits.

Safeguarding Quality

One of the paramount strengths of DHP lies in its products' consistent and creditable quality. This directly results from strict process control measures implemented throughout rearing and production farms and within the hatchery environment.

One key aspect of their control framework is the concept of biosecurity, which includes a range of proactive measures aimed at averting disease-related challenges.

By continuously refining their biosecurity measures, DHP ensures the maintenance of optimal conditions advantageous to prime product quality.

Kucharski stated that the motivation behind adopting the VetAssure system came from a pressing need for a rapid and efficient cleanliness assessment tool within their daily operational framework. Their existing biosecurity verification methods (e.g., bacterial counts) did not provide immediate access to reliable and quantifiable results; therefore, timely corrective measures could not be applied.



Jakub Kucharski

Additionally, the existing methods made proper data storage and analysis complicated, which led further to a delayed gathering of valuable insights.

VetAssure emerged as the solution tailored to Kucharski's specific requirements. With its ease of use and swiftness in results the VetAssure testing system stands out as a primary solution for verifying hatchery hygiene.

Redefining Biosecurity Standards

The VetAssure ATP testing system is pivotal in verifying and tracking the successful implementation of hygiene and sanitation measures as part of DHP's biosecurity plan. Through the generation of immediate results, DHP can take timely corrective measures where needed and minimize potential quality risks to their operations.

Making use of the associated software package for data storage and analysis is crucial for advancing procedural enhancements sustainably. The software streamlines the analysis of extensive datasets, eliminating the need for tedious manual data entry and processing. Furthermore, it enables pinpointing areas that require improvement, as well as tracking progress across various fronts, ensuring continuous enhancement of procedures.

A practical example of VetAssure's application lies in enhancing the hatchery testing plan, enabling more precise oversight of plant hygiene.



Photo 1: Sampling the surface of a transport crate with the VetAssure ATP Surface Test

Presently, the test results conducted prior to production dictate whether operations proceed or require supplementary cleaning and disinfection measures beforehand.

Similarly, the loading of chicks onto transport trucks is contingent upon the vehicle passing the VetAssure cleanliness assessment.

Kucharski endorses VetAssure ATP testing for any hatchery committed to high standards of biosecurity and continuous quality enhancement in their operations and products. The VetAssure system enables real-time and routine cleanliness monitoring across the entire operation and facilitates more robust data analysis and informed decision-making.

Embracing VetAssure not only simplified cleanliness verification but also raised the bar to new and higher biosecurity standards in the hatchery industry.



Photo 2: Running a VetAssure ATP Surface Test on the Ensure Touch luminometer