



An interview with
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“ The withdrawal time for Aureomix S...is 15 days. Compare that to 42 days for Mecadox. That’s a 27-day difference — nearly 4 weeks. ”

Aureomix® S provides effective replacement for Mecadox®

Q: The pork industry is expecting a shortage of Mecadox® (carbadox) that could last well into 2019. Should veterinarians and producers consider using Aureomix® S (chlortetracycline and sulfamethazine) as a replacement product?

TP: Absolutely. The indications for both products are similar. Aureomix S is also an easy product to manage.

Q: How does the label for Aureomix S differ from the Mecadox label?

TP: Aureomix S is indicated not only for treatment of bacterial swine enteritis but also for preventing this type of enteritis during times of stress (Figure 1). That provides veterinarians with some flexibility when recommending the medications because pigs can be stressed by a lot of circumstances — most notably, weaning. Other stressors are weather changes, commingling or sorting pigs. The indication for prevention is particularly important because bacterial enteritis is a common problem that has clearly been linked to stress.¹

continued

Figure 1. Comparison of swine indications	
AUREOMIX S	MECADOX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of the incidence of cervical abscesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of swine dysentery (vibronic dysentery, bloody scours or hemorrhagic dysentery)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment of bacterial swine enteritis (salmonellosis or necrotic enteritis caused by <i>Salmonella choleraesuis</i> and vibronic dysentery) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of bacterial swine enteritis (salmonellosis or necrotic enteritis caused by <i>Salmonella choleraesuis</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of these diseases during times of stress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased rate of weight gain and improved feed efficiency in swine
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of weight gain in the presence of atrophic rhinitis 	

“The granular formulation of Aureomix S distributes really well in feed.”

Q: Do the required withdrawal periods before processing differ?

TP: The withdrawal time for both Aureomix S 10/10, a Type B Medicated Article, and Aureomix S 40/40, a Type A Medicated Article, is 15 days. Compare that to 42 days for Mecadox. That’s a 27-day difference — nearly 4 weeks. That also translates to more flexibility for pork producers.

Q: Is a veterinary feed directive (VFD) required to use Aureomix S?

TP: Yes, but that’s not an obstacle. Swine veterinarians and the pork industry recognize the importance of increased veterinary supervision and have already adapted well to the new VFD regulations.

Q: What about the Aureomix S indication for maintaining weight gain in pigs with atrophic rhinitis. Is that too narrow an indication?

TP: Not really. Atrophic rhinitis isn’t as common as it once was, but we often see *Pasteurella multocida* and *Bordetella*, which cause atrophic rhinitis. If a herd had an outbreak of respiratory disease and I knew one of those pathogens was involved, I wouldn’t hesitate to issue a VFD for Aureomix S. I would consider that a responsible use of antibiotics when prescribed in the context of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

Q: Do feed mills need to make changes before switching to Aureomix S?

TP: No. The same standard operating procedures for sequencing and flushing that are used for Mecadox should be followed to comply with FDA guidelines.

Q: Should feed mills be concerned about sulfa spikes in flush feeds?

TP: That’s not a big concern with Aureomix S because it’s an all-granular formulation. Years ago, the pork industry experienced some problems with sulfa spikes with products that weren’t granulated. Fecal contamination of pigs with sulfas was also a concern when more pigs were on dirt or concrete, but now most commercial pigs are on slatted floors, so it’s seldom a problem.

Q: Are there any other reasons to use Aureomix S?

TP: The granular formulation of Aureomix S distributes really well in feed. It’s not dusty, and there’s good stability under high temperatures.

¹ McLamb B, et al. Early Weaning Stress in Pigs Impairs Innate Mucosal Immune Responses to Enterotoxigenic *E. coli* Challenge and Exacerbates Intestinal Injury and Clinical Disease. PLoS One. 2013 Apr 24. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3634819/>

For more information, contact Thomas Painter (thomas.painter@zoetis.com) or your Zoetis representative.

Withdraw Aureomix fifteen (15) days prior to slaughter.

CAUTION: Federal law restricts medicated feed containing this veterinary feed directive (VFD) drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

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Toolbox is a series of interviews with veterinarians about their experiences managing antimicrobials, vaccines and other tools for swine health. It is produced by the editors of *Pig Health Today*™ on behalf of the US Pork Business of Zoetis.

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