

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Innovad Trial Research to be Featured at IPSF

Rehoboth, DE, USA, 1/9/2024 – Original research addressing two of Innovad’s primary areas of expertise – mycotoxins and gut health – will be highlighted at this year’s International Poultry Scientific Forum (IPSF), the annual scientific meeting held as a forerunner to the International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE). Don Ritter, DVM, ACPV, will present the research during the Metabolism & Nutrition VIII session, scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, in room B313.

The IPSF, sponsored by the Southern Poultry Science Society, the Southern Conference on Avian Diseases, and the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, serves as a premier platform for presenting critical information on industry trends and recent research, including new insights in the areas of metabolism and nutrition. This year’s program includes presentations of two abstracts submitted by the Innovad scientific team.

Unveiling mycotoxin exposure

The first, to be presented by lead author Don Ritter, DVM, ACPV, is titled “Practical application of multi-mycotoxin biomarker analysis from dried blood spots to assess mycotoxin exposure risk and performance impacts of a novel mycotoxin intervention in broilers.” This work utilized Innovad’s patented methodology for analyzing dried blood spots for a comprehensive list of mycotoxin biomarkers, paired with LC-MS/MS feed analysis. Samples were obtained from commercial broilers in several U.S. locations. The combined results demonstrated a persistent exposure of broilers to multiple mycotoxins in the cases examined.

Subsequently, a pen study was designed to evaluate performance impacts of an intervention feed additive designed to address feed-related stress. Novin® P is a proprietary feed additive containing a complimentary blend of ingredients that have been shown to possess supportive attributes: clays, yeast, plant extracts and natural antioxidants.

The trial itself utilized 1040 day-old male chicks (ROSS 708), housed 52 per floor pen. Half the pens had Novin® P added to the feed at the rate of 2.0 lb/ton during the starter (0-14 days), 1.5 lb/ton during the grower (15-32 days), and 0.5 lb/ton during the finisher (33-45 days) phase. Feed and blood samples were collected for mycotoxin analysis at the end of each feeding period; birds and feed were weighed at day 45 to assess body weight, daily gains, and feed efficiency ratio. While feed analysis confirmed consistent mycotoxin content through the feeding period, blood testing showed reductions in blood mycotoxin biomarkers at 14 and 32 days for birds receiving Novin® P. This reduced toxin exposure was reflected in greater rate of gain and body weight, and a statistical tendency for improved mortality-adjusted FCR (feed conversion ratio).

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Don Ritter, DVM, Technical Poultry Manager Innovad

“The audience will learn the true exposure risk to mycotoxins, that before has been unseen. Blood analysis is a new way to look at mycotoxin exposure in animals, which is much more accurate than feed testing. This presentation will offer poultry producers of all types – broiler, turkey and layers – and scientists from around the world the chance to learn more about mycotoxin dynamics in animals and in the grain supply chain.”



Enhancing intestinal health

Dr. Ritter will also be presenting a paper submitted by a group of scientists representing Ghent University, the Agricultural University of Athens, and Innovad: “A synergistic in-feed technology enhances the intestinal epithelial barrier via the upregulation of cytoprotective and antioxidant proteins in broilers under dietary challenges in real farming conditions.” This work evaluated the protective gut barrier effects of feeding a combination of esterified butyrate, fatty acids, and select plant extracts and essential oils, which is commercially sold by Innovad in the U.S. as Lumin™.

The researchers utilized both an established permeability model (Transepithelial Electrical Resistance) and an in vivo dietary-induced chronic inflammation model to measure metabolic as well as performance impacts of the feed additive offered at two different levels. The impact on growth rate was monitored in 24 pens (8 per treatment) containing 30 birds per pen, which were located inside a commercial production unit of 55,000 broilers.

Key outcomes included significant improvements in broiler body weight and feed conversion when Lumin was fed, accompanied by a profound increase in expression of key cytoprotective and antioxidant proteins.

Additional details will be presented during IPSF. Both Innovad abstracts have been included in the Metabolism & Nutrition VIII session, which is scheduled for the morning of Tuesday, January 30, in room B313. The mycotoxin discussion will begin at 9:30 am, followed by the epithelial barrier work at 9:45. It is important to note that IPSF requires a separate registration and registration fee (students with a valid ID can attend at no charge).

Dr. Ritter and other Innovad experts will also be available at the [Innovad booth A861](#) throughout the show to further discuss this and other related research.

About Dr. Don Ritter

Dr. Ritter, a board-certified poultry vet with 36 years of industry experience, founded the One Health Certified standard. Operating a Delaware-based consulting firm, he collaborates with Innovad on technical sales and research trials in the U.S. poultry sector. Dr. Ritter earned his DVM from the University of Missouri and completed a Poultry Medicine Internship at North Carolina State University.

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