

THE BENEFITS OF TARGETING MEDICATION

More farmers are turning to water medication as a more targeted method of treating pigs. Dosing pumps can be an important part of the process, helping to ensure accurate dosing

Medication and supplementation via drinking water allows producers to treat a disease problem quickly and effectively as soon as the first symptoms appear.

Installing a dosing pump in your livestock area limits the need for routine treatments and can contribute to reduced medication of herds. Targeted water medication means pigs are exposed to antibiotics for less time compared with in-feed medication, according to Xavier Chehri, Dosatron head of animal health.

Dosing pumps are also used for water vaccinations, including for *Ileitis*, *Salmonella*, *erysipelas* and *E-Coli*.

"Treatments via drinking water allow you to reduce an animal's exposure to antibiotics," Mr Chehri said. "The benefit of using a dosing pump resides in its quicker

reaction time – as soon as the first symptoms appear. Its flexibility allows you to treat smaller groups of animals with multi-piping installation at post-weaning, treating individual rooms, for example. This type of supplementation provides effective ingestion of the treatment, given that sick animals generally eat less but continue to drink."

The market-leading Dosatron range of water-powered medicators offers reliable, proportional dosing into water, not only for medication but also for vaccination, acidification, supplementation and water line disinfection, he added.

Installed in the water line, the non-electric Dosatron is driven directly by water flow, ensuring precise and homogenous dosing irrespective of variations in water pressure (in pig farms, water pressure can fluctuate substantially) and

water flow (peak demand can account for as much as 70% of daily water requirement).

The liquid additive and stock solution are drawn up in proportional amounts, mixed with the flowing water and injected downstream into the pipes. The selection of the model generally depends on water flow rate (how much the animals drink), dose rate requirements and the nature of the additives being dosed.

“This type of supplementation provides effective ingestion of the treatment, given that sick animals generally eat less but continue to drink

”

The range includes units developed for use with concentrated organic acid products for lowering the pH of the gut and the DIA4RE diaphragm unit for use at low water flows – 4.5 litres per hour min flow rate, ideal for day-old piglets – and low pressures – 0.15 bar minimum, ideal for header tanks.

The new D25+ Care model offers adjustable dose rates up

to 5%, allowing easier stock solution mixing and dosing of low solubility powders, such as tetracyclines, amoxicillin, paracetamol and aspirin. Some vitamins or probiotics often require higher dosing rates up to 4% or 5% (refer to the veterinary prescription and local legislation on authorised medicines). It also helps with food compatibility and improved chemical resistance.

Meanwhile, the new SmartDosing SD25AL5 allows real time monitoring of water flow and dosing performance with event and incident alarms, alerting the user to issues such as no water flow or empty containers and when preventative maintenance is needed. All data can be recorded and reviewed using SmartLink software.

Regular cleaning and maintenance of Dosatron units is recommended and spare parts are available in the UK.

Factfile

ABOUT HINGEROSE

Hingerose Limited is Dosatron's UK & Ireland partner, with 40 years' experience of Dosatron use in a diverse range of applications in many different agricultural, horticultural and industrial market sectors.

Typical examples include cleaning and disinfection, sanitisation, fertigation, coolant mixing for metalworking and water and wastewater treatment.

Further information and advice, including spares diagrams, is available from the company's website www.hingerose.co.uk and its YouTube channel.



Xavier Chehri,
Dosatron head
of animal
health



Installation of a dosing pump can limit the requirement for routine treatments