

WILLMAR OFFICE

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# Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 23, 2024

### **Historic Milestone Achieved:**

## **USDA Approves First-Ever Import of Live Vaccine into the United States**

Willmar, Minnesota – Vaxxinova US proudly announces a groundbreaking development for animal health and the poultry industry. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved importation of a live Avian metapneumovirus vaccine, Vaxxon®SHS, into the U.S. market. This unprecedented approval marks a significant milestone in the fight against Avian metapneumovirus (aMPV).



Vaxxon®SHS is a lyophilized live attenuated metapneumovirus vaccine to protect against Swollen Head Syndrome in poultry. Developed by Vaxxinova Italy, this innovative vaccine has demonstrated exceptional efficacy and safety through rigorous testing and evaluation.

"This landmark approval is a testament to our commitment to advance animal health and meet the needs of our customers" said Brian Harberts, Managing Director, spokesperson for Vaxxinova. "The USDA's decision marks an important milestone for the US turkey and poultry industry who have been devastated by aMPV." "As a result of the collaboration with industry organizations such as National Turkey Federation, poultry producers, and the USDA, Vaxxinova US is now able to offer the same vaccine to the US market that Vaxxinova Italy has been providing to customers for the past twenty plus years".

Dr. Dan Domingo, Senior Poultry Technical Service Veterinarian at Vaxxinova, states that "In addition to good biosecurity, the use of live attenuated virus vaccines followed by administration of inactivated (killed) virus vaccines have been successfully used to control Avian Metapneumovirus, especially in long-lived chickens and turkeys. Live vaccines have the ability to stimulate both systemic and local immunity in the respiratory tract."

Additionally, "Attenuated live virus vaccines for aMPV prime the birds for the effective use of inactivated vaccines." Vaxxinova is honored to collaborate with the USDA, and our international Vaxxinova colleagues around the world, and other key stakeholders to bring this innovative solution to the U.S. market. Distribution of Vaxxon®SHS Live vaccine is expected to commence in early 2025, first focusing on the needs of the turkey industry. Additionally, Vaxxinova will have an inactivated autogenous aMPV vaccine available for US producers to provide the Live vaccine priming and Inactivated boost the industry has been hoping to have available.





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For more information about the live vaccine or inactivated vaccine contact, Vaxxinova US Sales and Marketing Director, Tim Hopson, Tim.Hopson@vaxxinova.com. Vaxxinova®is a global animal health company specialized in disease and performance management of production animals. The company has sales in more than 75 countries and has its headquarters in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Vaxxinova has R&D, production and diagnostic facilities in Brazil, Chile, Germany, Italy, Japan, Jordan, the Netherlands, Norway and USA.

Vaxxinova is part of the family-owned EW Group which is based in Germany and specializes in the field of genetics, diagnostics, nutrition and health. Vaxxinova employs about 1000 employees across their subsidiaries. Vaxxinova US has locations in Willmar, Minnesota and Worthington, Minnesota and employs nearly 200 employees throughout the US. Vaxxinova US manufacturers and markets both licensed and autogenous vaccines supporting the cattle, poultry, and swine markets.

