

Auranta wins *The Irish Times* Business Innovation Award

A new, Irish biotech animal-health company, Auranta Ltd, recently won the *The Irish Times* Innovation Award for 2019 in the Life Sciences/New Frontiers category. Auranta is a new company, which developed as a spin-out campus company involving university researchers. It is a cutting-edge, research-focused, young company with a broad spread of scientific expertise at its disposal. The company was awarded the top spot in *The Irish Times* Innovation Awards by a scientific judging panel, due to its successful development of an effective, natural and proven alternative to in-feed antibiotics in calves, pigs, and poultry. This is in line with World Health Organization, World Organisation for Animal Health, and European Union recommendations and policies to reduce and replace antibiotic usage in agriculture. The judging panel noted that Auranta has developed a proven and researched novel phytochemical alternative to antibiotics, and that the results of the product in the field in calves, pigs and poultry have been 'most impressive'. The products are intended as production enhancers and as alternatives to oral antibiotics to promote gut health and reduce disease incidence in young animals. Auracalf is a natural additive for use in calves, which augments in a natural physiological way the gut microbiome, the gut immunity and local gut health. These effects have been proven and published by Auranta researchers. Weight gain at weaning in calves has increased by up to 15 per cent



Success for Auranta Ltd: Dr Pat Ward, director; John Cullen, CEO; Dr Nicolae Corcionivoschi, microbiologist; and Dr Tom Barragry, veterinary and technical adviser.

with less disease incidence when fed Auracalf. In extensive calf trials, Auracalf has reduced antibiotic usage by 45 per cent. Auracalf is a natural additive for enhancement of gut health, to be fed to young calves from birth to weaning. It is not a veterinary medicine and makes no specific therapeutic claims. It is a natural phytochemical and proven natural feed additive acting via natural immunity, antioxidant and microbiome effects. It has undergone extensive field trials in calves, from birth to 56 days, with demonstrable positive benefits on weight gain, calf health and absence of calfhood disease. It has been used in over 300,00 calves in Ireland to date. Auranta's poultry product is used in over one million birds per week as a successful replacement for antibiotics. The product is now exported to 11 countries.

Equine CPD event with Interchem

Interchem Ireland Ltd recently hosted a CPD equine seminar entitled 'Equine nutrition: needs must, but feeds mightn't!' at the Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge. This CPD seminar focused on the rational inclusion of veterinary nutritional supplementation to optimise reproduction efficiency and athletic performance in Irish horses. Topics included the role of supplementation to assist in breeding performance horses and nursery stock/youngstock.



Colm O'Loughlin, Interchem's eastern region territory manager; Dr Stephanie Chapman, Audevard Laboratories; Sinnéad Oakes, Interchem's veterinary adviser; and Paul Kennedy, Interchem's large animal sales manager.

Speakers included Dr Stephanie Chapman BSc (Hons) BVSc MRCVS, Veterinary Technical Advisor in Europe for Audevard Laboratoires and Sinnéad Oakes MVB MRCVS MPH Cert ESM, veterinary technical adviser for Interchem.

Dr Chapman concluded her presentation with a study on decreased performance in racehorses: 275 horses evaluated for poor performance; 84 per cent diagnosed with a combination of multi-organ problems; not only orthopaedic; new research to show that nutritional supplementation can have beneficial and synergistic effects.

Bayer receives marketing authorisation for Neptra in Europe

Bayer's Neptra ear drops solution for dogs (florfenicol, terbinafine hydrochloride, mometasone furoate) has now received a marketing authorisation for Europe. Neptra is approved for the treatment of acute canine otitis externa or acute exacerbations of recurrent otitis caused by mixed infections of susceptible strains of bacteria sensitive to florfenicol (*Staphylococcus pseudintermedius*) and fungi sensitive to terbinafine (*Malassezia pachydermatis*), by the European Commission. "Otitis externa is a common disease in dogs and a leading reason why owners take their dog to a veterinarian," according to Mario Andreoli, head of marketing at Bayer Animal Health. "Neptra offers a key advantage because unlike competing products, it requires just one dose, administered by the veterinarian in the practice."

No at-home applications by the dog owner are required. The treatment stays in the hands of the veterinarian and, thus, allows full control over compliance. "With Neptra, we provide a high-quality veterinary treatment that is convenient for the dog owner and ensures the wellbeing of dogs with a proper, effective application," explained Mr Andreoli. Neptra will be available on the European market in early 2020.

AuraCalf

the new standard in your
calf rearing programme

CATEGORY WINNER
THE IRISH TIMES

**INNOVATION
AWARD**
2019



FREE OF SCOUR & DISEASE

AISLING NEVILLE | TULLAMORE, CO OFFALY

“I started using AuraCalf on our calves more than three years ago. I can’t believe the difference it has made. I am delighted with their condition ever since – they are all healthier and have been free of scour and disease. I have used less than half the amount of antibiotics than I used to, which has saved me a lot of money on treatment and veterinary fees. I will continue to build AuraCalf into all my future calf rearing programmes.”



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