

Swine Vaccine Approval:

Salmo Shield[®] Live, from Novartis Animal Health, receives new label approval for use in piglets

- *Producers now permitted to vaccinate piglets, one day of age or older, with Salmo Shield Live to aid in the prevention and control of salmonellosis.*

Greensboro, NC (March 17, 2009) – Previously labeled for use on pigs three weeks of age or older only, pork producers can now vaccinate piglets against salmonellosis at one day and older orally or intranasally with Salmo Shield[®] Live.

“Swine salmonellosis is a difficult disease to control and early vaccination is often overlooked, as symptoms are not immediately visible,” says Dr. Mark Hammer, Novartis Animal Health professional service veterinarian. “The new Salmo Shield Live label provides pork producers with enhanced control – offering the earliest vaccination against salmonellosis possible.”

“Early vaccination against salmonellosis is key to protecting your herd against an outbreak,” explains Hammer. “Signs of an outbreak are not visible until it is too late – preventing the disease before onset is vital. And with the new Salmo Shield Live label, producers can vaccinate before pigs enter the nursery, approximately 20 days earlier than before. When pigs are vaccinated at this age, piglets have active immunity before exposure in the nursery, leading to a lower infection rate.”

A single, 1 mL dose of Salmo Shield Live can be administered orally, intranasally (0.5 mL into each nostril) in healthy pigs starting as early as one day after birth. Hammer recommends administering Salmo Shield Live to herds where *Salmonella* has been a chronic, ongoing problem, or where *Salmonella* carrier animals are common.

In addition to Salmo Shield Live, Novartis Animal Health offers a complete line of swine health solutions designed to improve herd performance and profitability, including Denagard[®] (tiamulin), PneumoSTAR[®] Myco, Parvo Shield[®] and more.

As always, be sure to follow label directions and required withdrawal times. For more information, contact Novartis at 1-800-843-3386 or visit www.livestock.novartis.com

About Novartis Animal Health

Novartis Animal Health researches, develops and commercializes leading animal treatments that meet the needs of pet owners, farmers and veterinarians. Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Novartis Animal Health conducts business in 40 countries and employs about 2,600 people worldwide. For more information, please consult <http://www.ah.novartis.com>.

About Novartis

Novartis AG provides healthcare solutions that address the evolving needs of patients and societies. Focused solely on healthcare, Novartis offers a diversified portfolio to best meet these needs: innovative medicines, preventive vaccines, diagnostic tools, cost-saving generic pharmaceuticals and consumer health products. Novartis is the only company with leading positions in these areas. In 2008, the Group's continuing operations achieved net sales of USD 41.5 billion and net income of USD 8.2 billion. Approximately USD 7.2 billion was invested in R&D activities throughout the Group. Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Novartis Group companies

employ approximately 96,700 full-time-equivalent associates and operate in more than 140 countries around the world. For more information, please visit <http://www.novartis.com>.