

Healthier Broilers Through the Use of Ozone for Disinfecting Water Systems

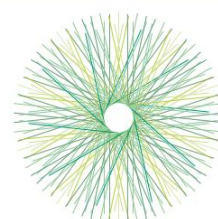


Country of GP owner: Germany

BroilerNet Challenge: Reducing the risk of Salmonella

Salmonella can be transmitted indirectly through the drinking system via contaminated water. So, water quality as well as cleaning and disinfection before, during and after fattening cycles are key. Ozone disinfection is a cost-effective, safe and automated process to clean water lines. Water samples have shown that the total germ count in the treated water tends towards zero. Ozone purifies much faster and more efficiently than chlorine and, apart from oxygen, no by-products or waste products are produced. Furthermore, the ozonized drinking water prevents the formation of a biofilm in the drinking line. The POE-System from ClearWater Tech is compact and no further products or techniques are used for drinking water hygiene on the farm. The drinking lines are rinsed once with ozonized water between two rounds and the animals are supplied with ozonized drinking water from the 15th day of each round. With a functioning ozone system, there are generally no risks for humans or animals. However, there may be unplanned consequences if the system malfunctions, meaning that cleaning and disinfection cannot be carried out reliably and conventional means have to be used. However, no malfunctions occurred over the last 4 years. The current price of the system is €22,950 and designed to serve up to three houses (120,000 broilers). After three years of operation, the investment costs amount to €0.01 per bird. Since the implementation of this technology, the use of medication has decreased and feed conversion has increased (approx. 0.02). Besides, the farmer saves on cleaning and disinfectant products. The animals drink a little more (approx. 5%), but the bedding is not wetter despite the higher water consumption.

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