

Administering antibiotics with drinking water

Antibiotics for group-treatment can be administered via the pigs' drinking water.

Water system requirements

- It must be possible to administer antibiotics only to the pigs to be treated
- The system must be equipped with a non-return valve to prevent medicated water from flowing back in the system

Practical procedure

1. Connect the medicator to the section or pen accommodating the pigs that require treatment
2. Number of pigs and their weight are used for calculating the dose of antibiotic required
3. Make a stock solution (see fact sheet on stock solution)
4. Set the medicator at 2 %
5. Treatment generally lasts 16-20 hrs unless otherwise agreed with the herd vet

Cleaning water pipes after mixing antibiotics with drinking water

1. 24 hrs with clean water in the water pipes after antibiotics
2. Clean water pipes with biocide
3. Clean drinking water once again

Rule of thumb:

- Pigs drink approx. 1 l water per 10 kg pig a day

Be careful with antibiotics

- Even small amounts of disinfectants/biocide/acid can destroy the effect of the antibiotic added
- Mixing of antibiotics with other may block nipple drinkers



Medicator is connected to the section/pen housing pigs to be treated



Stock solution must be used over 16-20



Antibiotics may give the water an unpleasant taste