



**ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Successful Poultry Productivity Enhancer Trials–  
Further Performance Increase**

***Weight gain improvements up to 13.75%***

**15 November 2004, Sydney:** Imugene (ASX: IMU) has completed a large scale product development trial of its novel, non antibiotic, non hormone *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* with substantially improved performance compared with the trial results announced in August 2004.

The double blinded 900 bird trial of the *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* compared 8 different combinations of dose and frequency of administration to determine the optimum dose and administration schedule for the final commercial product. Half the groups were fed feed containing antibiotics whilst the others were fed antibiotic free feed. Antibiotics are routinely included in poultry feed as a disease preventative and to improve growth.

The four best performing groups of birds given the *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* and in feed antibiotics showed weight gains between 9.5 percent and 13.75 percent compared with in feed antibiotics alone. The improvement in weight gains ranged from 219 grams to 317 grams per bird. All treated birds exceeded the current industry best practice “Ross Standard” finishing weight of 2272 grams.

With changes to dose and frequency of administration, the top four groups in this current trial all strongly outperformed Imugene’s previous poultry trial which achieved 7% weight gain improvement.

Birds on ‘antibiotic free’ feed given only the *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* showed weight gain improvements of 7.2 percent to 13.2 percent when compared to birds given in feed antibiotics. The improvement in weight gains ranged from 169 grams to 306 grams. The weight gains obtained by replacing in feed antibiotics with the *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* are up to 5 times higher compared with other reported antibiotic replacements under development.

These results confirm that Imugene’s *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* produces improvement in weight gain regardless of the presence or absence of in feed antibiotics. The *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* will, subject to regulatory

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approvals, therefore be sold across global poultry markets for use both with in feed antibiotics and following their withdrawal.

The *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* will now progress to masterseed production in an approved and registered contract manufacturing facility. Masterseed is the large store of parent seed stock from which all future commercial batches of product are manufactured. Masterseed production is also the first step in the production of final commercial batches and should be completed in the first quarter in 2005. Regulatory trials to determine potency, purity and shelf life have been designed and will commence once the masterseed production is complete.

The next trial to be undertaken will be the large-scale commercial and regulatory trials utilising product developed from masterseed. These trials will commence in 2005 upon receipt of the release permit from the Office of Gene Technology Regulator.

Imugene's Managing Director, Dr Warwick Lamb commented, "The results of this latest trial surpassed any we have seen previously. Following the recent successful PRRS vaccine pig trials, the *Poultry Productivity Enhancer* is now the second of our lead products to progress to completion of in-house trials and determination of optimum dosing. As we refine the protocols for use of the *Poultry Productivity Enhancer*, we continue to improve the weight gains and feed conversion ratios. These gains will allow more efficient production of chicken meat by growers, safer meat for consumers with less chemical residues and hence a cheaper and more natural food product."

**END**

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**ABOUT IMUGENE:**

Imugene specialises in commercialising animal health products for production animals and pets.

Imugene's products safely prevent disease and reduce or eliminate antibiotics and harmful chemicals in animals. Animal antibiotics and chemicals in the human food chain have been linked to the emergence of dangerous resistant bacteria in people and food residues.

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Imugene owns the worldwide rights to two platform technologies. The **Receptor Mimic Technology** for gastrointestinal diseases of pigs and potentially all other animal species. Secondly, the **Adenoviral Vector Delivery System** for pigs and poultry delivers Imugene's highly effective *poultry productivity enhancer*.

Imugene's poultry and pig portfolio is targeting a worldwide US\$3 billion annual market and replace existing chemical and antibiotic products. Consumer demands for residue free food and health regulatory pressures will bolster Imugene's prospects.

Visit the Imugene Website: [www.imugene.com](http://www.imugene.com)