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AUBURN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF POULTRY SCIENCE



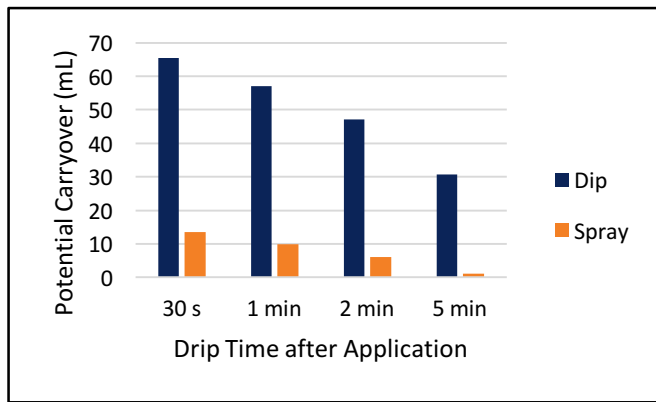
WORTHWHILE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES & SUGGESTIONS

NEUTRALIZATION OF ANTIMICROBIALS DURING CARCASS SAMPLING

On July 1, 2016, FSIS began using a new neutralizing buffered peptone water (nBPW) for verification of young chicken and turkey carcasses and chicken parts. [FSIS Notice 41-16](#) The goal of this nBPW is to neutralize any antimicrobial carryover which may be on the carcass or parts during post-chill verification sampling. Additional neutralizing compounds, sodium bicarbonate, lecithin, and sodium thiosulfate were added to the previously used BPW to neutralize possible antimicrobial carryover.

When antimicrobials are applied to carcasses post-chill, some of that antimicrobial could remain on the carcass. This carryover can potentially impact the levels of bacteria detected when sampling carcass and parts for validation and verification¹.

The potential carryover of antimicrobials is much greater when carcasses are dipped post-chill versus applying antimicrobials in a spray cabinet. However, increasing the amount of time that the carcass utilized for sampling is allowed to drip after the antimicrobial is applied greatly decreases the amount of carryover².



FSIS currently instructs inspection program personnel to allow the carcass to drip for one minute prior to sampling when utilizing the new nBPW for poultry verification. [FSIS Directive 10,250.1](#)

[1. Gamble, et al. J. Food Prot. 79:710-714, 2016](#)
[2. Bourassa, et al. Poult. Sci. Epub ahead of print 2016.](#)



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