

5. Salmonellosis

Overview

Salmonellosis in poultry is caused by various serotypes of the bacterium *Salmonella*. It is a significant zoonotic disease, meaning it can also affect humans.

Causes

- Infection by *Salmonella* bacteria, often through contaminated feed, water, or environments.
- Poor sanitation and biosecurity can increase the risk of infection.

Symptoms

- In chickens, signs may include diarrhea, reduced appetite, weight loss, and in severe cases, septicemia leading to death.
- Often asymptomatic carriers are common, which can spread the disease silently.

Prevention and Control

- **Hygiene:** Strict sanitation protocols in poultry houses and feed/water systems.
- **Biosecurity:** Preventing contact with wild birds and pests that can carry the bacteria.
- **Vaccination:** Vaccines are available in some regions; consult local authorities for recommendations.
- **Testing:** Regular monitoring and testing to detect carriers.

Treatment

- **Antibiotics:** Use of appropriate antibiotics under veterinary supervision for confirmed cases.
- **Supportive Management:** Ensuring good nutrition and hydration.
- **Zoonotic Considerations:** Implementing measures to protect human handlers.

Image Suggestions

- Microscopic images of *Salmonella* bacteria.
- Infographics on transmission routes and biosecurity measures.