



# Effects of in-ovo stimulation on gut health and production of broiler chickens.

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Sklodowska-Curie grant agreement No 955374.

#### **ESR3 & ESR4 projects**



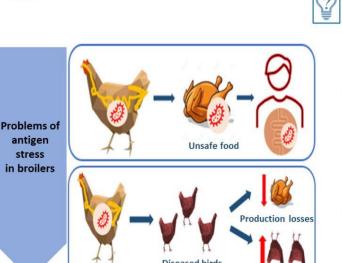


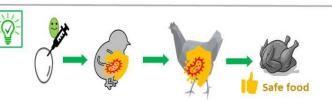
Ramesha N. Wishna-Kadawarage

Mitigation of environmental antigen stress effects in poultry production using microbiome programming in-ovo

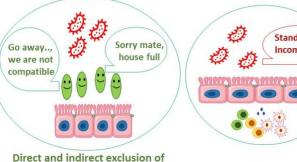








gut microbiota to gain a competitive advantage over environmental pathogens



pathogens via early colonization of gut with probiotics

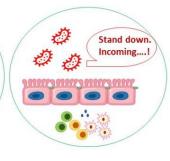
In-ovo injection of pre/probiotics will allow early programing of ffects in poultry production using microbiome

Modou Mangan (ESR4)

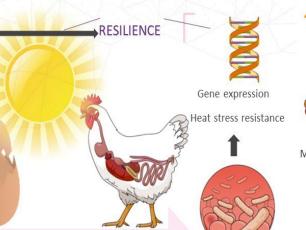




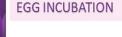
Improve gut







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LIFE PERFORMANCE





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HATCH



#### Introduction & objective





**Healthy gut** → "the absence of gastrointestinal symptoms and disease, as well as an absence of other unfavorable local conditions including increased intestinal permeability, mucosal inflammation, or deficiency (or even excess) of short-chain fatty acids"

complex physiological status with utmost importance for an organism

#### **Objective:**

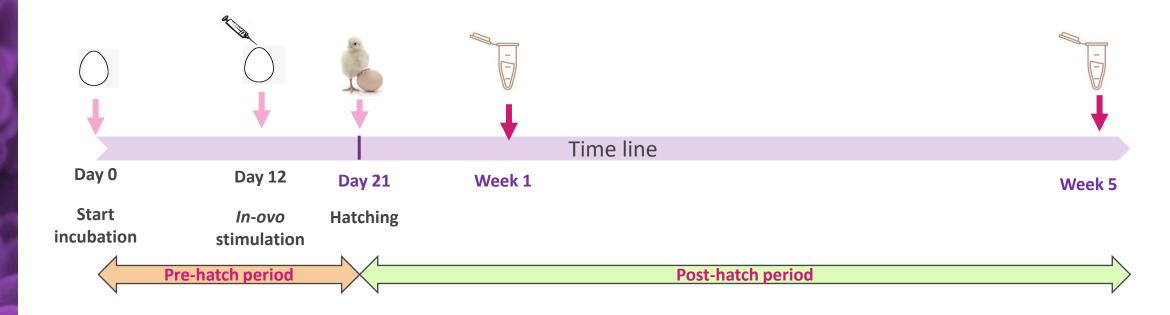
To determine effects of *in-ovo* stimulation with a selected prebiotic, probiotic and a prophybiotic combination on gut health and production of broiler chickens in **environmetal homeostasis** and **environmental challenge**.



#### The in ovo concept











## **Environmental homeostasis**

Effects of in-ovo stimulation on gut health and production of broiler chickens



### Methodology – experimental setup





Group	Abbreviation	In-ovo injection composition	Dose of bioactive /egg	
Negative control	NC	Non injected		
Positive control	PC	Physiological saline	0.2ml of 0.90% w/v of NaCl	
Probiotic 1	LP	<b>Lactiplantibacillus plantarum</b> bacterial suspension in physiological saline	10 <sup>6</sup> CFU (in 0.2ml)	
Probiotic 2	LM	Leuconostoc mesenteroides bacterial suspension in physiological saline	10 <sup>6</sup> CFU (in 0.2ml)	
Prebiotic	GOS	Galactooligosaccharides dissolved in physiological saline	3.5mg GOS (in 0.2ml)	
Prophybiotic (Probiotic + Plant extract)	LMG	A mixture <b>of Leuconostoc mesenteroides</b> bacterial suspension in physiological saline and 0.5% <b>garlic</b> aqueous extract (in 2: 1 ratio, respectively)	10 <sup>6</sup> CFU of bacterial suspension + Garlic aqueous extract 0.5% (w/v) (in 0.2ml)	



#### Methodology – environmental homeostasis





#### **Experimental groups:**

NC: Negative control (No injection)

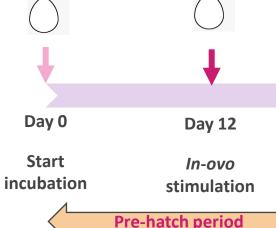
**PC**: **Positive control** (Physiological saline injection)

**LP**: **Probiotic** (Lactiplantibacillus plantarum **10**<sup>6</sup> **CFU/egg**)

LM: Probiotic (Leuconostoc mesenteroides 10<sup>6</sup> CFU/egg)

**GOS: Prebiotic** (Galactooligosaccharide )

Prophybiotic (Leuconostoc mesenteroides 10<sup>6</sup> CFU/egg + 0.5% (w/v) Garlic aqueous extract)



Time line

Post-hatch period



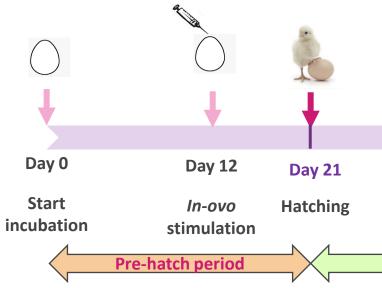
#### Methodology





#### **Data collection:**

- Chick weight
- Chick length
- Pasgar score



Time line

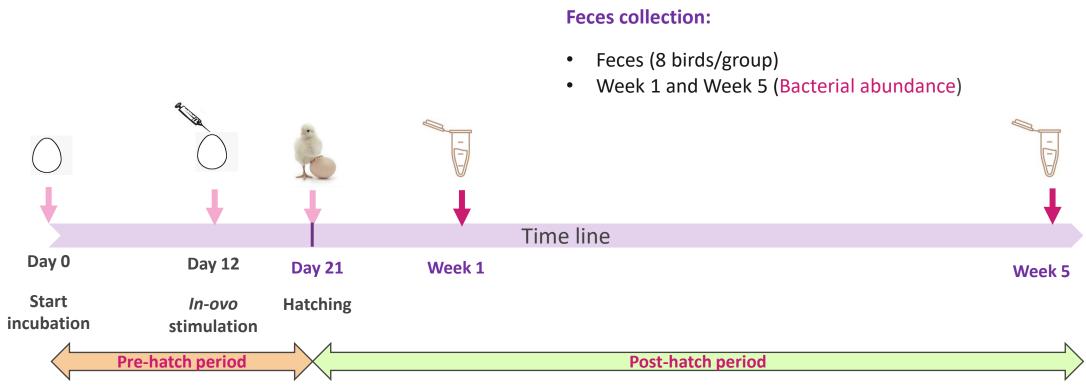
Post-hatch period



#### Methodology









#### Methodology





Week 5

### Slaughter (8 birds/group): Sample collection

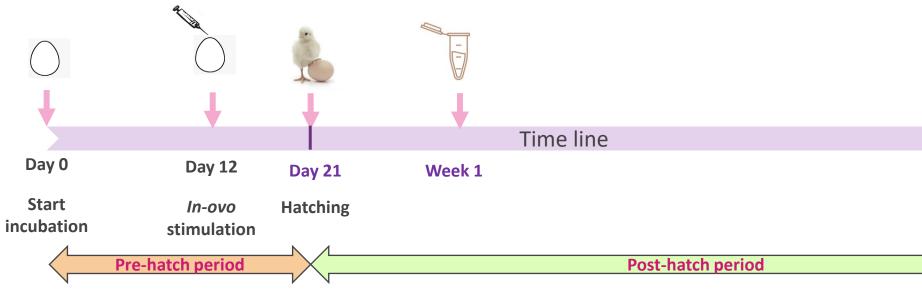
- Cecal content (abundance of bacteria)
- Cecal tissue (Histo-morphometry)
- Cecal mucosa
- Cecal tonsils
- Spleen
- Liver

#### Slaughter analysis: (8 birds/group)

- Carcass dressing %
- Breast muscle %
- Leg muscle %
- Leg bones %
- Giblets %
- Abdominal fat %

#### Meat (Breast and thigh) quality analysis: (8 birds/group)

- pH
- Color
- Drip loss
- Thawing loss
- Cooking loss
- Shear force
- Texture





(Gene expression)







#### **Statistical analysis**

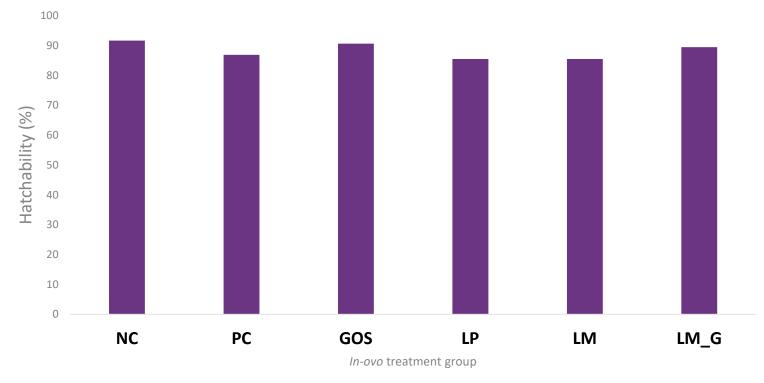
Data type	Method of statistical analysis	
Hatch data		
Body weights	Linear mixed model	
Slaughter and meat quality parameters	Fixed effect: Treatment	
Histomorphometry parameters	Random effect: Sex	
Relative abundances of bacteria		
Relative gene expression	Two sample t-test to compare between each treatment group and positive control group	



#### **Results - hatchability**







NC: Negative control, PC: Positive Control, GOS: Galactooligosaccharides, LP: *Lactiplantibacillus plantarum,* LM: *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* and LM\_G: *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* + Garlic

#### Results – bacteria abundance



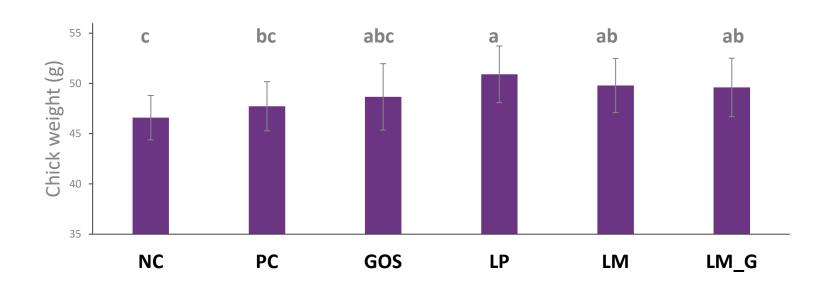


Treatment group	Fe	Cecal content	
	Early life	Adult stage	
GOS	Bifidobacterium sp. Lactobacillus sp.	Bifidobacterium sp. Lactobacillus sp.	Lactobacillus sp. Bifidobacterium sp.
LP	Bifidobacterium sp. Lactobacillus sp.	Bifidobacterium sp. Lactobacillus sp.	Lactobacillus sp. 1 Bifidobacterium sp. 1
LM	Faecalibacteria 1	No difference	Akkermansia sp. 1
LMG	Faecalibacteria Bifidobacteria	E. coli	Akkermansia sp. Faecalibacteria E.coli

#### Results – chick weight





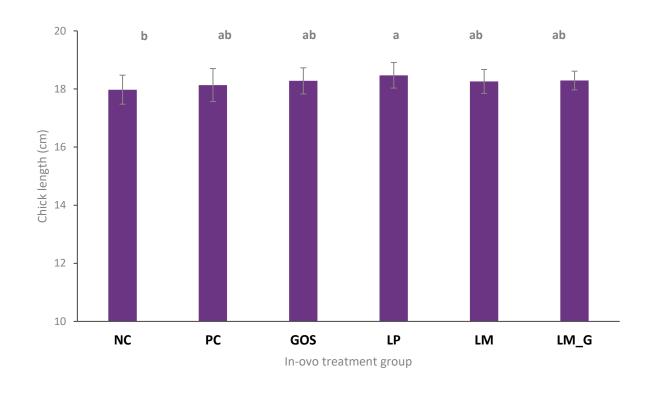


Error bars:  $\pm$  SD. Homogenous means have been indicated by similar letters (in descending order) as identified by Tuckey HSD test (p value <0.05). **NC**: Negative control, **PC**: Positive Control, **GOS**: Galactooligosaccharides, **LP**: Lactiplantibacillus plantarum, **LM**: Leuconostoc mesenteroides and **LM\_G**: Leuconostoc mesenteroides + Garlic

#### Results – chick length

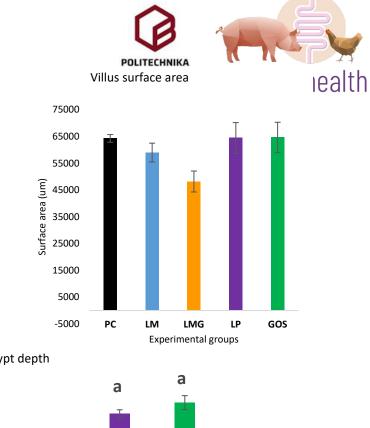


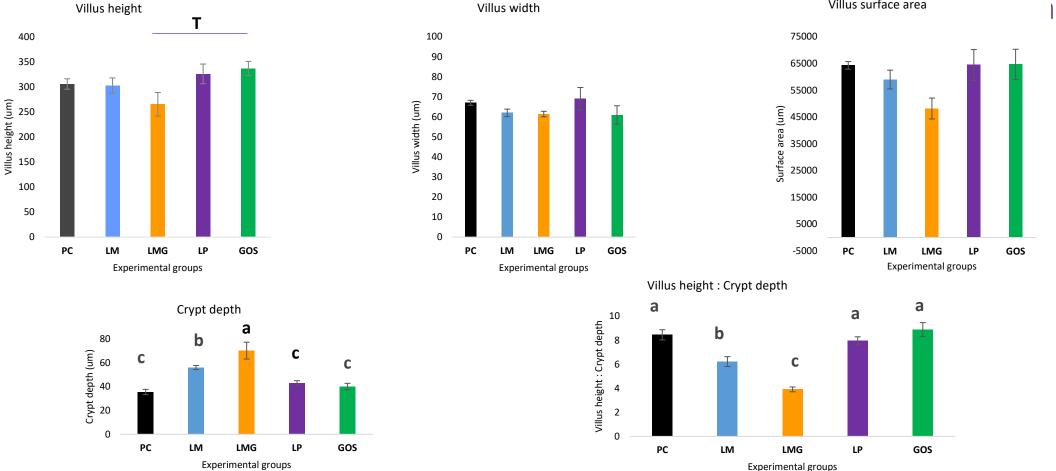




Chick length of *in-ovo* treatment groups. Error bars:  $\pm$  SD. Homogenous means have been indicated by similar letters (in descending order) as identified by Tuckey HSD test (p value <0.05). NC: Negative control, PC: Positive Control, GOS: Galactooligosaccharides, LP: *Lactiplantibacillus plantarum*, LM: *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* and LM\_G: *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* + Garlic

#### Results – cecal histomorphometry





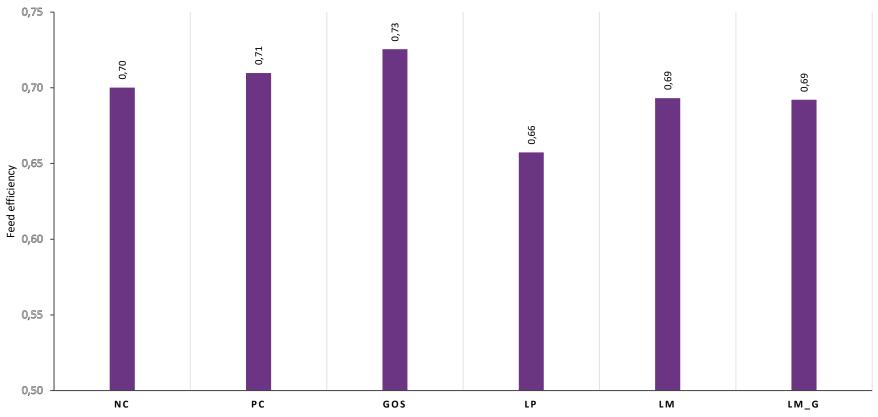
Error bars:  $\pm$  SE. Homogenous means have been indicated by similar letters (in descending order). "T" indicates a statistical tendency (P value <0.1) PC: Positive control, LM: Probiotic Leuconostoc mesenteroides, LMG: Prophybiotic (Leuconostoc mesenteroides + garlic aqueous extract), LP: Probiotic Lactiplantibacillus plantarum, GOS: Prebiotic galactooligosachcharides



#### Results – feed efficiency







Overall feed efficiency of the chickens from the six *in-ovo* treatment groups. NC: Negative control, PC: Positive Control, GOS: Galactooligosaccharides, LP: *Lactiplantibacillus plantarum*, LM: *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* and LM\_G: *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* + Garlic



### Results – body weight





Day of life	Treatments (T)						T effect
	NC	PC	GOS	LP	LM	LM_G	
7	180.5 ± 25.8°	177.3 ± 23.0°	179.6 ± 26.2°	195.2 ± 24.0 <sup>ab</sup>	206.1 ± 25.6 <sup>a</sup>	190.2 ± 30.7 <sup>b</sup>	***
14	480.2 ± 71.5 <sup>b</sup>	500.0 ± 47.2 <sup>b</sup>	485.9 ± 63.3 <sup>b</sup>	518.8 ± 66.1 <sup>ab</sup>	536.9 ± 79.9 <sup>a</sup>	521.2 ± 62.1 <sup>a</sup>	**
21	1014.4 ± 143.1	1011.3 ± 113.5	1017.7 ± 113.9	1044.3 ± 112.0	1042.8 ± 141.6	1052.7 ± 129.4	NS
28	1681.5 ± 197.9	1663.8 ± 191.5	1655.4 ± 168.3	1716 ± 147.5	1718.3 ± 230.7	1711.9 ± 200.6	NS
35	2437.5 ± 254.9	2433.6 ± 301.7	2526.9 ± 276.0	2499.7 ± 225.4	2502.3 ± 255.7	2455.6 ± 266.3	NS

### Results – slaughter analysis





Parameter	Treatments (T)					Ţ
	РС	GOS	LP	LM	LM_G	effect
Cooling losses	1.79 ± 0.21 <sup>a</sup>	1.43 ± 0.16 <sup>b</sup>	1.31 ± 0.37 <sup>b</sup>	1.35 ± 0.29b	1.55 ± 0.09 <sup>ab</sup>	***
Dressing percentage with giblets (%)	79.81 ± 1.14	80.19 ± 1.09	80.32 ± 1.09	79.51 ± 1.25	79.82 ± 1.24	NS
Dressing percentage without giblets (%)	76.83 ± 1.19	77.19 ± 1.15	77.35 ± 1.16	76.49 ± 1.26	76.7 ± 1.30	NS
Breast muscle (%)	31.35 ± 2.05	30.64 ± 0.84	31.34 ± 1.53	29.39 ± 1.53	30.77 ± 2.37	NS
Pectoral muscles (%)	19.19 ± 1.47	18.47 ± 1.14	18.7 ± 1.70	19.39 ± 1.27	18.89 ± 2.07	NS
Giblets (%)	3.75 ± 0.42	3.73 ± 0.34	3.63 ± 0.15	3.93 ± 0.24	3.91 ± 0.30	NS
Liver (%)	2.23 ± 0.30	2.19 ± 0.21	2.14 ± 0.07	2.42 ± 0.29	2.34 ± 0.19	NS
Gizzard (%)	0.96 ± 0.20	0.94 ± 0.13	0.89 ± 0.16	0.92 ± 0.19	0.97 ± 0.12	NS
Heart (%)	0.53 ± 0.06	0.53 ± 0.03	0.57 ± 0.07	0.55 ± 0.07	0.53 ± 0.05	NS
Pectoral bones (%)	3.98 ± 0.48	4.03 ± 0.38	4.16 ± 0.65	4.44 ± 0.49	4.18 ± 0.40	NS
Abdominal fat (%)	1.83 ± 0.30	1.85 ± 0.24	1.9 ± 0.32	1.94 ± 0.46	1.7 ± 0.34	NS



#### **Conclusions**







In-ovo stimulation with the selected prebiotic / probiotic/prophybiotic confer long term benefits on invivo:

- gut microbiome
- **Cecal histo-morphology**



The treatments did not adversely affect the hatch, production or meat quality parameters



The prophybiotic application can be potentially more beneficial than using probiotic alone for in-ovo stimulation



Future research is necessary to test different prophybiotic combinations to maximize the benefits on gut health of broiler chickens.







## **Environmental challenge**

Effects of in-ovo stimulation on gut health and production of broiler chickens



### Campylobacter jejuni – environmental antigen







*Campylobacter* is the most common foodborne pathogen reported within Europe transmitted to humans mainly from chicken sources.



Poultry ceca can carry a large number of Campylobacter without showing symptoms.



*Campylobacter* infection impacts the intestinal integrity, intestinal permeability, tight junction proteins causing inflammation and leaky gut in chickens.

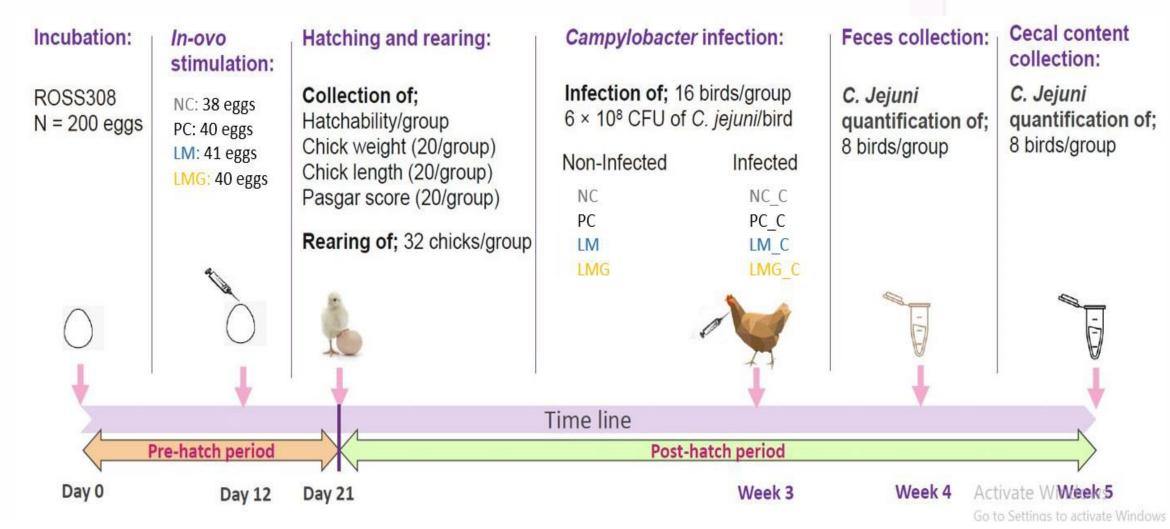


controlling *Campylobacter* in broiler chickens is imperative for food safety as well as in addressing animal welfare concerns

#### Campylobacter challenge experiment







### Methodology – experimental setup



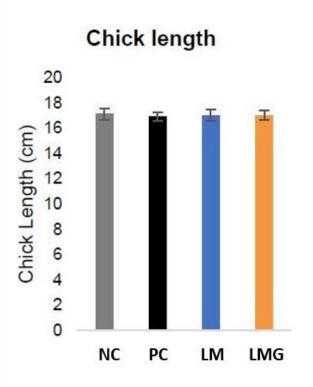


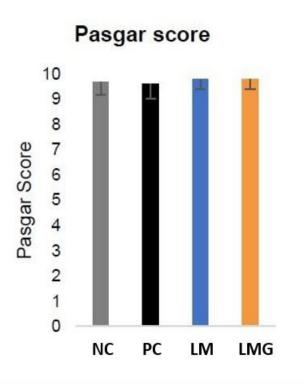
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Positive control	PC	Physiological saline	0.2ml of 0.90% w/v of NaCl	
Probiotic	LM	Leuconostoc mesenteroides bacterial suspension in physiological saline	10 <sup>6</sup> CFU (in 0.2ml)	
Prophybiotic (Probiotic + Plant extract)	LMG	A mixture of Leuconostoc mesenteroides bacterial suspension in physiological saline and 0.5% garlic aqueous extract (in 2: 1 ratio, respectively)	10 <sup>6</sup> CFU of bacterial suspension + Garlic aqueous extract 0.5% (w/v) (in 0.2ml)	

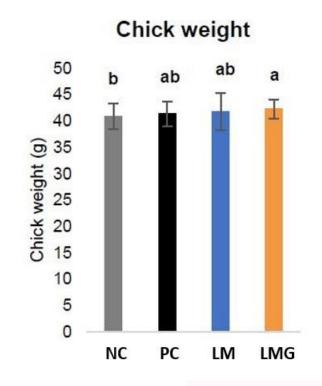




#### Campylobacter challenge – chick quality







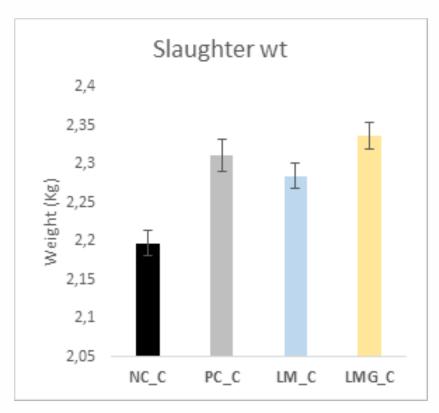
Chick length, Pasgar score and chick weight of the experimental groups. Error bars: ± SD. Homogenous means have been indicated by similar letters (in descending order) (p < 0.05). NC: Negative control, PC: Positive Control, LM: Probiotic Leuconostoc mesenteroides and LMG: Prophybiotic: Leuconostoc mesenteroides + Garlic aeqous extract

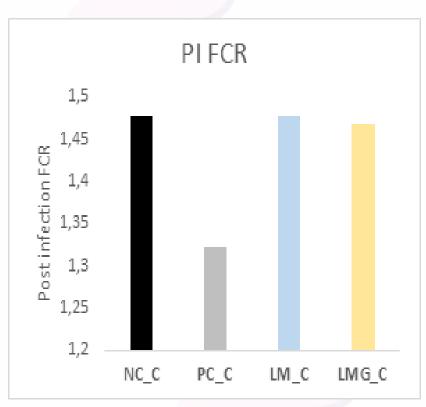






#### Campylobacter challenge – production parameters





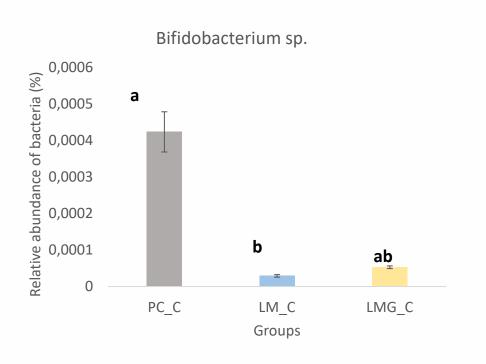
Production parameters. A: Slaughter weight B: Post-infection feed conversion ratio

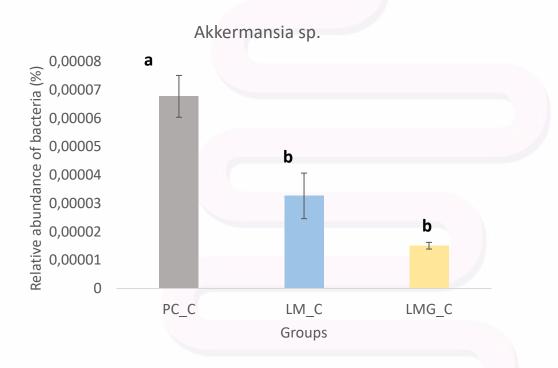






#### Campylobacter challenge – bacteria abundance





Relative abundance (%) of beneficial bacterial communities in the ceca of Campylobacter jejuni infected chickens. A: Bifidobacterium sp. B: Akkermansia sp.

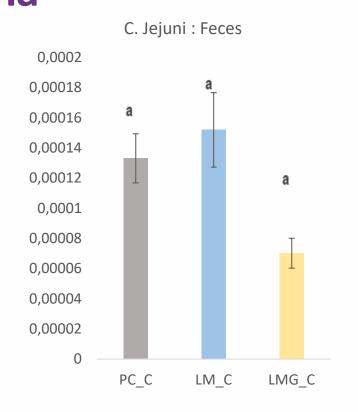


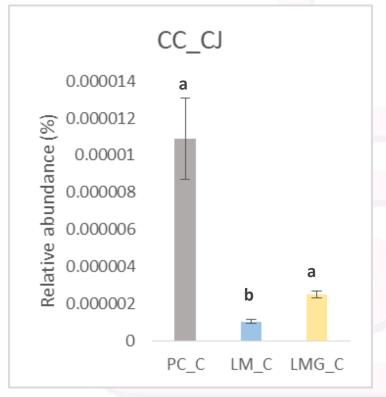
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Campylobacter challenge experiment – bacteria









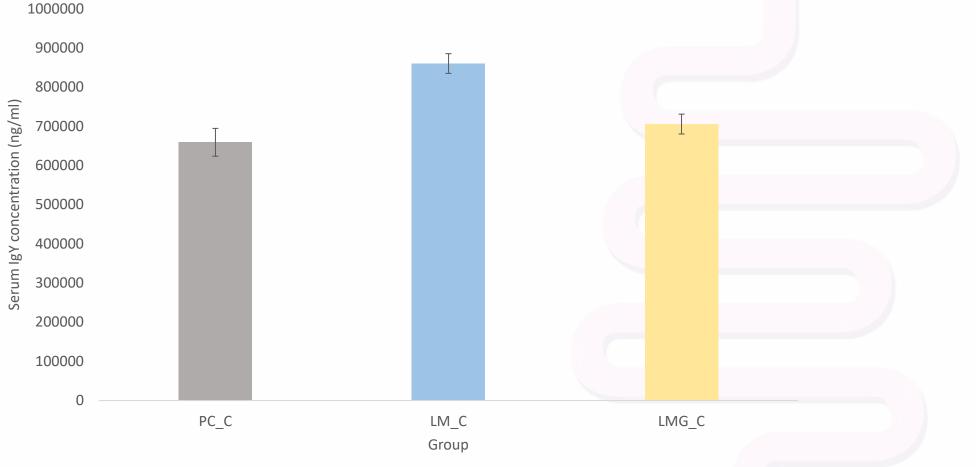
Results of *Campylobacter jejuni* relative abundance (%) in A: Feces on day 28 (one week post infection) and B: Cecal content on day 34 (2 weeks post infection). Error bars: ± SE. Homogenous means have been indicated by similar letters (in descending order) (p < 0.05). PC\_C: Positive control\_infected, LM\_C: Probiotic\_infected, LMG\_C: Prophybiotic\_infected



#### Campylobacter challenge - IgY







Serum immunoglobulin Y content of the Campylobacter jejuni infected chickens.

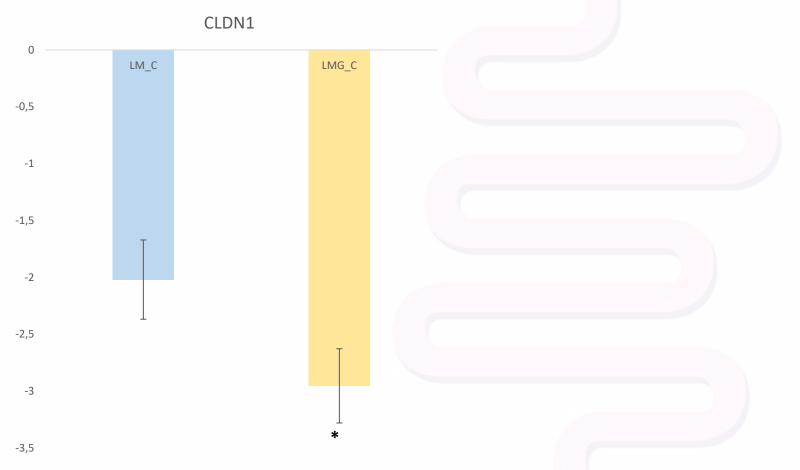


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# Campylobacter challenge – gene expression cecal mucosa







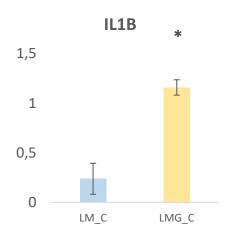
Significant changes in CLDN1 gene expression in the cecal mucosa

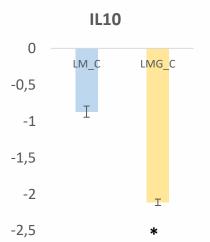


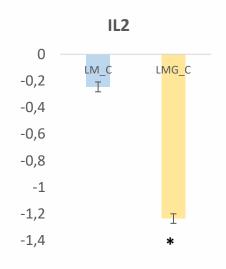
# Campylobacter challenge – gene expression cecal tonsils

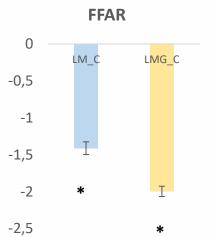














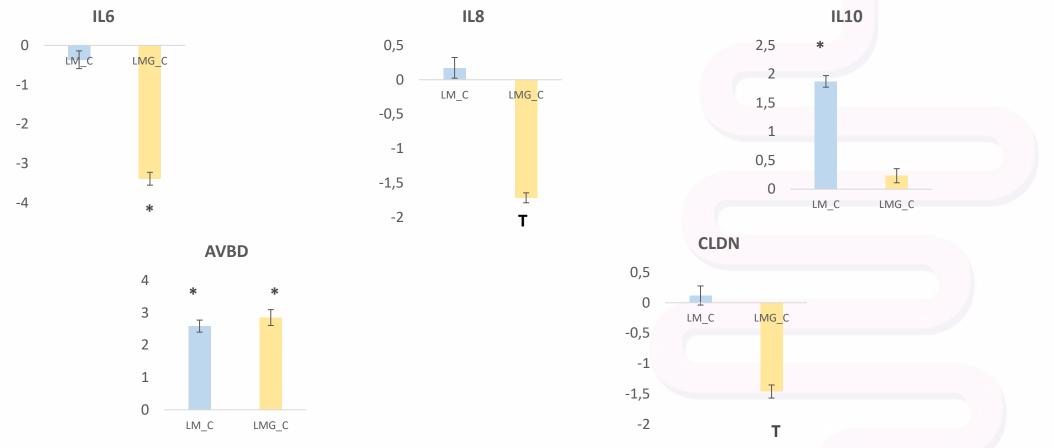
Significant changes in the gene expression of cecal tonsils of *Campylobacter jejuni* infected broiler chickens. *A: IL1B B: IL2 C: IL8 D: IL10 E: FFAR2 F:AVBD1* 



# Campylobacter challenge - gene expression spleen







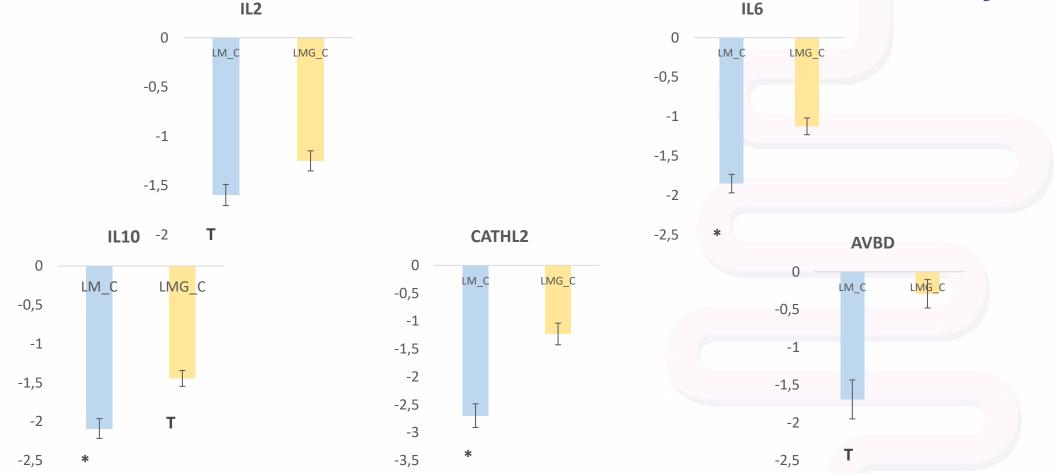
Significant changes in the gene expression in the spleen of *Campylobacter jejuni* infected broiler chickens. *A: IL6 B: IL8 C: IL10 D: AVBD E: CLDN* 



# Campylobacter challenge – gene expression liver







Significant changes in gene expression in the liver of *Campylobacter jejuni* infected broiler chickens. A: *IL2* B: *IL6* C: *IL10* D: *CATHL2* E: *AVBD1* 









Akkermansia sp. Bifidobacterium sp.

Modulation immune related gene expression

> Inhibition the immune tolerance acquired to Campylobacter jejuni

Cecal mucosa = CLDN

Cecal tonsils = LMG group : IL1B, IL6, AVBD IL2, IL10, FFAR2.

LM group: IL8, AVBD1 FFAR2

Spleen = LMG group: AVBD IL6, IL8, CLDN

LM group: AVBD, IL10

**Liver** = LMG group: IL10 -

LM group: IL2, IL6, IL10, CATHL2, AVBD



#### **Conclusions**





Selected **probiotic** (Leuconostoc mesenteroides B/00288) and a **prophybiotic** (Leuconostoc mesenteroides B/00288 + garlic aqueous extract) administered in ovo mitigated Campylobacter jejuni colonization in ROS308 broiler chickens without compromising the production parameters

In ovo stimulation with probiotic and prophybiotic triggered genes related to innate immunity in cecal tonsils and spleen.

**LIMITATION** !!!!!! > Only one strain of *Campylobacter jejuni* was used in the current study and the colonization potential and mechanisms differ in different strains.

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#### **TEAM WORK!**

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## THANK YOU



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