

What do we know about AMR from the agriculture sector and what can we do to contain it?



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AMR and agriculture: Presentation outline

- AMR in terrestrial animal-based food production systems
- AMR in terrestrial plant-based food production systems
- AMR in aquaculture
- Concluding thoughts

Animal-based production systems

 -large amounts of antibiotics used for prevention, therapy, in some jurisdictions growth promotion.

- AMR transmitted through the food chain
- Waste streams transmit AMR to the environment
- People in proximity to animals directly exposed to AMR.

Mitigation consists of reducing antimicrobial use

Plant-based food production systems

- Control of fungal or bacterial plant pathogens
- Fungicides, antibiotics, copper salts
- Fungicide resistance, antibiotic resistance

 Is there a link between these practices and AMR in human fungal or bacterial pathogens?

AMR in aquaculture

 Direct addition of antibiotics into production areas to control bacterial diseases of aquaculture products.

 Mitigation can consist of vaccines for fish, ensuring good hygiene, etc.

Concluding thoughts

- AMU causes AMR in food production systems.
- Reducing AMU where possible is called for
 - Stewardship: alternatives to antibiotics, diagnostics, restrict use of critically important antibiotics
- Good hygiene in production and processing environments is key
- Source attribution from food to the clinic is a challenge
- Genomics tools will yield insights into the flow of ARG-MGEs and key drivers in food production systems.

