



**TURKEY FARMERS
OF CANADA™**

TURKEY FARMERS OF CANADA RESEARCH PRIORITIES 2023

1. Flock Health

- a. Investigate risk factors for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) spread and develop outbreak control measures including biosecurity practices and other on-farm procedures.
- b. Development of an efficacious HPAI vaccine for turkeys and potential novel delivery methods that would improve vaccine delivery efficiency with considerations of possible surveillance requirements.
- c. Develop flock management practices, vaccinations, dietary/water strategies, and infeed or water additives that reduce the need for preventive antimicrobial use.
- d. Strategies (e.g., vaccinations, medications, management practices) to prevent or treat Histomoniasis (Blackhead).
- e. Development of prevention and control strategies for reovirus, including improvements in diagnostics and vaccine strains and pain management techniques.
- f. Development of efficacious vaccines, including emerging technologies (e.g., aptamers) against pathogens such as HPAI, E. Coli, necrotic enteritis and reovirus.

2. Food Safety and Quality

- a. On-farm control strategies for pathogen levels in meat.

3. Turkey Welfare

- a. Management practices that can eliminate physical alterations.
- b. Evaluate methods for humane on-farm euthanasia for routine situations and during mass depopulation.
- c. Assess the effect of transportation on turkeys and evaluate measures to reduce bird stress.

4. Production Sustainability

- a. Assess production methods to reduce environmental emissions/contaminants.
- b. Manure management (economic value, common practices).
- c. Nutrient management (nitrogen).
- d. Barn construction (net zero, etc.).
- e. Alternative/renewable energy sources.
- f. Novel feed ingredients (efficiency, animal health, growth, nutrient excretion, etc.).
- g. Data to improve environment sustainability (e.g., economic analysis, predictive analytics, benchmarking).