

Instructions for the Deventer method calculator

1. Paste or type in the Idexx or Biochek ELISA results from the tested birds into the blue cells on the left of the page. At least 18 results should be entered.
2. Type in the age of the birds at the time of sampling into the top blue cell on the right.
3. Select the cut-off percentage for the fraction of the flock that you want to be able to respond to vaccination. 75% is highly recommended - a too low figure (eg, 40%) would mean most of the birds will not take the vaccine and will not be protected. Too high a figure (e.g., 90%) would mean you have to wait a lot longer and there is an increased risk of an outbreak before vaccination."
4. If you wish to determine the recommended vaccination day for a product other than Nobilis D-78 or Nobilis 228E, enter the breakthrough titer and name for that vaccine in the cells below the cut-off percentage.
5. The vaccination age (in days) for the type of bird and the vaccine used can be found in the red tables. Note: if it is known that the half life values ($T_{1/2}$) or the vaccine breakthrough titer are different from the given values, they can be changed.
6. Check the gap period for the type of bird, in the lower red table. This is the number of days between the age when a part of the flock with the lowest-titers can take the vaccine and when the chosen higher proportion (usually 75%) can be vaccinated. This gap is a result of the variation in the flock. If this gap is long, waiting for the calculated vaccination day may expose the flock to an outbreak (starting in birds with low titers), before vaccination day is reached. In this instance an extra vaccination, to cover the lowest 30% of the flock, may be needed.