

# Niles Animal Hospital and Bird Medical Center

7278 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles, IL 60714

January 11, 2017

Dear Don:

I have been a long-term user of AVI-CULTURE products, beginning when you first introduced it many years ago and have been a loyal and very enthusiastic customer since then. You have always stood behind your product and have continued to improve it, evidenced by the introduction of AVI-CULTURE2 a few years ago, which was one of the finest probiotics available for pet birds and which is an essential part of our avian treatment protocols.

The AVI-CULTURE products have proved useful over the years in the treatment and disease prevention with our avian patients, producing excellent results. AVI-CULTURE can be used preventatively to keep the gut bacteria in balance to ensure the health of any type of pet bird. It is useful during times of stress, such as molting or breeding, to prevent overgrowth of yeast (*Candida*) or pathogenic, opportunistic bacterial populations.

We also frequently use AVI-CULTURE as the primary means of treating *Candida* infections in the intestinal tract of birds. In the past, Nystatin (an anti-fungal drug) would be given orally, but the effectiveness and ease of treatment with AVI-CULTURE (applying it to the food) has made it our preferred method of treating these yeast infections.

The beauty of the probiotic effect of AVI-CULTURE is that we will come across a situation where a bird has loose droppings or a pasted vent with no obvious physical reason and no abnormalities found in the fecal sample or bloodwork. This may be due to a change in the normal gut bacterial population and the use of AVI-CULTURE can restore that balance and resolve the problem.

As mentioned earlier, you continue to make AVI-CULTURE the best product it can be and that was evidenced by the introduction of AVI-CULTURE-2. making it a much more powerful, potent, and effective probiotic. It contained eight strains of avian specific "good" bacteria with a combined potency of over two billion colony forming units per gram which enabled it to pack such a "healthy punch" to keep the gut in the proper equilibrium state. As with the original AVI-CULTURE, AVI-CULTURE-2 is a very refined product with no harmful additives, but the good news is that it is very palatable and eagerly accepted by the birds! Although it can be used in the water, we usually instruct our clients to add it to the food as it will last longer, because when placed in the drinking water it will lose its punch in a couple of hours and the water needs to be changed.

What really excited me about AVI-CULTURE-2 was its shelf life. Original AVI-CULTURE required refrigeration for storage, but AVI-CULTURE-2 remains stable for two years (or "Best-If-Used By date) if stored at room temperature of 70 degrees F or less. If stored in the refrigerator it has a shelf like of five years! It should be sealed so no moisture gets into the container, and it should never be frozen. The prolonged shelf life is a great aspect of the product.

Well, Don, you have done it again, once more improving AVI-CULTURE-2 to be even more effective than it already was! AVI-CULTURE-2 PLUS now is a 10 multi-strain GMO-FREE avian probiotic with 14 RAW organic enzymes and amino acids in an organic brown rice maltodextrin probiotic carrier formula specifically designed to give the birds the microbes they need for optimal digestion (the new formulation now has 5 billion colony forming units per gram). The addition of the excellent probiotic strains coupled with the enzymes and amino acids in a prebiotic carrier enables AVI-CULTURE-2-PLUS to deliver the bacteria and enzymes to the gut of the bird. This helps to break down and digest the nutrients needed for development and growth to promote a strong immune system.

In my over thirty-seven plus years in avian practice I have seen many probiotics come and go, with more to come I am certain. But in my experience, I have never found any product to be as effective as AVI-CULTURE, which has continually improved in quality and now has attained new levels of effectiveness with the introduction of AVI-CULTURE-2-PLUS. The effectiveness of the product is due to the presence of live bacterial cultures which are SPECIFIC for the digestive tract of birds, but the addition of the enzymes and amino acids further enhances an already outstanding product.

You should take pride in your AVI-CULTURE products and know that they have helped countless sick birds as well as helping keep a multitude in good health! With AVI-CULTURE-2-PLUS the legacy will continue and be further enhanced.

From a satisfied long-time user of AVI-CULTURE products,

Peter S. Sakas DVM