

ABSTRACT BOOK



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S2_OP12

THE ENVIRONMENTAL FATE AND IMPACT ON THE SOIL MICROBIAL COMMUNITY COMPOSITION, RESISTOME AND MOBILOME OF THE VETERINARY ANTIBIOTICS SULFOMETHOXAZOLE, TIAMULIN AND TILMICOSIN

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Manure amendments lead to contamination of agricultural soils with veterinary antibiotics (VAs). These might exert toxicity on native microbiota and threaten soil functions, environmental quality, and human health. We assessed the impact of sulfamethoxazole (SMX), tiamulin (TIA) and tilmicosin (TLM) on the soil microbiota, antibiotic resistance gene (ARG) and intl1 abundances, in microcosms repeatedly exposed to VAs either directly or via fortified swine manures. Two soils differing at pH and their VA dissipation capacity were used. Repeated VA applications resulted in accelerated degradation of TIA but not of SMX, and accumulation of TLM, with dissipation patterns differing by soil and application method. We then investigated ecotoxicology-relevant soil N-cycling activities and microorganis. Potential nitrification rates (PNR), and ammonia-oxidizing microorganism (AOM) abundances were reduced by SMX and TIA, but not by TLM. Concerning microbial diversity, VAs had strong structural effects on total prokaryote and AOM communities, whereas fungal and protist communities were affected mostly by manure addition. Furthermore,

SMX stimulated the abundance of the associated resistance gene sul1 in both the manure amended and the manure free soils, demonstrating its currently acknowledged broad distribution, while manure was the major factor stimulating the rest tested ARGs and the intl1 horizontal gene transfer surrogate. Zinc supplements received by the animals, putatively induced an ARG co-selection that might have resulted in the increased ARG abundances found in the manure soils. Correlation testing identified amended opportunistic pathogens like Clostridia, Burkholderia-Caballeronia-Paraburkholderia, and Nocardioides as potential ARG reservoirs in soil, with or without manure amendments. These taxa encompass environmentally persistent and potent pathogens, suggesting the urge for putting appropriate associated risk assessment strategies in place. Our results provide unprecedented evidence about the effects of understudied VAs (TIA, TLM) on soil microbiota and showcases environmental, and possibly human-health, risks posed by the dispersal of VA-contaminated manures.

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