

Table S1. Number of APEC isolates according to sample source.

Host	Liver	Infraorbital sinus	Articular cavity	Air-Sac	Heart	Other sites	Total no. of isolates
Chicken (n=96)	73	9	4	3	3	4	96
Duck (n=29)	29	-	-	-	-	-	29
Total (n=125)	102	9	4	3	3	4	125

Table S2. Primer sets used for detection of virulence-associated genes in the APEC isolates.

Gene function	gene	Description	Primer sequence (5'-3')	Size (bp)	Reference
Adhesins	<i>fimC</i>	type 1 fimbriae	F: GGAAATAACATTCTGCTTGC R: TTTGTTGCATCAAGAATACG	288	[17]
	<i>tsh</i>	Temperature-sensitive hemagglutinin	F: GGGAAATGACCTGAATGCTGG R: CCGCTCATCAGTCAGTACCAC	420	[75]
Iron acquisition	<i>iroN</i>	Catecholate siderophore (salmochelin) receptor	F: AAGTCAAAGCAGGGGTTGCCCG R: GACGCCGACATTAAGACGCAG	667	[76]
	<i>irp2</i>	Iron-respressible protein (yersiniabactin biosynthetic protein)	F: AAGGATTGCTGTTACCGGAC R: TCGTCGGGCAGCGTTTCTTCT	280	[77]
	<i>iucD</i>	Iron uptake chelate gene D	F: GTGAGTTGTACCACCGTTTT R: CCATTCCAGAGTGAAGTCAT	278	[17]
	<i>fyuA</i>	Ferric yersiniabactin uptake A	F: CAACATCGTCACCCAGCAG R: CGCAGTAGGCACGATGTTGTA	949	[17]
Toxins	<i>lt</i>	Heat-labile toxin	F: ATGAGTACTTCGATAGAGG R: ATG GTATTCCACCTA ACGC	279	[17]
	<i>st</i>	Heat-stable toxin	F: TCTGTATTGTCTTTTTCACCTTTC R: TTAATAGCACCCGGTACAAGC	165	[17]
	<i>stx1A</i>	Shiga toxin	F: CAGTTAATGTGGTGGCGAAG R: CTGCTAATAGTTCTGCGCATC	895	[17]
	<i>stx2A</i>	Shiga toxin	F: CTTCCGGTATCCTATTCCCGG R: GGATGCATCTCTGGTCATTG	482	[17]
	<i>Vat</i>	Vacuolating autotransporter toxin	F: TCCTGGGACATAATGGTCAG R: GTGTCAGAACGGAATTGT	981	[78]
	<i>hlyF</i>	Hemolysin F	F: GGCGATTTAGGCATTCCGATACTC R: ACGGGGTCGCTAGTTAAGGAG	599	[76]
Protectins/ Serum resistance	<i>ompT</i>	Outer membrane protein T	F: ATCTAGCCGAAGAAGGAGGC R: CCCGGGTCATAGTGTTTCATC	559	[76]
	<i>iss</i>	Episomal increased serum survival	F: AGCAACCCGAACCACTTGATG R: TAATAAGCATTGCCAGAGCGG	329	[17]

Table S4. Distribution of multidrug resistant (MDR) APEC isolates from chickens and ducks.

No. of antimicrobial class	Chicken (n=96)		Duck (n=29)		Total	
	No. of isolates	Frequency (%)	No. of isolates	Frequency (%)	No. of isolates	Frequency (%)
8	3	3.1	0	0	3	2.4
7	3	3.1	1	3.4	4	3.2
6	17	17.7	6	20.7	23	18.4
5	27	28.1	3	10.3	30	24.0
4	18	18.8	7	24.1	25	20.0
3	6	6.3	2	6.9	8	6.4
2	11	11.5	3	10.3	14	11.2
1	7	7.3	4	13.8	11	8.8
0	4	4.2	3	10.3	7	5.6
MDR $\geq$3	74	77.1	19	65.5	93	74.4

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