

Options Animal Welfare at the time of killing

Third meeting of the animal welfare killing subgroup

Today's option

- ~~1. Pre-approval for restraining and stunning equipment~~
2. Electrical prods
3. Simplification of small slaughterhouses
4. Carbon dioxide at high concentration for pigs
5. **Waterbath stunning for poultry**
6. Farm fish
8. Prohibiting the killing of day old chicks
9. Other options [if any proposed]

What is the problem?

- Waterbath is intrinsically problematic
 - Inversion and shackling are painful
 - Especially for heavy birds (parent flocks, turkeys)
 - Birds do not receive the same current

What is the problem?

- Waterbath is often misused
 - Bad shackling / shackling line with curbs, etc.
 - Pre-stun shocks
 - Stunning vs. meat quality
 - Unintentional low electrical parameters
 - Checking unconsciousness beyond 8,000 per hour (EFSA)
- **Huge number of animals: 50% broilers but also other poultry**

The baseline

- Intrinsic problems can not be solved
- Pressure for meat quality will remains
- Pressure for high speed will remains
- Improvements through automatic checks may be introduced (evidence?)

You agree:

very much++, **much+**, **no change 0**, **the opposite -**, **much the opposite--**

What is the option?

- **Option** : Prohibiting the use of waterbath stunning
 - Prohibited immediately for new installations or renovation
 - Transitional period for the other slaughterhouses
 - Remaining methods: head-only electrical, gas and Low Atmosphere Pressure stunning (LAPS)

What are the impacts?

- On the problem: Will alternatives address the problems?
 - Shackling
 - Individual stunning
 - Conflict with meat quality
 - Checking unconsciousness and speed slaughterline

**What evidence for
your assessment?**

You believe the impact to be:

very positive++, **positive+**, **neutral 0**, **negative -**, **very negative --**

What are the impacts?

- On other aspects
 - on slaughterhouse operators (big/small)
 - on equipment manufacturers (big/small)
 - on slaughterhouses staff
 - on local inspectors
 - On EU reference centres
 - on other players?

**What evidence for
your assessment?**

You believe the impact to be:

very positive++, **positive+**, **neutral 0**, **negative -**, **very negative --**

How to refine the option?

- Any way to complement or refine the option
 - Transitional periods
 - Derogation for small/medium slaughterhouses
 - Additional requirements for waterbath
 - Frequency below 200 Hz
 - No heavy birds (from x kg)
 - Automatic checks and alarms