



ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DE VOLAILLES RURALES
EUROPEAN RURAL POULTRY ASSOCIATION

ERPA study on biosecurity measures against Avian Influenza:

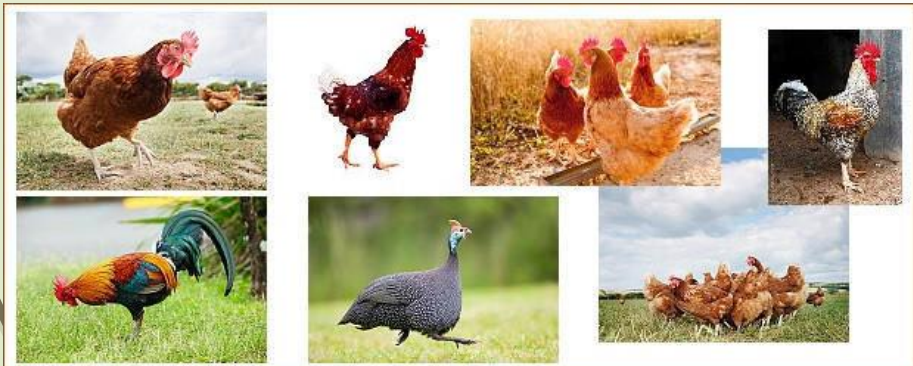
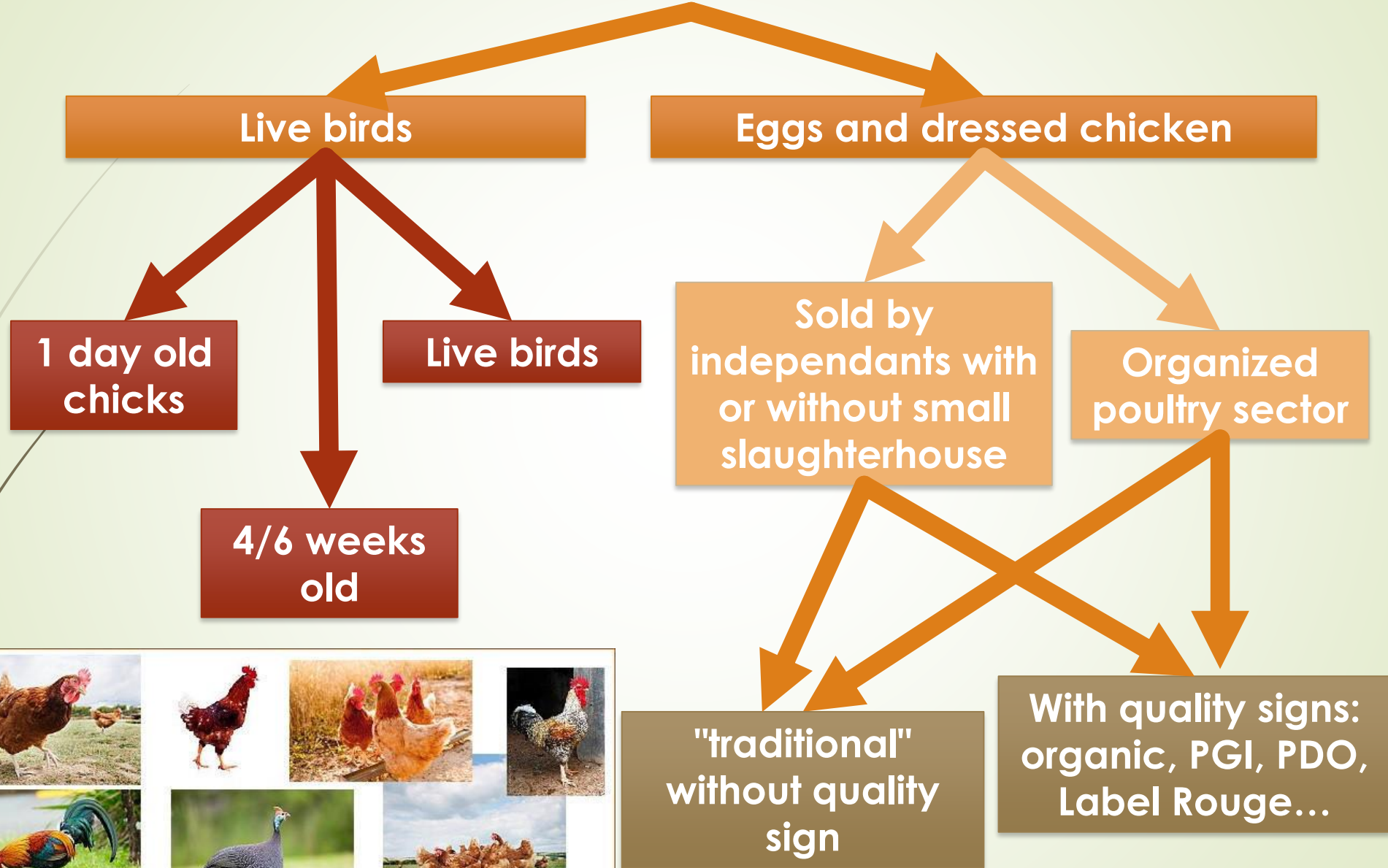
comparison of 4 member states' regulations and definition of measures adapted to rural poultry

Ezhvin BELLEC – Work conducted by ERPA from September 2016 to February 2017



Presentation of ERPA and rural poultry in Europe

Rural poultry: productions and varied producers ...



... with many similarities

- An extensive **free range** method respecting animal welfare, and the use of poultry **adapted to free range**
- **Colored birds** from rustic **slow-growing strains**
- A product of **recognized quality**
- Flocks with **limited size**
- **Family farms**

= « **traditional poultry** »





... which represent a large number of producers,
mainly in the South and East of Europe

- ▶ Approximately 2.5 million colored breeding birds in Europe
= more than 400 million rural poultry produced annually in Europe,
including 130 million Label Rouge poultry in France and organic
production in Southern Europe
= thousands of producers, mostly family farms
- ▶ For the whole chain: a turnover of about 2 billion euros
- ▶ A large number of other specialized operators concerned along the
supply chain: breeders for genetic selection, hatchers, transporters,
local small slaughterhouses, feed firms, stores, etc.

The mission of ERPA

ERPA was created in 2007 to:

- **make visible and represent the European rural poultry production** to national and European administrations and other organizations
- help to **preserve and develop the production of rural poultry** in Europe by recognizing its particularities
- **defend free range, extensive, and family-based methods of farming**

ERPA Members: National associations of producers and rural poultry breeders

Our members are from many countries:
Belgium, Spain, France, Italy, Czech Republic, Romania, Hungary



Rural poultry and Avian Influenza


- **A difficult context since 2016**, with a very virulent H5N8 virus spread by wild birds, affecting all types of production.
- **Positions defended by ERPA:**
 - No focus on free range poultry. Confinement may be useful in some situations, but should not be systematic.
 - Specificities of rural poultry are able to limit AI spreading: hardiness of poultry, small size of farms, low densities...
 - It is important and possible to implement serious biosecurity measures, including for rural poultry.
- **Study made in 2016/2017 to :**
 - Compare the regulations of member states on biosecurity/AI
 - Define biosecurity measures for: European rural poultry farmers, backyards (clients of the rural poultry farmers), and other operators on farms. And distribute information to all rural poultry operators with a simple and didactic document.



ERPA study on biosecurity measures against Avian Influenza



Goals of the study

- ▶ Perform a benchmarking of each country regulations about avian flue biosecurity when there is no outbreak. Countries studied : Italy, France, Spain and Belgium.
 - ▶ Highlight the main items and if possible the differences in their definitions
 - ▶ Suggest a physical communication support for the different professional workers of this sector
- 



Benchmarking of the main biosecurity items in the farm

- Main items :
 - Production unit
 - Sanitary room
 - Sanitary vacuum
- Differences in rules categories and in their accuracy
 - France : Biosecurity decrees and professional requirement specifications
 - Belgium : Sanitary qualification bulletin annexes
 - Italy : National legislative decrees and regional legislative decrees
 - Spain : Royal decrees and autonomous communities jurisdictions
- Differences in the definitions

Differences in definitions

- ▶ 'Production unit' is equally defined (physical separation + sanitary management separation) but sometimes is more complex
 - ▶ In each country it is forbidden to mix geese and ducks with other species, but in Italy it is also the case for quails
 - ▶ In Italy 'production unit' refers to structural requirements, the concept of sanitary management is described in the definition of 'epidemiological unit'.
 - ▶ In France every PU has a sanitary room. In Belgium each pack has a sanitary room. For little farms one prelocal is enough for the whole place.
 - ▶ In Belgium regulations can be adapted based on the number of birds (thresholds are 200 and 5000 birds). Ex : under 5000 birds it is possible to put several batches in the same poultry house.
 - ▶ In France each production unit has one batch

Differences in definitions

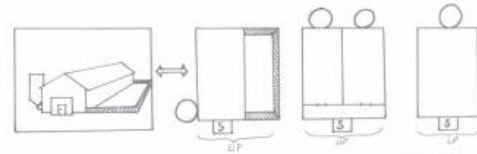
- ▶ **Sanitary room** is not described in the same way, but there is to be one according to each regulation
 - ▶ Ex : shower in Spain and Belgium, disposable hand towels for France...
 - ▶ In Belgium the concept of sanitary room (hand washing, clothes) is linked with the concept of « prélocal » (dirty and clean areas, shoes), the first one being sometimes the same than the second.
- ▶ **Sanitary vacuum** is defined in the same way but his length differs most of the time
 - ▶ Example for laying hens: Up to 7days in Spain, 21days in Italy, 42 days for Label Rouge farms in France (professional regulation requirement)

Production of a communication tool

- **Target** : professional farmers, workers from outside the farm, backyard owners
- **Format** : displayable sheets directly given
- **Goals** :
 - Improve knowledge on main biosecurity items and their practical use
 - Remind important rules for avian flue biosecurity
 - Open future prospects for better communication between firms and their customers (biosecurity in general, regulations evolution...)

Sheet example: for professional farmers

Information sur la biosécurité en élevage de volailles rurales



S : Sas sanitaire ; UP : Unité de Production

DEFINITION UNITE DE PRODUCTION :

Votre Unité de Production (UP) :

-est physiquement délimitée par des murs pour les bâtiments et du grillage pour les parcours,

-ne doit contenir qu'une espèce de volailles,
-ne doit préférentiellement avoir que des volailles de même âge,

-possède un sas sanitaire fonctionnel permettant d'assurer l'indépendance de gestion sanitaire du lot.

VARIATIONS SELON LE TYPE D'EXPLOITATIONS :

En élevage avec parcours l'UP comprend l'ensemble : Sas sanitaire + Bâtiment d'élevage + Parcours

En élevage de démarrage : Sas sanitaire + Bâtiment d'élevage.

Dans le cas où un même bâtiment possède plusieurs salles accueillant chacune un lot géré selon les mêmes exigences sanitaires (même âge, même espèce, même statut sanitaire), un sas sanitaire pour l'ensemble des salles peut suffire.

LE SAS SANITAIRE



PROTOCOLE D'UTILISATION DU SAS SANITAIRE :

Quand on arrive dans le sas sanitaire :

- On enlève ses vêtements et ses chaussures civiles
- On se lave les mains à l'aide de savon ou d'un gel hydro-alcoolique
- On entre dans la zone propre
- On enfle la tenue et les chaussures de travail
- On effectue les soins aux animaux
- On enlève les vêtements de travail dans la zone propre
- On entre dans la zone sale
- On se lave les mains
- On enfle ses vêtements et ses chaussures civiles

A PROPOS DE LA SEPARATION DES ESPECES :

Les palmipèdes (canards, oies) et les gallinacés (poules, dindes, pintades) ne doivent pas entrer en contact les uns avec les autres car ils ne réagissent pas de la même manière au virus de l'influenza aviaire.

A PROPOS DU VIDE SANITAIRE :

Entre l'enlèvement d'un lot et la mise en place du suivant vous devez respecter une période de vide sanitaire qui débute après le nettoyage et la désinfection des locaux. ERPA recommande une durée moyenne de 15 jours (les locaux devant être totalement secs avant la mise en place du lot suivant). Cette recommandation ne se substitue en aucun cas à la réglementation en vigueur dans votre pays.

A PROPOS DE LA GESTION DES FLUX :

Votre exploitation doit comporter une délimitation précise que ne peuvent pas franchir les clients et autres visiteurs. Aucun visiteur ni intervenant inutile à l'élevage ne doit pouvoir accéder à l'unité de production, et l'utilisation de chaînes et de panneaux de signalement est vivement conseillée.

Si une personne étrangère accède à l'UP, elle doit impérativement utiliser le sas sanitaire suivant le protocole précédemment décrit.



Conclusion

- ▶ The content of the sheets is defined, now is the time to finish the design
- ▶ Distribution of the sheets in the rural sector: enterprises, federations, institutions, etc., at European and national levels, have an important role to play!

Thank you for listening

