



Biosecurity policy Institut de Sélection Animale (ISA)

At ISA we have put strict biosecurity programs in place in order to maintain the disease free status of our flocks.

Biosecurity is key in the prevention of diseases and can be achieved through tailor made vaccination and disease eradication programs, in combination with strict operational farm management rules.

The implementation of a biosecurity program starts with a profound risk assessment.

A very important element in farm management is the desire to minimize the contact of our flocks with the outside world as much as possible.

Also inside our farms we like to control bird to bird contact as much as possible. New birds that enter our farms should have a guaranteed health status.

We locate our production centers as much as possible in low density poultry areas. At our farms we work with Forced Air Positive Pressure (FAPP) ventilation systems with absolute filtering.

This will help us to minimize the risks of entrance of airborne diseases.

Hereunder some recommendations related to biosecurity are given:

Minimize and control direct bird to bird contact at the farm premises. Only introduce birds with a guaranteed health status.

Minimize and control indirect contact of extraneous elements with our birds, flocks and farms. Human beings (workers, visitors), materials (trucks, equipment) non wanted animals and insects (rodents and flies) are potential vehicles of the spread of diseases.

Therefore: do not allow visitors, unless it is absolutely necessary. If you have visitors, be sure that the standstill period (no earlier contact with poultry for 48-72 hours) is respected.

Visitors always have to wear a cap and a mask. Mycoplasma's, for instance, can survive up to 72 hours in people's hair and nose

Do not allow staff/ workers on the farm to have poultry at home.

Install and use shower facilities; change clothes and footwear. Wash your hands before entering a poultry house.

Work with strict separation between outside and inside of the farm premises. (Build a solid fence around the premises; work with a clean road/dirty road principle for delivery of feed and removal of manure and dead birds) Do not allow trucks and cars on the clean part of the premises.

Use in farm equipment and tools.

Keep your poultry houses rodent and bird proof.

Keep flies under control.

Also feed storage must be rodent, bird and fly free.

Feed is a risk factor (Salmonella!).

Is the drinking water clean and free from pathogens? (Prevent contamination with E coli, yeast, moulds and, when surface water is used, Avian Influenza!).

***** The biosecurity system must be monitored regularly *****

The most important part of biosecurity programs often is changing the way of thinking about what is clean and what is dirty and act according to that. Understanding/ knowledge of the reasons why you implement certain biosecurity measures on a farm can help a lot in persuading staff/ workers to live and act according to these rules.



Biosecurity measurements must be simple, well understandable, agreed upon and monitored.
Motivation of our staff is the key to success, not only in biosecurity.

Every offence against the biosecurity rules is a serious danger to the health status of a farm. All people must be aware of this fact and aware of the risks and the possible consequences of these risks.

Biosecurity: in fact the most effective and economical way of disease control available.

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