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Biology at heart of sustainable development FAVOR

PREVENT STIMULATE

e immu system

the chemical only in case of proven pathology

to give back to the earth the necessary nutrients



Frédéric GRIMAUD

An endangered species

Integrating farm buildings into the landscape and society

Concerned about the future of farming and how the sector - and hatcheries in particular is perceived, Grimaud Freres Selection has decided to launch an initiative to integrate its production facilities into both the landscape and society.

The public today know very little about modern hatcheries, which can elicit a negative image of the industry that affects the quality of work and the lives of breeders.

Today, far fewer people come into contact with the agricultural sector, even in rural areas. Only 10-15% of residents speak to farmers, a fact which does not prevent the remaining 85% from drawing their own conclusions about the farming world. If they draw positive conclusions, all is well. Otherwise...

Then there is the question of managing spaces, which means that farming practices must

be laid bare to all. The landscape belongs to everyone. There is therefore a close link between the image projected by a given farmer, product quality, the rural landscape, conservation, dining, and the creation of assets. This is why this strategy, with support from Regional Chambers of Agriculture, is built upon four main pillars:

- Improving the quality of life and working conditions on the farm by separating personal and professional spaces, and improving public perceptions of the farming industry.
- Promoting existing assets and the production environment (community terrain occupancy map), while forecasting what the facility will be like in ten years in relation to its assessment.
- Improving perceptions of the sector with clean, organised facilities that form part of the landscape; no blots on the landscape, but no need to hide what we do in order to avoid suspicion.
- Communicating the sustainability of our facilities with a positive image that takes society's concerns into account, to secure the nonfarming community's acceptance of our business and the need for it.

Through this strategy, Grimaud Freres Selection will actively work to secure both society's acceptance and the future of the intensive production systems and facilities needed to provide quality food to a constantly growing population.

Natural Concept by







Use of bacterial Flora

The role and purposes of using protective flora in breeding facilities are as follows:

- an alternative to antibiotics,
- to block digestive bacterial pathogens,
- for improved performance,
- for animal comfort when used in litter.

With regard to the fight against antibiotic resistant bacteria: well-managed flora can lower the need for antibiotics by limiting the selection of bacteria that develop resistance to antibiotics, which considerably reduce the effectiveness of treatments. The right protective flora should meet several criteria: good innocuousness, effectiveness that reduces the content/concentration of the chosen strains, and their scope of activity the fundamental concept that the more we work on the environment or the animals with the right bacteria, the better the results. This makes it a business issue: what programme should be applied and for what purpose, to get the best cost/reward ratio and value for money?

Can we trust labels or a particular name, to assess the quality of protective flora? The best thing would be to ask the supplier the right questions. Does it contain lactic flora that can combat salmonella? What is its exact composition and what is its relationship with dosage? Does the way it is made guarantee an effective concentration of each bacterial strain? The manufacturing lab's quality standards are, without doubt, a guarantee of the supplier's conscientiousness.

Flora can be applied to the environment, on the litter for composting, and in the animal's drinking water. These are the applications for the Filaflor range from Filavie with, respectively, Filafilm (positive biofilm), Filaflor Compost (compost activator), and Filactis.

20XV Fuel Consumption Challenge

Mercedes-Benz France has launched a competition entitled the «Fuel Consumption Challenge» destined for the customers of distributors. It was the third time the challenge has run, and the Saga dealership in Cholet brought together over 20 drivers selected from various companies. For Mercedes, the aim was to reward the most responsible driving in terms of fuel consumption and CO2 emissions.



On a 45 minute test track, drivers had to adopt the most economical driving style possible to beat the standard score set by an expert instructor. An on-board computer recorded the driver's style, time spent stationary with the engine running, the frequency and duration of over-speeding, economical driving, speeding, and the number of sudden halts.

Congratulations to Michel Graveleau, a Grimaud Freres Selection driver, who won the challenge and a weekend in London to watch France play Italy in the Rugby World Cup.

Clean-RC Study

Grimaud Freres Selection took part in the Clean-RC study carried out by the Pays de la Loire Regional Chamber of Agriculture's Institute of Hatchery Techniques.

For Grimaud Freres Selection, it was an opportunity to get involved in the correct usage and promotion of heat exchangers used in breeding sites.

Learn more: www.natural-concept.fr/en/

Biosecurity at the heart of pig breeeding stock selection

The end of May saw the open day for the Choice Genetics Gallia selection farm, SARL CAPALAFR in Legé (France), before the animals were led into their new block. 16 months earlier, a fire destroyed the birthing block of 420 Gallia sows.

The newly built facility falls perfectly into line with the «Natural Concept», and the breeders have made biosecurity their top priority. The facility is entered through an airlock with six showers, one for each person working within.



The buildings (gestation block for 420 sows in a single room, maternity block with space for 80

in a single room, and a post-weaning block with 2,048 spaces) were designed with a strict progression in mind. The buildings are pressurised with a three layer filter system to trap the dust that transports pathogens.

The facility was designed to enable the headcount to be doubled: the buildings are built to be upgradable.

The ventilator exhausts are fitted with a wood chip biofilter. This system requires less water and maintenance than traditional systems used for the output of centralised ventilation. Lastly, on a selection site, it is essential to maintain high hygiene standards. The farm is free of the main pathogenic agents. All feed dispensed to the animals is «clean». Major efforts are made every day to maintain this status.



Wood chip is spread on duckboards the length of the building, 50cm thick. When damp, it captures the dust that carries malodoroux molecules and ammonia.



The new block is 300m away from the old one, leaving room for future expansion, as well as being further from the village.

GROUPE GRIMAUD initiated Natural Concept Follow us @NaturalConcept_