

Natural Concept

Biology at heart
of sustainable development

THE 5 KEYS
of the "NATURAL
CONCEPT"



FAVOR
robustness and
feed efficiency



PREVENT
disease
risks



STIMULATE
the immune
system



USE
the chemical only
in case of proven
pathology



TO GIVE BACK
to the earth the
necessary nutrients

Edito



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"One Welfare"

The second Natural Concept Day was held on 11 December 2018. This was a real revelation for me – an opportunity to discover "One Welfare."

Much like "One Health" (global health connecting our environment, animal health and our health), the "One Welfare" concept links our own Wellbeing to the Wellbeing of Animals and the Planet.

This concept promotes the idea that Humans can only experience wellbeing and reach their full potential if the wellbeing of other species and the resources of the planet are respected. This creates a fair balance where Humans respect the rights and needs of the world around them.

Although the economic reality often portrays this balance as a secondary concern, due to the price accessibility of the food demand being a priority, this new dimension of sustainability has still emerged in developed societies.

It is clear then that as an actor in the animal production sectors, our role is also to accompany this new trend, which goes far beyond the sole need to nourish.

■ DRYCOOLER: NEW COOLING SYSTEM

For over twenty years, the GRIMAUD FRERES SELECTION hatcheries were equipped with evaporative cooling towers. This water cooling system for the incubators and hatcheries works through evaporation (adiabatic process). It is a very natural, energy-saving system but it was not enough during heat waves and needed to be compensated with the use of the water network without recycling ("lost water system").

Since 13 December 2004, a new regulation concerning the risk of Legionnaires' disease has required recurrent analyses and systematic bactericide treatments of the water in the towers. These new constraints resulted in significant costs which could be as much as €6,000 per tower a year or €12,000 per hatchery, not including the time spent by people in charge of monitoring them. Despite all the precautions taken, it is very difficult to maintain the level of contamination below the regulatory threshold across our hatcheries (linked to managing the restarting of the machines). Each exceedance, even slight, forced us to stop the tower and fully clean it. During these periods, we worked with "lost water" to cool the machines. Beyond a certain threshold, we had to make a declaration to the French Departmental Direction for the Protection of Populations, or organise a check by an independent body.

In view of this, the General Services accompanied by the environment service tested a solution to eliminate the Legionnaires' disease constraint. Rather than opting for a very energy-intensive system for producing iced water, the choice was guided towards an air cooling system but in a closed circuit called a "DRYCOOLER." Paired with a little cold group to cope with extreme heat peaks, this system currently equips the GRIMAUD FRERES SELECTION hatcheries. For example, the installation cost for hatchery C7 was €46,000. Thanks to this system, we have detached ourselves from the heavy regulatory constraints whilst opting for installations with a low impact on the environment and with lower running costs.





■ PIONEER OF THE “O ANTIBIO”

For 25 years, in every aspect of his pig farm, our partner, GAEC Chiron, located in Vendée (France), multiplication farm for Choice of the parental gilt NAIMA2.0 has followed a “zero antibiotic” approach.

In all livestock: including for farrowing house, post-weaning or even during finishing barns, the exclusive use of natural products is required. Antibiotics are very rarely used.

The reason for this is that the fundamentals of breeding and the application of progress to maintain a good sanitary status are applied. Gaec's ethos is that it is better to use pressure washers equipment than syringes!



■ NATURAL CONCEPT DAY #2: SUSTAINABILITY IN ANIMAL PRODUCTIONS FROM EVERY ANGLE!

On 11 December 2018 at the Agrocampus Ouest in Rennes (France), 200 livestock breeding professionals, students, and stakeholders in research and training met for the 2nd Natural Concept Day.

Issues regarding sustainability in breeding, with a particular focus on demedication and animal welfare, were key topics of discussion for the day, which is a result of the partnership between the Groupe Grimaud, Evolution and Agrocampus Ouest.

Studies, presentations, round table discussions and testimonials: the societal expectations surrounding these topics, and the responses implemented by sector stakeholders, were all addressed by the many speakers who came together for the event.

The “Natural Concept” Award took place in the afternoon. This competition revolving around presenting theses in pitches rewarded three PhD students for their work.

The end of the event provided an opportunity to officially sign off the new Fondation Agrocampus Ouest Chair, “Futurs d'élevage” (Breeding Horizons) which unites the Groupe Grimaud and Evolution group with Agrocampus Ouest.

LOOKING BACK ON THE DAY IN FIGURES AND IMAGES...

Key figures

Breeding at high school: a complete programme!

82%

For 82% of high school students animal welfare is their first concern when it comes to breeding.

180"

The number of seconds given to the three PhD students to present their thesis as a pitch.

Keywords

“One Welfare”

A concept linking animal wellbeing, human wellbeing and the ecological functioning of the environment in which animals and humans live.

“Health”

During the speech by Bleu Blanc Cœur on the topic “Reconciliation of mode of production and societal expectations is possible!” Nathalie Kerhoas, director of the organisation, highlighted sustainable health and the One Health concept (health of the land, animal health, human health).

Today, health is the number 1 concern of French people in food.

In pictures



Round table “Animal wellbeing and demedication, response from the sector”

Speakers: Dr Laurent SCHIBLER, Development & Innovation Manager **Alice** - Boris BOURDIN, CEO Food Division **Euralis** - Stéphane ATHIMON, Director Animal Sectors **Avril Group** - Dr Thomas PAVIE, International Relations Director **Groupe Grimaud** - Denis LE GAL, Organic Cattle Farmer **GAEC Keraudic**



Signing of the chair “Futurs d'élevage” (Breeding horizons) between Agrocampus Ouest, Evolution and Groupe Grimaud