



Annex

Euro Foie Gras' common animal welfare indicators

I) Ensuring suitable nutrition and hydration *Freedom from hunger, malnutrition and thirst*

Indicators of means
<p>Records are kept to monitor the amount of feed consumed (rearing and fattening phase), which allows for traceability control.</p> <p>Records are available, kept up to date and stored for 3 years.</p>
<p>In the rearing phase, drinking troughs are designed to allow the animal to have permanent access to good quality water and to wet its body without difficulty, activities which contribute to its well-being, as they are primarily aquatic birds.</p>
<p>In the fattening phase, longitudinal drinking troughs are designed to allow the animals to dip their heads under water.</p>

The farm ensures the **microbiological quality of the water** supplied to the animals, recording the type of supply, the sanitation system used and the control plan implemented.

The quality of the water is checked **at least once a year**.

II) Ensuring that the animals can be kept quiet

Freedom from fear and distress

Indicators of means

Daily monitoring of the animals is carried out by the farmer or by competent staff (partner, employee, etc.). A **visit is made twice a day** during the fattening phase.

In the buildings, there is a **sufficient natural or artificial light source** so that the animals can see themselves clearly, be seen clearly, visually recognise their surroundings and carry out their activities in a routine manner.

Control shall be exercised by ensuring that it is **possible to see the back of the building**.

Animals should not be kept continuously in darkness, nor should they be exposed to artificial light without appropriate interruption. The farmer must therefore **respect a day/night rhythm**. **During the first rearing phase, a light point is maintained continuously** in order to facilitate access to food and water and to avoid crowding that could lead to suffocation or situations of fear.

During the **rearing phase**, effective protection against **predator attack** is provided by means of wire mesh and/or electric fencing, or any other means deemed effective by the farmer.

Where **animals are kept in buildings** with access to natural light, effective protection of windows or other openings to the outside is provided (e.g. by means of wire netting or wire mesh).

III) Ensuring comfort for the animals

Freedom from heat stress or physical discomfort

Indicators of means
<p>The farm ensures that thermometers and/or other temperature measuring systems are present in all the buildings for the first-rearing and fattening phases.</p> <p>The farmer ensures that all these devices are functional.</p>
<p>The facilities have natural spaces (trees, hedges and bushes) and/or artificial spaces (tunnels, buildings) that facilitate shelter for the animals in the event of draughts, excessive sun or rain, avoiding thermic stress.</p>
<p>For open-air rearing facilities, farmers implement practices that preserve the plant cover. A period of rest on the run is systematically applied between two successive batches.</p>
<p>Ventilation is adequate. Air circulation, air dust levels, temperature, relative humidity and gas concentrations should not exceed limits that would be harmful to the animals.</p> <p>The inspector is not bothered by excessive ammonia odour or dust (e.g. throat irritation or watery eyes).</p>

IV) Ensuring healthy animals

Freedom from pain, injury and disease

Indicators of means
A supervising veterinarian has been appointed by the farmer (with proof of this appointment).
On the farm, a dedicated area for the isolation of weakened animals with water and feed available at each production unit (at each age) can be installed. The inspector checks the facilities and the equipment available.
The farm has a specific health programme developed by a specialised veterinarian with a system for recording the following data : a) Dates and number of animals entering and leaving the building b) Vaccinations and medication administered and dates c) Record of mortality cases
Pharmacy management and prescription storage : there are prescriptions for all medicines available.

V) Ensuring normal animal behaviour

Freedom to express normal patterns of behaviour

Indicators of means
<p>During the rearing phase, the maximum density of birds in buildings, by age and floor type, is adequate allowing the animals to move freely and to have easy access to feed and drinking troughs.</p> <p>Where ducks are to be kept in closed buildings, the maximum density is 25 kg/m².</p> <p>Where ducks have access to an outdoor run, the maximum stocking density in the building is 42 kg/m².</p> <p>Where geese are to be kept in closed buildings, the maximum density is 20 kg/m².</p> <p>Where geese have access to an outdoor run, the maximum stocking density in the building is 30 kg/m².</p>
<p>During the fattening phase, the minimum area available is 1200 cm² per duck, with at least 3 ducks per housing.</p> <p>During the fattening phase, the minimum area available is 1500 cm² per goose, with at least 3 geese per housing.</p> <p>The housing system allows the birds to stand with a normal posture, turn around without difficulty, defecate showing normal movements, flap their wings, perform normal feather preening movements, perform normal social interactions, carry out normal feeding and drinking movements.</p>
<p>All the rearing facilities have access to an outdoor run. This access to the open air is a priority for the sector.</p>

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