



Fédération Européenne pour la Santé Animale et la Sécurité Sanitaire (FESASS)

The role of animal welfare in our work

Hans-Peter Schons

(FESASS, Member of the board, treasurer)

**3rd OIE AW Platform Stakeholder Consultation
meeting on 7 June 2017 in Brussels**



FESASS Strategic Plan 2015



- FESASS is representing the interests of European livestock farmers and animal health professionals, with the objective to
 - improve the health and welfare of farmed animals, food safety and food security
 - enhancing the sustainability of production systems



FESASS Strategic Plan 2015



- collaborative actions by responsible livestock farmers and their organizations are important prerequisites for successful animal husbandry
- We are looking for cooperation with other interest groups
- The conditions for livestock husbandry must consider the development of science and technology to maintain the competitiveness of the livestock sector



Our primary objective is to improve animal health by:

- promotion of effective, timely, therapeutic and prophylactic measures
- development and implementation of co-ordinated, systematic control and eradication programmes for significant animal diseases and infections
- promotion of farm biosecurity, with the aim of minimising the spread of animal diseases between and within farms
- optimization of genetic resources through research and breeding programmes that take account of performance capacity, disease resistance and vitality
- promotion of recognised methods of diagnosis and the quality of laboratories
- promotion of uniform standards of certification of animal health status, in relation to unregulated diseases, at the national and European level



We firmly believe that our efforts to achieve optimal ANIMAL HEALTH will contribute positively to a wide range of additional objectives:

- *PROFITABILITY of livestock farming*
- *SUSTAINABILITY of livestock farming*
- ***WELFARE OF ANIMALS, by promoting respect and consideration for animals, appropriate systems of animal husbandry and a diet appropriate to the nutritional requirements of each individual species ;***
- *FOOD SAFETY*
- *RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT*
- *HUMAN HEALTH*
- *FOOD SUPPLY*
- *SUSTAINABILITY OF RURAL COMMUNITIES*
- *CONSUMER PROTECTION*



Major AW activities:

- Alternatives to castration of pigs (member of the expert group)
- Helping pig farmers to avoid tail docking
- Animal transport
- Participation at OIE Global Conferences on Animal Welfare



Animal transport (1)

- necessity and integral part of a work-sharing agricultural production system
- admittedly a critical issue that is therefore regulated on EU and national level
- however, implementation seems to be difficult and many reports about failures and shortcomings
- FESASS members have been involved in several EU-funded project (e. g. Welfare Quality, QCPP, Animal Transport Guides)



Animal transport (2)

- FESASS is focussing on:
 - sensitizing farmers on the critical points (good preparation of the animals, proper handling at loading etc.)
 - giving technical advise
 - promoting good practices (together with other umbrella organisations)
 - disseminating research results (national and EU projects)



Disaster management

- Experts from FESASS member organisations are involved as advisors to the regional or local companies/organisations, that have been established under the responsibility of the veterinary services (competent authorities)
- Our focus is on technical expertise, a. o. related to
 - culling practices (changing processes into a more animal friendly, together with research institutes)
 - cleaning and disinfection
 - optimisation of prophylactic hygiene measures (notably where there is no legal requirement like e. g. in cattle)
 - supporting the epidemiological investigations on the spot



Thank you for your attention!

Contact:

Fédération Européenne pour la Santé Animale et la Sécurité Sanitaire
aisbl (FESASS)

President : Didier DELMOTTE

Secretary General: Alain C. CANTALOUBE

149, rue de Bercy

75595 Paris Cedex 12 – France

Tel.: +33 (1) 4004 5124

fesass@fesass.eu



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L'EUROPE DE LA SANTÉ ANIMALE***