

Veterinary concerns for the breed-specific European show of the NSODC 2024 in Putte

1) Intra-community movements from European countries to Belgium

Thanks to the Benelux agreement and the agreement with France, an animal health certificate (Traces) is not required for the whole of the Netherlands, Luxembourg and France.

For transports from all other European countries the following is important:

- An animal health certificate (Traces) must accompany the birds. This document must be issued together with the vaccination certificate for NCD when delivering the birds. The return to the place of departure (mentioned on the certificate) is done with the same animal health certificate (Traces).
- Joint transport is also allowed with one animal health certificate (Traces) from the collection point.
- Animals may not be sold; they must be compulsorily returned to the place of origin. Buying animals at the show is also not possible. An animal sold at the show always needs two documents, one to be transported from home to the show and a second to get from the show to the customer's home address. That second document would have to be drawn up by a FASFC vet at the show itself, which is not feasible.

2) Compulsory vaccination against NCD

In summary, the following applies in Belgium:

- Any vaccination against NCD must be conducted by an authorised veterinarian.
- The use of a registered inactivated vaccine is mandatory. As Newcavac is exceedingly difficult to obtain, the more expensive combination vaccines are used, e.g. RT+IBmulti+ND+EDS. The veterinarian injects these vaccines.
- The authorised vet provides a vaccination certificate containing his details, the breeder's details, the details of the vaccine used (lot number, expiry date) and the ring numbers of the vaccinated birds.

But, we were verbally promised that vaccination according to the rules of the country of origin is sufficient, i.e. foreign animals may be vaccinated with live vaccine via drinking water or spray method. This is an exceptional measure; Belgians still must vaccinate with the more expensive inactivated vaccine because it guarantees the built-up immunity for much longer. This is why this relaxation is nowhere to be found on the FASFC website, but it does apply to foreign birds.

For extra information:

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