

# Biosecurity in local and small-scale poultry production, in France : challenges and opportunities



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## Background<sup>1,2</sup>

Repeated outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) have revealed **biosecurity breaches** in French poultry farms

**Compliance** with biosecurity practices **on small-scale farms** has appeared challenging in many species because of **production specificities**

Compliance with biosecurity practices is **poorly documented** in this production system

Small-scale farms are **more and more popular**

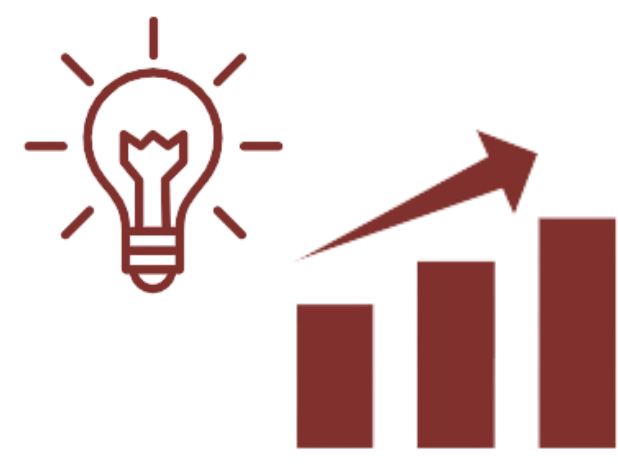
## Purpose

Analyze **biosecurity attitudes, representations and practices** of poultry farmers in local and small-scale regarding their **specificities**

Determine the **strategies to support** these farmers **to improve biosecurity practices** and better control the spread of avian diseases to durably secure the future of poultry production

## Intervention (training...)

- ▶ Based on farmer's needs (preliminary work)
- ▶ Assess changes in farmers' attitudes and intentions before / after



## Preliminary work (in progress)

- ✓ **Discern the functioning** of local and small-scale poultry farm in France
- ✓ Understand their **concerns, needs and expectations** about biosecurity and avian disease management

*Epidemiological, human and social sciences approaches*

- ✓ **Improve biosecurity practices** in this production

- ✓ Provide an **overview of the diversity and the practices** in this local and small-scale farms

## Individual exploratory interviews

- ▶ 10-15 small-scale farmers (chicken or duck), French production areas



## Preliminary results

### Heterogeneity between farms

**Production stages, sufficiency in feed, type of barns, species...**

*"In autarkic system, we don't have too many external flows"*

### Mismatch between biosecurity guidelines and production constraints

**Free-range farming, direct sales on farm, continuous production, few workers and few animals...**

*"Biosecurity rules yes, but they must be adapted to the type of farming because each farm is different"*

### Lack of technical support

**No advisors, no or little contact with local "Chambers of agriculture", neglect of small producers (self-learning)**

*"Associations of small producers were created because they weren't heard"*



## Questionnaires (All over France)

- ▶ Biosecurity - attitudes, practices, perceptions
- ▶ Supply and sales networks for live poultry
- ▶ Professional networks - sanitary supervision

## References :

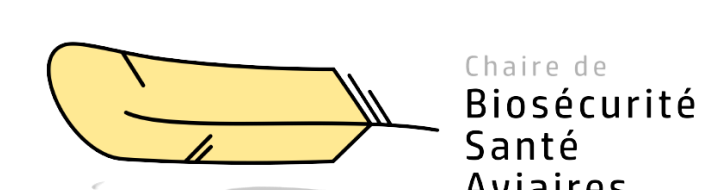
<sup>1</sup> Delpont et al, 2018, Prev. Vet. Med. Biosecurity practices on foie gras duck farms, Southwest France.

<sup>2</sup> Holloway et al, 2019, Journal of Rural Studies. Smallholder knowledge-practices and smallholding animals: threats or alternatives to agricultural biosecurity?

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**This is my first year of PhD !**

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