



NetPoulSafe

TRAINING OF POULTRY FARMERS ON BIOSECURITY



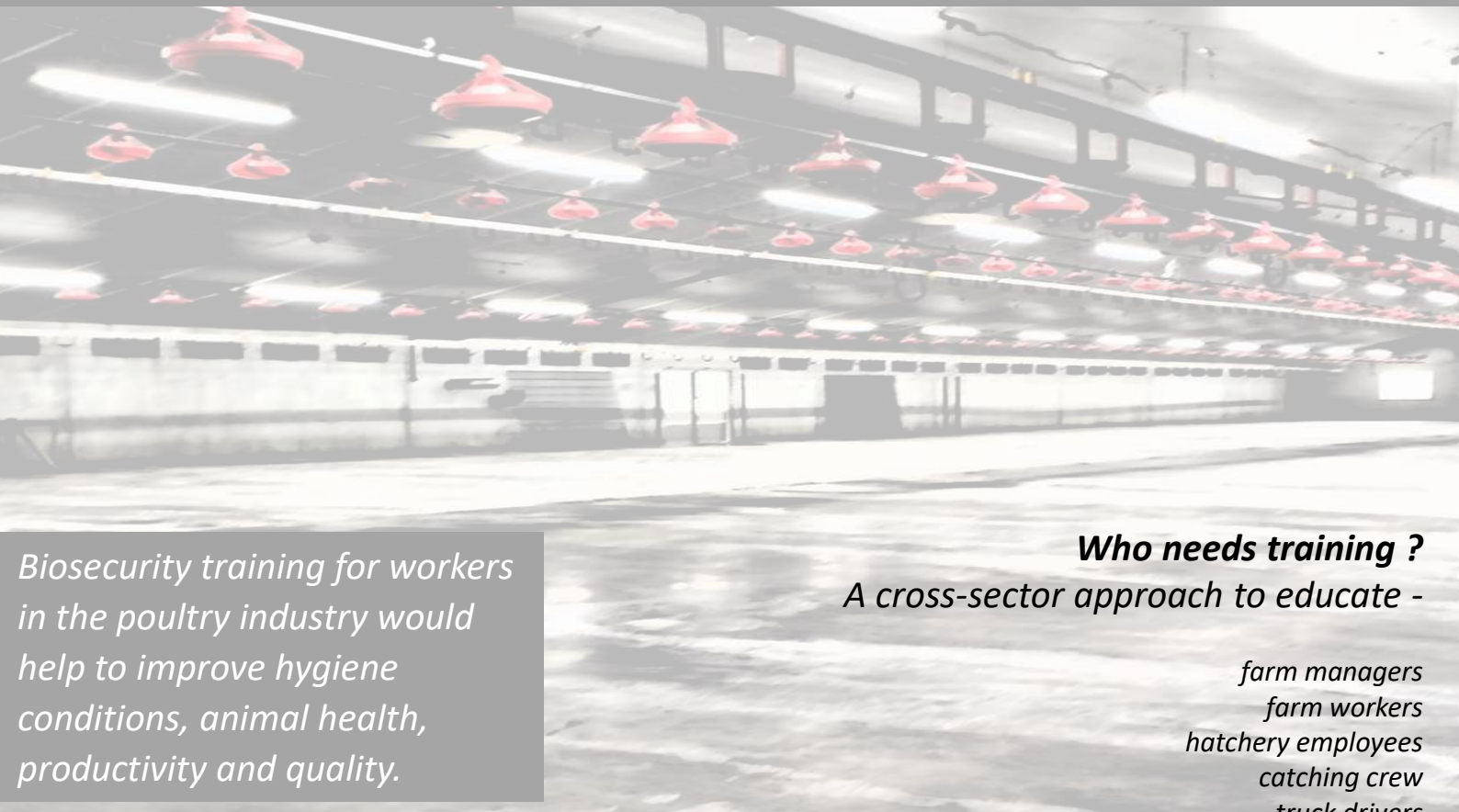
MAIN KEY POINTS

- Education/ Training on biosecurity
- Biosecurity in poultry farms
- Train the trainers

Human intrusion into broiler houses can happen 50 to 150 times during the life of a flock. This is unavoidable due to production and maintenance practices, and poses a significant risk for introducing pathogens (e.g. Campylobacter sp.) into the flocks.

- Wagenaar et al. 2006

Training the workers for various poultry farm operations with a biosecurity perspective can be a good investment for the farm.



Biosecurity training for workers in the poultry industry would help to improve hygiene conditions, animal health, productivity and quality.

Who needs training ?

A cross-sector approach to educate -

*farm managers
farm workers
hatchery employees
catching crew
truck drivers
feed advisors
veterinarians*

Training should be offered in the form of:

Workshops, seminars and e-learning

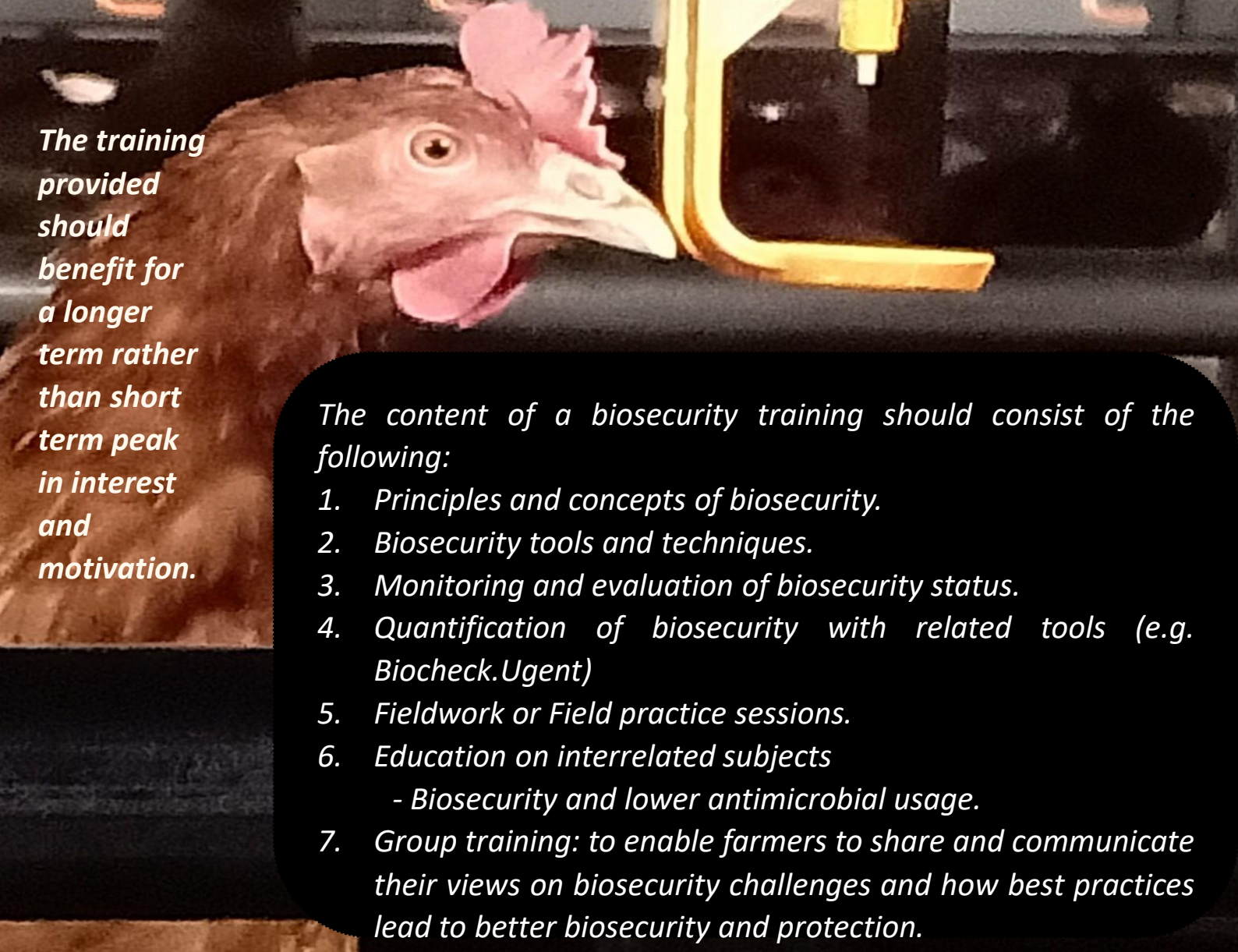
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Train the trainers

Once the highest authority of a sector/farm/organization get the training, they can in turn train other people and so, with time, this can affect the biosecurity understanding of all the poultry personnel.

Cascade training process

Leaders of poultry associations should be trained to raise awareness among poultry farmers to spread good practices quickly. One team/company member should be trained to transfer knowledge to others who are closely associated with day-to-day operations in poultry farming



The training provided should benefit for a longer term rather than short term peak in interest and motivation.

The content of a biosecurity training should consist of the following:

- 1. Principles and concepts of biosecurity.*
- 2. Biosecurity tools and techniques.*
- 3. Monitoring and evaluation of biosecurity status.*
- 4. Quantification of biosecurity with related tools (e.g. Biocheck.Ugent)*
- 5. Fieldwork or Field practice sessions.*
- 6. Education on interrelated subjects*
 - Biosecurity and lower antimicrobial usage.*
- 7. Group training: to enable farmers to share and communicate their views on biosecurity challenges and how best practices lead to better biosecurity and protection.*

Training in biosecurity does not take a fixed form.

The type and level of training depends on the needs of those to be trained.

E.g. For improved biosecurity during depopulation/ thinning, an effective biosecurity training, as well as cognitive and behavioural modification training should be given for all catching crew companies.

Education of farmers aims at learning and problem solving.

Benefits of education/training:

- *Trained farmers become better decision makers.*
- *Education will translate into better income.*
- *Helps to understand the need for enforcing farm hygiene.*
- *Helps to be up to date with new innovations.*
- *Helps farmers to understand new concepts and apply knowledge in farming.*
- *Well trained farmers will be more prepared to cope with emerging challenges.*
- *Training would also strengthen the capacity of veterinary services.*



Figure 1. Biosecurity training for farmers by Hilde van Meirhaeghe (VETWORKS)

Public and private sectors providing training programmes for poultry farmers should also focus on “Biosecurity related”:

- *Knowledge*
- *Skills*
- *Abilities*
- *Behavior*
- *Improvement*
- *Sustainability*

References:

- de Goede, L. (2015). An Analysis of Strategies to educate Dutch Poultry Farmers about Sustainability Issues <https://doi.org/10.1590/S1516-635X2013000200001>

For more information: NETPOULSAFE project : <https://www.netpoulsafe.eu>

