



EQCMA Partnership on Depopulation

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Information Sharing Workshop Animal Health Canada

**Martin Pelletier, coordinator
March 29th, 2023**

Ottawa

Equipment

- Acquisition of two distribution units and 8 manifolds in 2017



Photo: Agro Extermination



Photo: Agro Extermination

- Equipment with Canadian Registration Numbers (CRN)
- Capacity of 2 medium-sized chicken barns at the same time or the largest chicken barn in Quebec

Agreement with Agro Extermination

- **Agro Extermination: pest management company specializing in agriculture with about ten field employees**
- **Use of equipment from 2018, but first contract signed in 2020 with annual review as needed**
- **EQCMA responsibilities:**
 - **Assumes normal equipment maintenance costs**
 - **Maintains CO₂ gassing protocol up to date (based on CFIA protocol)**
 - **Maintains insurance on equipment for fire, theft, vandalism**

Agreement with Agro Extermination (cont'd)

- **Agro Extermination responsibilities:**
 - **Stores the EQCMA equipment in its facilities**
 - **Repairs or replaces equipment if negligence or loss**
 - **Commits to respect the EQCMA protocol when using the equipment**
 - **Maintains liability insurance for the use of equipment**
 - **Informs EQCMA on each use of the equipment and submits a report**
 - **Maintains 3 people trained in the use of equipment**

Agreement with Agro Extermination (cont'd)

- **Financial issues:**
 - **Agro Extermination charges a storage fee to EQCMA**
 - **Agro Extermination charges personnel, travel, biosecurity and equipment use fees to producers according to the agreed rates**
 - **EQCMA charges equipment use fees to Agro Extermination**

Depopulation Interventions

Year	Number of sites	Number of barns	Breeders	Vaccine egg layers	Table egg layers	Table egg pullets	Turkeys	Chicken broilers	Ducks
2018	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
2019	4	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
2020	11	13	0	0	10	0	0	1	0
2021	34	41	2	3	25	0	0	4	0
2022	33 (14 AI)	64	1	2	9	2	6	9	4
2023	3 (2 AI)	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Total	84	125	3	5	44	2		18	

Challenges

- **Loss of interest of some employees**
- **Fewer planned regular on-farm depopulations in the future (i.e. spent hens)**
- **Negative impact on day-to-day business operations: more of a disruption than a business opportunity**
- **Civil liability during interventions**
- **CO₂ supply and exploration of a mobile container**



QUESTIONS?



Équipe québécoise de contrôle des maladies avicoles (EQCMA)
555, boul. Roland-Therrien, bureau 100
Longueuil (Québec) J4H 3Y9
Tél. : 450 679-0540, poste 8697
Courriel : martinpelletier@eqcma.qc.ca