







Newsletter EURCAW-Poultry-SFA

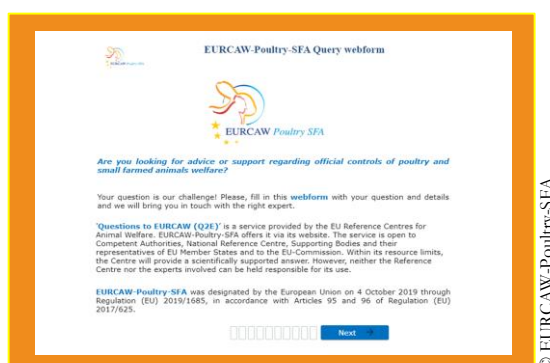


Avril 2025, Edition 11

Questions to EURCAW-Poultry-SFA (Q2E)

All Q2E answers are available [online](#).

-  [Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2024-007](#): Piling behaviour Q1
-  [Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2024-008](#): Piling behaviour Q2 (ongoing)
-  [Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2024-009](#): Laying hens nest depth
-  [Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2025-001](#): Broiler Breeders Platform Space
-  [Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2025-002](#): Culling Individuals (ongoing)
-  [Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2025-003](#): Second stunning of rabbits (ongoing)



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→ The Q2E webform is available online [here](https://survey.anses.fr/SurveyServer/s/DSL/QuerywebformIQ3/questionnaire.htm) or <https://survey.anses.fr/SurveyServer/s/DSL/QuerywebformIQ3/questionnaire.htm>

→ You can download [here](#) the webform in PDF to prepare your Q2E submission.

Italian slaughterhouse visit



In March, a technical study was launched to evaluate the prevalence and interobserver repeatability of the most valid and feasible animal-based indicators (ABIs) for assessing the state of consciousness in ducks following waterbath stunning, both before and during bleeding. The study also aims to assess the stunning effectiveness of key electrical parameters currently used across different slaughterhouses.

Visits to commercial slaughterhouses in Spain, Italy, France, and the Netherlands will continue over the coming months.

In addition to the final review, which is expected to be delivered by the end of 2026, a dedicated factsheet will be published. These materials will propose reliable and practical indicators for assessing consciousness in ducks after waterbath stunning under commercial conditions.

A scientific paper presenting the study results is also planned for future publication.

2025 Highlights



Four EURCAWs meeting





On next May 13-14 will take place the 4 EURCAWs meeting in Heraklion, Greece.

This meeting will bring together all EURCAW teams—EURCAW Aqua, EURCAW Ruminants, EURCAW-Poultry-SFA, and EURCAW Pigs—to foster collaboration, strategic discussions, and knowledge-sharing on key topics of common interest.



Infographics on pullets' outdoor and litter access

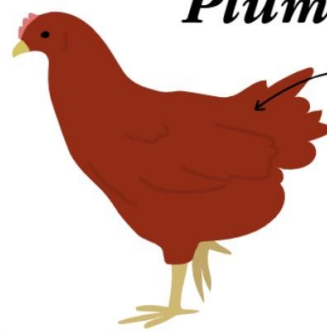
The EURCAW-Poultry-SFA is proud of presenting you its two latest infographics, issued respectively from two Q2E answers, realized in collaboration with [La Chaire bien-être animal](#):

-  [Outdoor access for pullets](#) (available in ENG and FR)
-  [Pullets access to litter for dustbathing](#) (available in EN and FR)

You can have access to the Q2E answers following the links below:

-  [Answer-Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2021-001](#)
-  [Answer_Q2E-Poultry-SFA-2022-008](#)

The most relevant indicator: Plumage coverage



Good plumage coverage requires **full grown adult feathers**, without bald areas.



EURCAW-Poultry-SFA's ninth scientific article

Relevant Indicators of Consciousness After Head-Only Electrical Stunning in Rabbits, Stunning Efficiency, and Risk Factors in Commercial Conditions

by Alexandra Contreras-Jodar ¹ , Virginie Michel ² , Leonardo James Vinco ³ , Aranzazu Varvaró-Porter ¹  and Antonio Velarde ^{1,*} 

The Centre is celebrating the publication of its ninth scientific article as a result of the work carried out in Activity 3 in 2023-2024.

The aim of this study was to investigate the relevant indicators of consciousness after head-only electrical stunning in rabbits in commercial conditions.

This article named "Relevant Indicators of Consciousness After Head-Only Electrical Stunning in Rabbits, Stunning Efficiency, and Risk Factors in Commercial Conditions" has been published and is available [here](#) as open access in *Animals*.

**Latest documents published online****Laying hens welfare**

[Review: Fitness for transport assessment for end-of-lay hens](#)

**Broiler chicken welfare**

[Scientific study in experimental facilities to evaluate the impacts of covered veranda on the welfare of broiler chickens on farm](#)



[Review about the existing behavioural indicators to assess welfare in broiler chickens on farm](#)



[Touch Test for Broilers On-Farm](#)



[Litter quality visual assessment in broiler sheds](#)

**On-farm rabbit welfare**

[The assessment of body condition in rabbits](#)

**Stunning and killing**

[How to assess the state of consciousness in electrically stunned rabbits?](#)



[Efficacy and welfare consequences of the depopulation methods used in the EU in case of Avian Influenza](#)



[Selection of the most appropriate depopulation method for the welfare of poultry](#)



[Suggestions for welfare assessment of poultry on depopulation site](#)

**Translations**

[French](#)

[German](#)

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