

CONSEQUENCE OF ALL IN ALL OUT PRACTICE IN RABBIT PRODUCTION
ON THE TECHNICAL AND ECONOMICAL RESULTS

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"All in all out" practice was seldom used during the past few years, but becomes more frequent to-day.

Many pathologic problems with economical consequences got some breeders to set a "all in all out" in their units. Anyway it is still a "scaring" technique for breeders because of the complete production stop it involves. Few information is available on two important points :

- * why and how practising "all in all out?"
- * what are the results expected (in terms of productivity, mortality fertility and cash flow).

This present paper, based on a sample of production units using Technical and Economical Management programs, before and after "all in all out", helps to answer to these questions.

Materials and methods

The following data were collected on 28 units

- * Economical data for cashflow and profitability
- * Important events in the production unit

Characteristics of the units

- * High average number of mother cage (over 180)

* Youth of both the unit (7 years old) and the breeder (43 years old), (most important units are also the youngest).

* How level of debt (about 200 F/mother cage/year)

* Rabbit production in for 65 % of the units the main activity. For the other units, rabbit is the main source of income.

Standard type of housing

Commercial hybrid strains are used for now than 90 % of units. Various renewal practices : 85 % have their own breeding stock.

All in all out : Why and how ?

Relative importance is described in graphic 1.

The way of practising all in all out is about the same for all units : cleaning, washing, disinfection, closing of the housing.

Most of breeders use high pressure water, have made two disinfections with formalin.

Housing, is left empty for more than 15 days (15 days in an average).

Only two units do not use the proper technique. 42 % of breeder got to this practice because of a decrease of results.

Technical results before "all in all out" as compared to national references, spot out the bad results of these units. (table 1).

On the average, does/mother cage rate is low (hardly more than 100) 80 % of the units are below the mean reference. For many of them, falling of skillful management after some years of breeding could explain this decrease of result.

Pathologic problems are mainly causing mortality in fattening ; as

much as 90 % of units show high mortality : 10 % in fattening
10 % in mother cage.

Moreover, we may note the high rate of increasing of mortality.
One year before "all in all out" the last quarter, mortality went up of
4 %.

Mean productivity is low : 35 rabbits/one the cage/year (12 rabbits
less than national mean) 80 % of the units below the reference in terms
of productivity/female.

Table 2 presents efficiency of "all in all ou practice". Results increase
because of better sanitary conditions and most of the time with further
better management.

This technique provided good results for 23 units.

Productivity/mother cage is increased of more 17 rabbits and 96 %
of units show better productivity. Mortality rate has fallen to reasonable
values, fattening mortality is divided by 2.

75 % of units showed pathologic problem after this practice, pro-
blems reliable to low quality of the new stock.

Though, in most of units, after therapy the problems were solved
few monthes later.

Analysis of changes occuring after all in all an practice

21 % didn't change anything.

68 % change the organisation of the mother cages (more arless
mother cages, increasing number of fattening cages in order to lower den-
sity, increasing of prestock cages...)

52 % changed ventilation techniques (static changed for dynamic...)
(depression or overpression to extraction):

86 % use some other strains.

6 % changed the renewal practice. They turned to practices ensuring better genetic quality and security (self production of breeding stock).

For some of them all in all out period was the opportunity for a complete change of management practices.

Cash flow and rentability

We have determined "pay back" ratio for this product, based on hypothesis of maintaining the same productivity.

Mean, pay back period and cash flow are calculated on a period representing the delay between the time of stopping of covering and the 2nd month after the first sales.

This delay is about 1 year long. The practice may pay back very quickly. Pay back period is about 7 months but do vary between different units.

In this case, we have included the units which have "failed" their all in all out practice. (Their pay back period is over 18 months). Without considering these units, "pay back" is even shorter (5 months and a half).

Nevertheless "all in all out" is a difficult period for cash flow, for about 10 months (maximum of 324 FF/mother cage, higher negative monthly balance). Taking private deduction into account, the cashflow ceiling is increasing from 175 FF/MC/year to 445 FF/MC/year.

Graphic 1

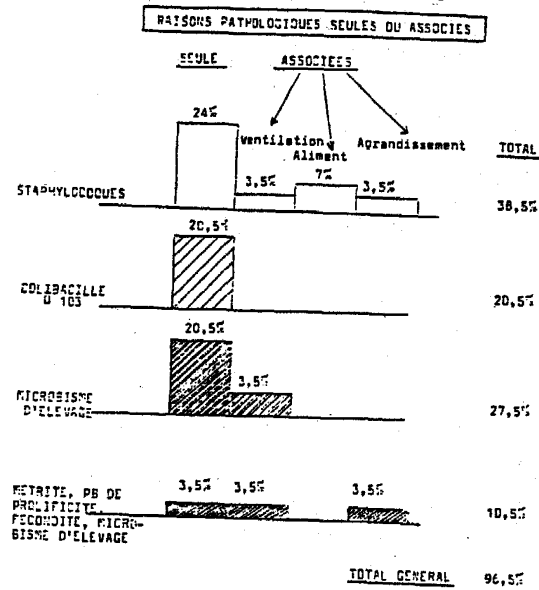


Table 1

	Mean before all in all out (1)	National mean	Mini	Maxi
Rate of does/mother cage	101	112	75	100
Rabbits/mother cage	35,7	47,4	13,6	49,3
Rabbits/does	35,5	41,7	14,6	50,3
Pre weaning	26,2	23,6	10,8	46,1
Mortality fattening	23,5	14	6,9	53,8

Table 2

	Mean		Mini	Maxi
	After all	Difference		
	in all out	between		
		before/after		
Rate of does/mother cage	112	+ 11	92	159
Rabbits/mother cage	53,5	+ 17,6	26,8	81,2
Rabbits/does	47,7	+ 12,2	27,6	66,3
Pre weaning	19,6	- 6,2	10,7	31,9
Mortality fattening	13,8	- 10	3,3	36

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summary

Because of different pathologic problems which bring out reduction of productivity, some rabbit producers decide to make a complete all in all out of their unit. Because of the average size (200 does), this practice results in a complete stop of production during several months.

28 units have been studied, for each of them the following points have been analysed :

- comparison of technical performances obtained before and after all in all out period.
- causes of all in all out practice the practical conditions of its realisation.
- rentability of all in all out by way of calculation of pay back period in comparison with the hypothesis of maintaining production before.
- needs of money induced. (quantity and length)

The principal causes can be classified in three items : staphylococcy, colibacillosis, bad general disease situation.

They pay back period is inversely proportional to the productivity before all in all out period, as for the needs of money induced they depend of the length of period without sellings.

In the majority of cases (23 of the total of 28) all in all out system has been very positive :

- the technical performances have increased (17 rabbits produced per cage and per year), thanks to healthier installations and often thanks to an improved management.
- the pay back period is 7 months in average, the needs of money depend of the situation of each producer (debt level) can be observed during 10 Months, the maximum attains 324 Francs for cage.

INCIDENCE DE LA REALISATION D'UN VIDE SANITAIRE
EN ELVAGE CUNICOLE
SUR LES RESULTATS TECHNIQUES ET ECONOMIQUES

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résumé

Confronté à différents problèmes pathologiques entraînant des baisses de productivité, certains éleveurs de lapins sont amenés à effectuer un vide sanitaire complet de leur atelier. Compte tenu de leur taille moyenne (200 mètres), ce vide se traduit par un arrêt total de production pendant plusieurs mois.

28 cas ont été étudiés : pour chacun d'entre eux les points suivants ont été analysés :

- comparaison des performances techniques obtenues avant et après,
- causes du vide et les conditions pratiques de sa réalisation,
- la rentabilité du vide par le calcul du temps de retour économique en comparaison d'une hypothèse de maintien de la productivité antérieure au vide,
- les besoins de trésorerie engendrés (importance et durée).

Les causes principales sont de trois ordres : staphylococcie, colibacillose ou mauvais état sanitaire général.

Le temps de retour est inversement proportionnel à la productivité antérieure au vide, alors que le besoin de trésorerie dépend de la durée de la période sans ventes.

Dans la grande majorité des cas (23 ou 28), le vide sanitaire a été très positif :

Les performances techniques ont augmentées (+ 17 lapins/cage mère par an), grâce à l'assainissement des installations complété fréquemment par une amélioration de la conduite d'élevage.

Les temps de retour se situent en moyenne à 7 mois et les besoins de trésorerie, fonction de la situation de chaque éleveur (niveau d'endettement), se manifestent pendant 10 mois, avec un maximum s'élevant à 324 F/cage mère.

