

PRESENTATION OF A TECHNICO-ECONOMICAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
THROUGH TELEMATIC FOR RABBIT UNITS

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SUMMARY

ITAVI (Technical Institute for POULTRY Production) is testing since 3 years a technical Economical management which applies to the rabbit producers and to their technicians. These people are connected with a central computer through a telephone and a minitel terminal.

As soon as the weekly data corresponding to different events (number of covering, births etc...) is made, the weekly or quaterly results appear on the screen.

The producer can compare his results to his objectives and to the average of the group to which he belongs.

At any time the technician can get the results of all the producers of his group, follow their evolution, intervene.

This system liberates the technician from heavy work of data collection and of results calculation, and leaves him time enough to analyse the results of the producer. The latter gets the results very quickly, even if he is in a collective system.

130 producers use this system in FRANCE. But the system can only satisfactory work if each producer introduces his figures weekly in his terminal.

## INTRODUCTION

ITAVI (TECHNICAL Institute for POULTRY Industry) is testing since 3 years an original technico-economical management system which applies to the rabbit producers as well to their technician.

This experiment has allowed some indications concerning the advantages and the telematics for this kind of application.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS (The principle of the System)

Figure 1 and 2

1 - The producer is connected to a central computer (where software is to found) through one telephone and Minitel terminal.

Each week the producer puts in his terminal the weekly data and figures concerning the different facts which happens in his unit (number of coverings, birth etc...) (figure 3). The calculations are made immediatly and the producer is able to consult the weekly results of his unit (figure 4).

He is also able to compare his results with different averages (the group in which he is, the region, the entirety of the producers).

The average results for the last 13 weeks are also avalaible each week.

Other functions are also at the producer disposal :

- Calculation of a weekly production objective in accordance with investments and production factors. This in order to compare each week the result achieved with the objective.

- Data acquisition for rearing costs other than feed and purchase price for animals.

2 - The technician of the group from which the producer is dependant has his own functions :

- He introduces the producer in the system.

- He can constantly control that the producers are up to date with their data acquisitions and consult the results of the producers of his group.

- He owns a screen which permits him to compare the results of different producers.

### 3 - The safety of the system

Naturally, each user has his own confidential code which permits him to connect with the system. In this fact, he can only consult the results of his unit. The same rule applies to the technical adviser who have no access to the results of producers of other groups.

### 4 - The reliability of the results

In order to avoid, as soon as possible, that the data record errors or the omissions produce aberrant results a lot of tests are placed at different levels.

At the moment of data acquisition messages alert the producer when the figures are incoherent.

When the results appear on the screen all the criterions are tested. Those which are out of the validity zones flash on the screen and the results of the period are not taken in account in the averages.

Obviously, the producer has constantly the possibility to rectify the data introduced before (the calculations will be made again automatically).

### 5 - Results preservation

In general the producers do not have a printing system, so it is necessary to give to them a document on which they put down the major technical results and after this, they put these results on graphs.

The producers receive during each year four quaterly and one annual listings with results.

## RESULTS AND COMMENTS

After 3 years of operation, it is possible to make a statement of the experience and to get some indications for the future.

### 1 - The advantages of the system

For the producer : no investment for a computer (the terminal is free), the possibility for him to use the system at any time, the results are calculated in real time, there is no paper and questionnaire circulation for data collection, the insertion in a collective system gives the possibility to compare his own results with averages.

For the technical adviser : suppression of drudgery caused by data collection and results calculation. He will devote all the time saved to the analyses of the performances of the production units that he supervises.

### 2 - The limits of the system

In order that the system operates well, it is necessary that all the producers introduce correctly and regularly their data. It is not rare that some of them are too late, some others forget to register the quantities of feed they buy.

The aberrant feed conversion ratios are the principal reason for the exclusion of the averages.

Moreover, some producers are not able by themselves to analyse completely the criterions they receive.

The diffusion of the system is quite limited as some people are reticent to use the terminal in spite of its extreme simplicity of working (compared to micro-computer).

This system can not serve as substitute with the direct contacts with the technician.

The diagnosis of a production unit has to be based on figures but also on a much qualitative analyse of the production conditions.

### 3 - Future prospects

The system is used until now by 130 producers in FRANCE. It should develop.

For this, it is necessary to be vigilant regarding, the training of the producers and the technicians in order they get under control the terminal and the logic used.

It is also necessary to organise meetings with little groups of producers. The objective of these meetings will be to comment the results and to explain to the producers the importance of figures analysis.

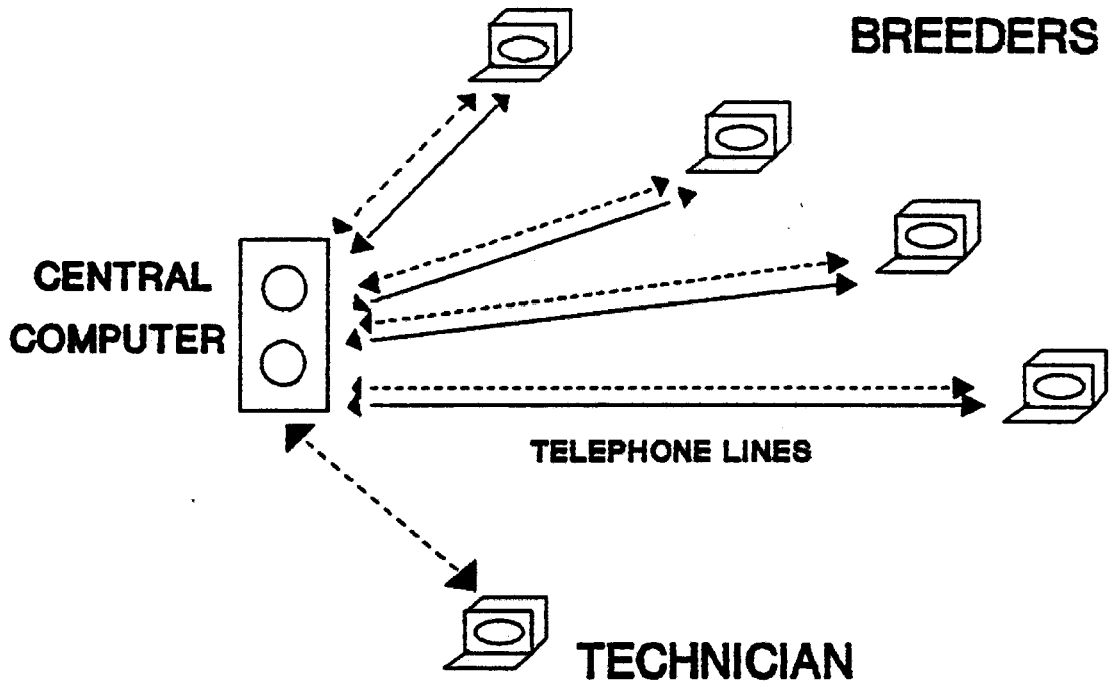
The improvements of the system which are studied now will not modify the general pattern. Fundamentally new functions can be created : for exemple the setting up of a weekly slaughtering plan in a producer group based on the registered births.

### CONCLUSIONS

The rapidity of the circulation of the information is one of the most important points of the success in rabbit production. The telematic system is a simple and efficient management tool which can be at the disposal of an important number of rabbit producers.

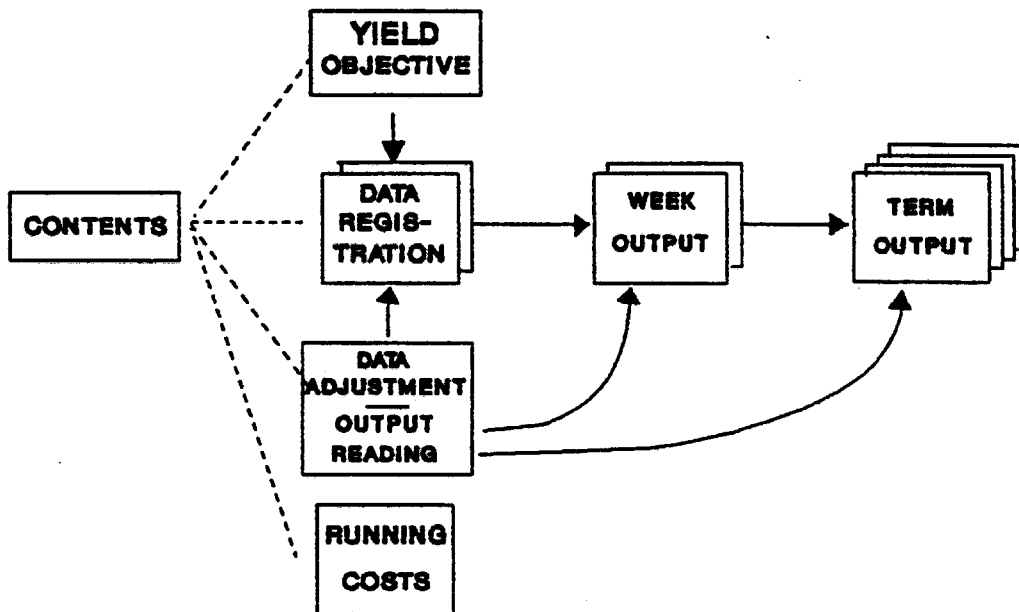
# CUNITEL : USE SYSTEM

figure 1



# CUNITEL : PRINCIPALS FUNCTIONS "BREEDER"

figure 2



## REGISTRATIONS SCREEN figure 3

	VOTRE ELEVAGE	75004
	CETTE SEMAINE N 47	ANNEE 91
NOMBRE DE CAGES-MERE	[ ]	
Nb DE SAILLIES	[ ]	OBJECTIF
Nb DE MISES BAS	[ ]	OBJECTIF
Nb DE LAPEREAUX		
NES VIVANTS		
NES MORTS		
NES TOTAUX	[ ]	OBJECTIF
Nb DE PORTEES SEVRES		
Nb DE LAPEREAUX SEVRES	[ ]	OBJECTIF
Nb DE LAPINS MORTS EN L'NGRAIS.		
LAPINS VENDUS		
NOMBRE	[ ]	OBJECTIF
POIDS	Kg	MONTANT F
		[ ]
5 minutes 23 secondes		

## WEEK OUTPUTS SCREEN figure 4

	ELEVAGE 56001 GROUPE 491	
	RESULTATS HEBDOMADAIRES	
ANNEE 91	SEMAINES	49-52
		ELEVAGE
NBRE D'OBSERVATIONS	OUI	GROUPE 027
% OCCUP. DES CAGES MERES	150,1	149,7
% RENOUV ANNUEL FEMELLES	80,4	136,5
NB SAILLIES PAR CH/AN	13,8	15,2
NB MISES BAS PAR CH/AN	11,3	10,9
INTERVALLE ENTRE 2 NB	32	34
NB NES TOTAUX/CH/AN	92,7	97,6
NB DE SEVRES/CH/AN	84,5	80,9
NB DE PRODUITS/CH/AN	79,6	65,6
% MISE BAS PAR SAILLIE	80	73
NB NES TOTAUX /MISE BAS	8,2	8,8
NB NES VIVANTS /MISE BAS	7,9	8,4
%MORTALITE MAIS-SEVRAGE	6,8	16,9
%MORTALITE ENGRAISSEMENT	5,0	8,6