


Disease prevention on the animals

This information is given as an indication, products used and their frequency must be adapted to the context of breeding and in consultation with your veterinarian.

1) Prevention against parasites


 The parasites do not kill directly but weaken the stockers, preventing them from expressing their potential and favouring the appearance of some diseases.

➤ Scabies

- Easily get under control with the “all-in/all-out” management.
- For farms that are not in “all-in/all-out”, maintain **a regular preventative treatment** by spraying with an acaricide in the ears of the female (palpation).
- Do not forget to treat males and pre-stock.

➤ Worms : pinworms and stongyles

- The worming program starts upon the delivery of a new herd (see Facts No. 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3).
- It is advisable to worm the herd **at least all the 2 groups** (12 weeks).
- The best time to make a vermifuge is 14 days after A.I.

 After a worming, it is advisable to make a 3-day course of vitamins.

➤ Ringworms

- It is a fungus, parasite of the skin, which may cause significant decreases in performances.



These ringworms multiply in poorly ventilated and wet breeding rooms:

- Monitor humidity of rooms,
- Maintain a clean and dry nest,
- Clean and treat regularly the pad coolings (antifungal),
- If necessary, treat the animals and nests at the birth with an antifungal product.

➤ Coccidia

- It is advisable to make an adapted anticoccidial treatment at the pre-weaning (between 28 and 35 days) in the feed or drinking water to treat the young rabbits and females at least 3 times a year

2) Vaccination

➤ The delivered stockers

- The animals of **10 weeks and more** are fully vaccinated against myxomatosis and V.H.D. (primary vaccination).
- The animals of **less than 10 weeks** received only the first vaccination against myxomatosis and V.H.D. at 4 or 5 weeks of age (see the bill).



For these animals, make the 2nd vaccination against myxomatosis and V.H.D. 6 weeks after the first one (10 or 11 weeks of age). Possibility of using a combination vaccine.

➤ Myxomatosis

- Usually, intradermal vaccination in the ear.
- For pre-stock, two vaccinations :
 - The first at age of 4 or 5 weeks,
 - The second 6 weeks later at 10 or 11 weeks of age.



On the breeding stock, myxomatosis vaccine recall is to be performed every 14 weeks. It is essential to meet this deadline.


➤ V.H.D.

- For pre-stock, two vaccinations :
 - The first at age of 4 or 5 weeks,
 - The second 6 weeks later at 10 or 11 weeks of age.



On the breeding stock, V.H.D. vaccine recall is to be performed every 26 weeks.

3) Dietetic

 To ensure a high level of production and to improve the longevity of females, it is necessary to supplement their feeding throughout the production cycle.

- **Vitamins**


- A course of vitamins (3 days) is recommended during the female cycle, preferably 4 days before insemination,
- Use vitamin complex adapted to rabbits without vitamin D.


- **Hepatoprotective**

- Helps in the management of the body reserves and stimulates the appétit of the animals especially during the birth.
- To make the 3 days following transfer of females before birth.

- **Some supplements can be used during the cycle**

In conclusion, the disease prevention program keeps the breeding stock in the best condition of production and reduces risks of sanitary problems.

 Planning tasks (calendar) related to health management is a crucial precondition for the smooth running of the farm.

 **Your program should be implemented and validated in consultation with your veterinarian.**