

CamCon - Annual Meeting 2011

14 - 15 April 2011, DTU, Bülowsvej 27, Copenhagen

Agenda

14 April

11.30 - 13.00 Registration and lunch

13.00 - 13.10 Welcome and round of presentation

13.10 - 15.30 **WP4** Workshop including coffee break

15.30 - 17.30 **WP1** Workshop

19.30 Dinner

15 April

08.30 - 10.05 **WP2** Workshop

10.05 - 10.15 Coffee break

10.15 - 12.15 Meeting of WP Committee **WP1, WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5 and WP6**

12.15 - 13.45 Lunch

12.30 - 13.15 Meeting of the **Executive Board**

13.15 - 13.45 Meeting of the **Advisory Board**

13.45 - 14.15 Meeting of the **General Assembly** (including advise from the Advisory Board)

14.14 - 14.30 Any other business

14.30 End of meeting

Participants

Project partners

NVI: Bruce David, Malin Jonsson, Merete Hofshagen

DTU: Hanne Rosenquist, Birgitte Borck Høg, Maarten Nauta, Helle Sommer, Anna Irene Vedel Sørensen, Lars Stehr Larsen, Laurids Siig Christensen, Mathilde Josefsen, Julia Christensen, Birthe Hald, Simon Bahrndorff, Henrik Skovgård, Steen Nordentoft

ULIV: Tom Humphrey, Nicola Williams, Frieda Jorgensen, Yvette Merga

UU: Jaap Wagenaar, Moniek van den Hoek, Birgitta Duim

DIA: Mogens Madsen

CVI-LEI: Peter van Horne, Peter Willemsen, Coen van Wagenberg

UNEW: *Apologies*

UMinho: *Apologies*

CSA: Marta Cerdà-Cuellar, Nonito Pagés

NVRI: Jacek Osek, Pawel Kusyk

Others

Advisory Board: Eva Olsson Engvall, Tage Lysgaard

Commission: *Apologies*

Minutes of the meeting

Welcome ad presentations

The meeting was opened by Merete welcoming all participants. She thanked DTU for hosting the meeting. The Agenda was shortly presented and it was pointed out that it was voluntary to participate in those parts of the Annual Meeting that was not obligatory.

All participants presented themselves shortly.

Workshops

A lot of different aspects regarding methods, cooperation within and between WPs and future progress were discussed. See presentations (attached separately):

Specific conclusions WP1:

Task 1.1

From December 2010 to January 2011 the questionnaires were sent out to look at broiler farm management. In Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands and the UK they were filled out and returned by the farmers themselves. In Spain and Poland, the questionnaires were filled out by veterinarians or other professionals visiting the farms. The response rate varied. Currently, 1,057 questionnaires have been returned (119 from Denmark, 183 from Norway, 251 from the Netherlands, 249 from Poland, 200 from Spain and 56 from the UK). The data were entered into a common database. Preliminary results revealed clear differences in the structure of farms as well as the management practices within the different countries. The low compliance in the UK is due to one company sending out the questionnaires, with a large batch still to be received.

The protocol has been agreed for the prospective 20 farm longitudinal study at slaughter and recruitment of farms is currently taking place for Poland, Spain and the UK, with the Netherlands also agreeing to take part in this study, and Norway and Denmark providing retrospective and possibly also some prospective data.

Task 1.2

The protocols have been agreed for the longitudinal study to take place in the UK and Spain and the methods will include boot sock sampling to identify the point at which a flock becomes positive for *Campylobacter* spp., which will be followed by sampling of individual birds. Some delays have been encountered due to the recruitment of farms and getting cooperation from the different poultry companies. Sampling of farms will begin in May.

Task 1.3

There was a separate pre-meeting regarding this task - see separate attachment:

Task 1.4

Up to 500 isolates will be subject to MLST from task 1.1. It was concluded that as data was already available for sequence types from some countries (UK, The Netherlands and Denmark), that this resource should go towards getting MLST data from countries which have none, such as Spain, Poland and also Norway. The exact number of isolates from each country and also how these will be selected will be decided during further meetings.

Task 1.5

There is nothing to report on this task, as it involves modelling data which will be collected as part of Task 1.2. However, the task leader (Steve Rushton) has been involved in meetings and discussions for the design of the longitudinal study for task 1.2.

Specific conclusions WP2:

Task 2.1

Launching the task has challenging issues, which has not been solved yet. This is that the recruitment of study farms according to the prerequisite conditions in the project description is more or less difficult, and has to be altered various ways in UK and Spain.

- In UK, small farms (one house) are missing, and the broiler industry has had (have?) some reservations concerning their participation. However there are now possibilities for cooperating with UK-FSA granted project on biosecurity
- Biosecurity practice in Spain are not implemented at house level, only at farm level. Biosecurity at house level is crucial in *Campylobacter* prevention.
- Pre study data are not available in Spain and not fully available in UK, so the selection of suitable farms are very difficult or impossible.
- In Spain climate challenges with hot summers and much dust in the air, cause severe anxiety a strained and insufficient ventilation, if dust is collected on the screens.

The Task Leader suggests to use the first summer 2011 for a 'test fly screen setup' to document the functionality of the screens in Spain (and UK????) and the whole first year to obtain data on *Campylobacter* prevalence of the flocks in the houses of the '20 house study' in Spain (and UK????). At start of second year, the 20-houses are divided in three study groups, of which one group is being instituting sufficient biosecurity, one biosecurity + fly screen, and one group is being control (no changes). All farms are then sampled for a further year. The biosecurity upgrade in Spain, is beyond the scope of this study, and extra finance has to be achieved (DIANOVA will come up with project suggestions)

Task 2.2 and 2.3

Tasks on Vaccination and Phage therapy are running well. They are making progress according to the plans and there are no unexpected problems that have to be solved at the moment.

Specific conclusions WP4:

Plans and data needs were explained to the participants. Contact persons for each partner country for the provision of additional data for both the economic analysis as the risk assessment was obtained. It was stressed that WP4 is strongly dependent on the timeliness of all other WPs, as much of their output serves as the input of WP4.

Meeting of WP Committees

The WP leaders shortly presented the progress so far and the planned work for the next project year in the different WPs. The progress reports from each WP are summed up in a separate attachment.

In addition, Laurids presented some general aspects of methodology in WP3, and also presented results from a related project in geese to illustrate some concepts. There was also an additional presentation from WP4 by Maarten (see separate attachments).

Due to increased work burden for Hanne Rosenquist at the moment, it was suggested that Birgitte Borck Høg should replace her as the leader for Task 1.1, and that Maarten Nauta should replace Hanne as the leader of WP4. The WP1 Committee approved Birgitte as the new leader of WP1 and Maarten as the new leader of WP4. The suggestion for Maarten as a new WP4 leader was to be discussed further in the Executive Board meeting and finally at the General Assembly.

Meeting of the Executive Board

Discussions on how to have a good cooperation between WPs took place. Maarten was approved as the new leader of WP4, but it was suggested that Hanne should still be the DTU representative and the Deputy Coordinator of CamCon, and this suggestion was to be presented at the General Assembly for final approval. See also document "CamCon Annual Meeting 2011" above.

Meeting of the Advisory Board

Tage and Eva was present, and based on the meetings of WP Committees and Minutes from quarterly meetings, they made a report (see separate attachment).

Meeting of the General Assembly

Eva presented the advice from the Advisory Board (see above). It was decided that at the next Quarterly meeting, each Work Package Committee should address the WP-relevant comments and include the responses in the Minutes from the Quarterly Meeting.

The suggestion from the Executive Board that Maarten should be the new WP4 leader, while Hanne continued as Deputy Coordinator and DTU representative, was approved by the General Assembly.

Merete referred shortly the discussions in the Executive board (see above). See also document "CamCon Annual Meeting 2011" above.

Other issues

Merete asked if many would be present at CHRO in September, but not all institutions would be present at this meeting. A quarterly meeting in CamCon in Vancouver was therefore not an option. Due to summer holidays, the next Quarterly Meetings will be in August/September.

The next Annual Meeting: NVRI in Poland volunteered to host the next meeting, and the Executive Board will have this in mind when the planning will start in the autumn.

Merete thanked everyone for being very cooperative and for contributing to a very fruitful meeting.