The Experimental Poultry Centre in Geel (Belgium) is the only centre for applied poultry research in Flanders able to boast an international reputation. The experimental poultry centre is equipped with state-of-the-art, unique, hightech facilities for both laying hens and broiler chickens. The centre is capable of carrying out broad-scale testing of experimental studies and testing new technologies in practice.

Our applied research ensures that the poultry sector remains a profitable and modern industry that responds optimally to societal demands (food quality, animal welfare, animal health and environmental protection). The knowledge we develop on these issues is disseminated in both the national and international poultry industry.

In addition to our own research, we also collaborate with other partners active in the poultry industry. These collaborative efforts may involve joint projects or confidential testing. It is by adopting these methods and principles that we are able to provide others with the opportunity to test innovative techniques, new technologies and products under practical conditions.

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Your partner for

## POULTRY-RELATED PRACTICAL RESEARCH

Member of www.aghrant.be and www.agrolink-vlaanderen.be The province of Antwerp

18/12/2018 15:51

### OUR ASSETS for

# PRACTICAL RESEARCH

#### LAYING HENS

Aviary (type 2)	Aviary (type 1)	Furnished cages	
<ul> <li>4 compartments of aviary type 2 (Big Dutchmann)</li> <li>2 rows with 2 tiers + nests</li> <li>2 experimental units per compartment</li> <li>1325 hens per experimental unit</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4 compartments of aviary type 1 (Vencomatic)</li> <li>1 row with 2 tiers + nests</li> <li>2 experimental units per compartment</li> <li>960 hens per experimental unit</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4 compartments of enriched cages (Specht)</li> <li>2 rows with 4 tiers / compartment</li> <li>8 cages per level</li> <li>48 hens per tier</li> <li>384 hens per experimental unit</li> </ul>	





#### **BROILER** HOUSE WITH PRE-CONDITIONED AIR INTAKE

- 8 compartments of 112.5 m<sup>2</sup> (approx. 2300 broilers)
- 2 experimental units per compartment

• 16 experimental units of 56.25 m<sup>2</sup> (approx. 1150 broilers)



#### **BROILER** HOUSE WITH RIDGE VENTILATION

- 4 compartments of 300 m<sup>2</sup> (approx. 6120 broilers)
- 4 experimental units per compartment
- 16 experimental units of 75 m<sup>2</sup> (approx. 1530 broilers)







## 'SINGLE-SITE RESEARCH ON LAYING HENS AND BROILER CHICKENS'

#### OUR **STANDARD** MEASUREMENTS

Laying hens	Broilers	
<ul> <li>Feed consumption</li> <li>Water consumption</li> <li>Daily egg data per test group (quantity, weight, eggshell breakage and cracked and dirty eggs)</li> <li>Eggshell strength</li> <li>Internal egg quality</li> <li>Extensive monitoring of red poultry mites</li> <li>Feather cover scores</li> <li>Keelbone (breakage) scores</li> <li>Hen weights</li> <li>Climate (temperature, relative humidity, ventilation)</li> <li>Feather loss, mortality, selection</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Feed consumption (day/ feed component)</li> <li>Water consumption</li> <li>Chick weights</li> <li>Feather loss, mortality, selection</li> <li>Climate (temperature, relative humidity, ventilation)</li> <li>Litter quality (dry matter content, loose matter, etc.)</li> <li>Assessment of metatarsal pad and toes (footpad dermatitis)</li> <li></li> </ul>	

#### OTHER MEASUREMENTS ARE ALSO NEGOTIABLE

- Dust measurements, chick temperature, Pasgar score,
- floor and litter temperature, manure quality, slaughter
- yield, dissection, emission measurements, etc.