	CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[1]
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Minutes of Project Committee meeting




2<sup>st</sup> General Assembly

(Stockholm, Sweden, 30/09/2015-01/10/2015)



Grant Agreement number	605835
Call (part) identifier	FP7-SME-2013-2
Funding scheme	Research for the benefit of specific groups
Project acronym	CAMPYBRO
Project title	Control of <i>Campylobacter</i> infection in broiler flocks through two-steps strategy: nutrition and vaccination
Project website	<a href="http://www.campybro.eu">www.campybro.eu</a>
Project coordinator organization name	IMASDE AGROALIMENTARIA, S.L.
Project coordinator name & email address	Dr. Pedro Medel <a href="mailto:pmedel@e-imasde.com">pmedel@e-imasde.com</a>

Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	
PP	Restricted to other program participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	<b>X</b>

			CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[2]
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## Project Committee meeting

### 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly

The First General Assembly of the CAMPYBRO PROJECT was held in the MALARSLONGUEN Room at *SHERATON STOCKHOLM HOTEL* (Tegelbacken 6, Box 195, 101 23 Stockholm, Sweden), on 30/09/2015 and 01/10/2015, according to the Agenda presented in Annex 1.

## 1. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly followed the Agenda (Annex 1), and was attended by 10 participants (Figure 1.1), representing 7 institutions (Table 1.1). The Participant registration sheet is shown in Annex 2.

Figure 1.1. Julie Mayot, Veronique Elgosi, Gilles Le Pottier, Pedro Medel, Daniel dory, Fernando Sánchez, Peter Vesseur, Attila csorbai, Yannick Carre, Gyorgy Endrodi.






			CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[3]
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Table 1.1. First General Assembly attendees\*.

Name	Institution	Role	Country
Pedro Medel	IMASDE AGROALIMENTARIA	Coordinator, RTD	Spain
Fernando Sánchez	EXPLOTACIONES AVÍCOLAS REDONDO	Partner, SME	Spain
Daniel Dory	ANSES	Partner, RTD	France
Gilles Le Pottier	CIDEF	Partner, SME-AGs	France
Yannick Carre	CIDEF	Partner, SME-AGs	France
Véronique Elgosi	FIA	Partner, SME-AGs	France
Julie Mayot	FIA	Partner, SME-AGs	France
Attila Csorbai	BTT	Partner, SME-AGs	Hungary
Gyorgy Endrodi	BTT	Partner, SME-AGs	Hungary
Peter Vesseur	NEPLUVI	Partner, SME-AGs	The Netherlands

\*MIKROLAB was represented by BTT, CZV and PROPOLLO was represented by IMASDE.

### 1.1. General Assembly objectives

The objectives were:

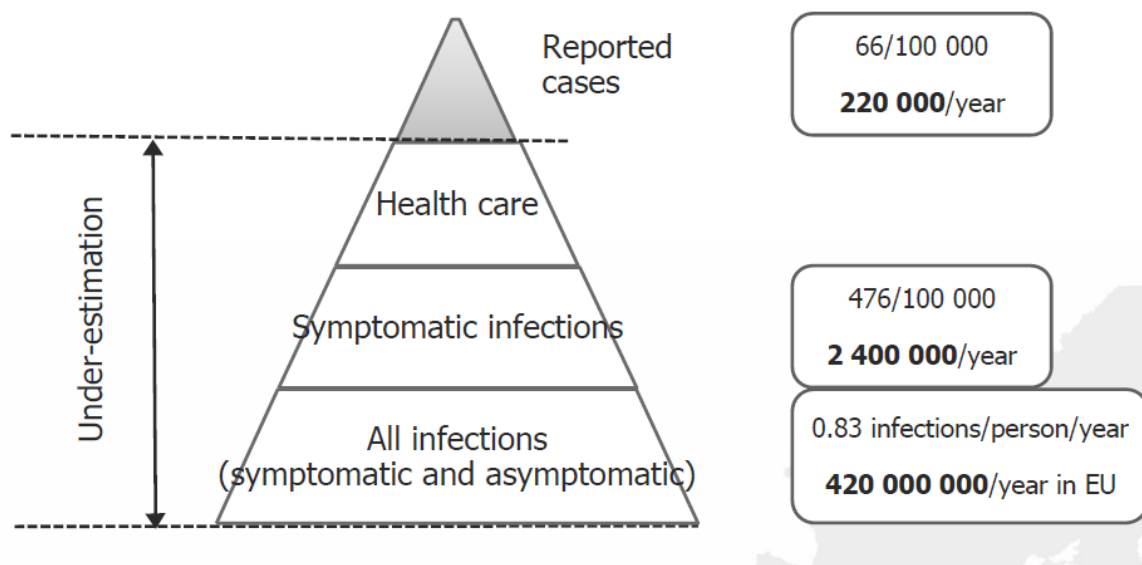
1. *Campylobacter jejuni* in the EU poultry sector.
2. WP objectives, WP leaders and project schedule
3. Presentation of the R&D results
  - 3.1. WP1/ WP2/ WP3/ WP5
4. Planning of the next activities
  - 4.1. WP4 / WP5 / WP6
5. Management activities
6. Dissemination activities
7. Technical and financial reporting
  - 7.1. Periodic Report and Deliverables presented and to be presented during the project
  - 7.2. Financial reporting presented and to be presented during the project

## 1.2. *Campylobacter jejuni* in the EU poultry sector.

Dr. Pedro Medel (IMASDE), gave the welcome to all the partners, and thanks their assistance. After, the presentations started giving an overview of the *Campylobacter jejuni* problem in the EU poultry sector (updating the epidemiologic data from EFSA and other organizations). The new ECDC calculations (Figure 1.2.1) are worse than expected (9 million/year), they now estimated a number of infections of 420 million of infections/year into the EU, which indicates something like 0.83 infections/person, year.




Figure 1.2.1. ECDC estimation of campylobacteriosis cases into the EU.

### Campylobacteriosis burden assessment



It was given special attention to the UK plan of reduction: from a baseline level of 27% of carcasses batches with an infection level higher to  $10^3$  UFC/g in 2008, their target is 10% in 2015, but after a survey in 2014-2015 with more than 4,000 samples at retail level, the results indicate that with the actual measures, there is not further reduction in the baseline levels from 2008 (close to 20% with more than  $10^3$  ufc/g). Also, it is worth to be mentioned that results of positive samples and carcasses with more than  $10^3$  ufc/g, were published per retailer and are available to the consumers. In the meeting these results were presented and an intensive discussion was held to assess the repercussion that this measure can have in other countries as France, The Netherlands or Hungary. It was shown a study did in the USA, about the level of contamination at retail level, with an approximately 2/3 of carcasses contaminated even with chemical decontamination process in practice.

The actual legal situation in relationship with *Campylobacter* was explained. After the EC workshop on the possibility of introducing a microbiological criterion for poultry meat in the EU, the results of the survey made in this meeting have been published recently, and has been discussed in the ENVI meeting last September. It looks like that a Process Hygienic Criterion (PHC) will be implemented between 2016 and 2017. The use of peroxyacetic acid as an additional tool to decrease the *Campylobacter* infection is also a credible possibility. A committee for study the characteristics of the PHC

			CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[5]
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has been created and the first meeting will be held in October 2015. It seems that it will be necessary 1 analysis/week, in neck skin, from 15 (?) birds in 5 samples, with a maximum level of  $10^3$  ufc/g and 1-2 samples between  $10^3$ - $10^4$  ufc/g. It will be necessary to compare the data with the 10 previous weeks. The plan will be implemented into the slaughterhouse HACCP plan, and will be checked by the National Authorities in their habitual inspections. It is not known neither what kind of measures would be necessary to implement into the slaughterhouse in the case of inadequate (out of range data), nor if the season will be taking into account (the counts of August and September will be the poorest).

The actual possibilities to decrease the *Campylobacter* counts in the carcasses were reviewed, especially the crust frozen system and the HTST + ultrasound method. Each ones have advantages and disadvantages. Obviously, the other possibility is clearly decreasing the *Campylobacter* counts in the cecal content of broilers, since the bacterial load dramatically decrease with 2-3 logs reduction in the chickens.

### 1.3. WP objectives, WP leaders and project schedule

Later, a brief presentation of Project schedule, work packages (WP), milestones and Gantt diagram were presented.

### 1.4. Presentation of the R&D results

The results of trials made from the beginning of the project until the GA were presented. First, Dr. Pedro Medel presented the work done by ANSES<sup>1</sup> in Task 1.3. ANSES evaluated 6 additive combinations, most of them have an effect at 14d, but none of them have a significant effect at 42d. IMASDE also presented their results in T1.3: of a total of 4 combinations, 2 of them shows very good results at 21 and 35d. This reduction was much more due to the fact of avoid the infection rather than decrease the bacterial populations.

Later, the results of WP2 (Feed form) were presented. The next measures were tested: feed presentation (mash vs pellets), particle size, oat hull (OH) addition, type of cereal base, whole wheat (WW) addition. IMASDE did four experiments, with the next conclusions: i) in the first experiment neither the type of cereal nor the OH addition modifies the *Campylobacter* cecal population, ii) the particle size or the feed presentation did not modify the *Campylobacter* cecal population, iii) in the third experiment, in which the control animals presented a very high contamination, the combination of AH and WW decreased 1log the infection, iv) in the last experiment neither the feed form nor the WW addition modify the *Campylobacter* cecal population also. In all the experiments, the physical changes of the feed clearly modifies the morphological and physiological characteristics of the different segments of the gut (proventriculus, gizzard, caeca), but this has not an effect on *Campylobacter* population.




In WP4, ANSES made an experiment in which they tested the functional diet (FD) and the combination of two additives. Unfortunately, neither the FD nor the additives had an effect on *Campylobacter* cecal counts. Again, these results were at least in part related to the low level of infection in control animals. As conclusion, the FD has not a clear effect on *Campylobacter* population at least when the level of infection is normal (in the trial in which we observed an effect the control animals had close to  $10^9$  log UFC/g)..

In WP4, IMASDE has done 6 experiments (the very last in ongoing), 2 of them were repetitions of previous experiments.

In WP5, Dr. Dory explained the results of the two experiments regarding the establishment of a protocol to test the new potential molecules that have been discovered in the first part of the project. In the first experiment, different alternatives of DNA vaccine were tested (DNA+DNA at d1 and d12, injected subcutaneously). There was not a clear response neither

<sup>1</sup> Muriel Guyard could not attend the meeting due to the impossibility of flight. However, she was present in the meeting trough a Skype meeting, and she answered the attendees' questions.



			CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[6]
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in the immune system of birds nor into the *Campylobacter* counts. Therefore, in the second experiment, they change the vaccine protocol and combine a DNA + Protein injection at d1 and d12, injected subcutaneously/intramuscularly, with Ross chickens and SPF leghorn hens. In the second experiment, the vaccinated animals under program 2 (Ross) and specially 5 (SPF leghorn) showed in improvement of serum IgY titers.

Figures 1.4.1 to 1.4.4 shows different moments of the meeting.

Figure 1.4.1. Dr. Medel in the WP2 results explanation



Figure 1.4.2. Attendees during explanations



Figure 1.4.3. Dr. Dory in the WP2 results explanation



Figure 1.4.4. Attendees during explanations






## 1.5. Management activities

The General Assembly was formally formed. It was quickly reviewed the general structure of the Grant Agreement and the Consortium Agreement, and the rights and liabilities of partners.

It was highlighted than for the moment there were any conflict to be solved, and in general the project is being performed as expected.

The management activities included:

- The First Reporting Period Technical and Financial Reports were sent and approved by the Commission. In general, the Scientific independent reviewer give to the project a very good evaluation, highlighting the main findings, the interesting perspectives that are open, and the potential impact on human health. Also, she remark

			CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[7]
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the good work made both in the managing of the project, and in the dissemination activities. All this findings were commented and the Report and its evaluation were available for the attendees.

- The project officer was changed from Aneta Ryniak to Carlos Arauzo.
- Several meetings between the Coordinator and the partners
- Direct contact with all partners to solve questions
- Act as single legal representative of the consortium towards the REA
- Deliverables upload to FP7 project web page
- Organization of GA.
- Monitoring of project performance
  - RTD's
  - Partners
- Obtain the ICM for several partners
  - BTT, PROPOLLO, CIDEF.
- To create and customize per partner the excel templates for monitoring
  - Personnel
  - Travel expenses

In addition, there was an explanation of how to use the Participants portal website, where find the most important things, and the roles that can have several participants of the same institution in the project.

### **1.6. Dissemination activities**




The dissemination activities were presented, which included:

- Assistance to the Camcon project presentation of the results (Copenhagen, April 2015)
- Articles in specialized magazines (Albéitar, Baromfi agarat, Selecciones avícolas)
- Peer reviewed articles: 2 articles in Poultry Science.
- Invited conferences (JPA, Soria, Spain), ExpoMilano (Milano, Italy)
- Conferences to main poultry producers (Spain, Hungary, France). The presentation to Dutch producers is expected for the next months.
- Scientific publications in five international meetings (ESFS in Cardiff –UK-, Egg&meat in Nantes – France- PSA in Kentucky –USA-, ESPN in Prague –Czech Republic- and WVPAC in Cape Town – South Africa-)
- Website
- Newsletters

Also, it was presented the four presentations expected for the CHRO congress, in New Zealand this year. Meunier's work has been granted by the organization as Ph.D. student, and a work sent by IMASDE was selected as key lecture. Also, the organization has invited us to present the results of Campybro, in a particular session analyzing the available and future measures to control *Campylobacter* in poultry.

Mr Attila Csorbai, announced that all the partners are invited to participate into the Poultry day 2016, that will be held in Budapest the next 10<sup>th</sup> of May. There will be a conference in this congress explaining the importance of controlling *Campylobacter* for the poultry producers and processors, and the results of the project will be briefly explained.

The publication of the results was discussed. The next questions were voted:

			CAMPYBRO GA: 605835	2 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly Project Committee	[8]
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- Publication of the results. The possibility of sending 4 articles to peer reviewed articles was proposed. The two first articles will be on the feed form experiments, and will be prepared by IMASDE. The third article, will contain the in vitro experiment, and the results of all the combinations of products of Task 1.3, and will be led by ANSES. The forth, will contain the series of experiments made with the combination of Campylostat plus Calsporin, and will be led by IMASDE.
  - Result: yes
  - Votes for/against: unanimity/none
- Presentation of the results for the coming year scientific meetings. We will sent the results of the present year to the scientific meetings of the next year (EPC, PSA, etc)
  - Result: yes
  - Votes for/against: unanimity/none
- Feed back to the additives suppliers of the results of the trials, in order to obtain the best price for the next trials.
  - Result: yes
  - Votes for/against: unanimity/none