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EFFICIENCY TEST OF BUXAIR TECHNOLOGY ON AVIAN INFLUENZA / BIRD FLU A/H5N2 VIRUS

On 20/04/2006, an efficiency test on the purification of avian influenza A/H5N2 virus contaminated air, by means of the system "Imutube" developed by the Swiss group Buxair, was carried out in a L3 laboratory by Dr. Vincent Moulés of the team of Pr. Bruno Lina in the Laboratory of Virology and Viral Pathogenesis (LVPV UMR5537 CNRS - University Claude Bernard Lyon1).

This test was set up by Dr. Chantal Guillard, leader of the Photocatalysis research team in the Laboratory of Applied Environmental Chemistry (LACE UMR5634 CNRS - University Claude Bernard Lyon1) managed by Dr. Jean-Marie Herrmann.

The "Imutube" system developed by the Buxair Group includes an UVGI source and a photocatalyst of Emavab brand, developed in partnership with the Research & Competence Centre of the Ahlstrom company, world leader of photocatalytic supports, and in particular with Mr. Joseph Dussaud, strategic R&D manager.

The test shows that Buxair technology allows the complete elimination (> 99,93 %) of A/H5N2 viruses contained in an aerosol titrated at $10^{3,2}$ UFP/mL under normal operating conditions ($40m^3$/h) and only in one pass.

This study was carried out with an A/H5N2 strain used as research model for A/H5N1 and shows that avian flu viruses can be destroyed by Buxair technology.

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