

# "Anvol charter" for the Reception of the Catching Team



Figure 1. Illustrated example of a reception area set up for a catching team.

## BroilerNet Challenge: Minimising stress and damages from catching

In order to smoothen and foster the welcoming of the catching team, this good practice — presented in the form of a dedicated charter — recommends that farmers prepare a reception room and a list of instructions reminding workers of biosecurity rules. This list is also available as a poster, but the written document is usually distributed directly to catching teams and farmers. For example, a farmer implementing this charter has set up reception rooms (both for changing and breaks) in each building, the smallest of which is 35 m<sup>2</sup>. This setup provides a welcoming environment for the catching team, which usually consists of 6 to 10 people. The farmer provides coffee, tea, and sweet/salty snacks depending on the time of day, as well as a separate changing area or a partition for women. The team enters the reception area approximately 15 minutes before the catching begins. The farmer then gives instructions, such as: to take caution regarding the handling of chickens, no kicking, no dropping in the crates, respecting the number per crate, and not stacking them on top of each other. A 10-minute break is offered in the reception area between each catching truck. The farmer has also installed a high-pressure washer so that the team can clean their boots after the job is done. Through these measures, the farmer aims to ensure biosecurity and improve the welfare of both animals and workers throughout the catching process. Furthermore, when the catching team receives proper welcoming and training conditions by the farmer, it can help reduce injuries, mortality, and culls at the slaughterhouse. The reception rooms cost approximately €3,000 per house, using recycled materials, and were built by the farmer.

