

Red Tractor Poultry Standards

Consultation on proposed standards

November 2026

Introduction

Dear Stakeholder

As Chair of Red Tractor's Poultry Sector Board, I know standards must work across chicken, duck and turkey production. They must protect bird health and welfare, food safety and confidence in British poultry, while remaining practical and proportionate.

We have listened carefully to poultry farmers and businesses. The message is clear: assurance must retain its rigour, but standards should be clearer, more proportionate and focused on outcomes rather than unnecessary prescription or paperwork. The Poultry Technical Advisory Committee, representing the whole supply chain, reviewed requirement line by line, testing whether each was necessary, clear and workable across species and production systems.

The Committee reached consensus on clearer, condensed and less prescriptive requirements, with greater emphasis on practical outcomes for biosecurity, competence, bird health and welfare, catching and transport. We are also proposing to create a simpler and more consistent set of Poultry Standards by bringing the Chicken, Duck and Turkey requirements together in one place, reducing duplication while at the same time clearly identifying which standards apply to each species and enterprise.

The proposed Poultry standards are now open for consultation. We want to know whether they are clear, workable and proportionate in practice across chicken, duck and turkey production. The practicality of Red Tractor standards comes from the expertise and experience of those who use them every day. This consultation is an important opportunity to test whether proposals with a greater emphasis on outcomes are clear, workable and proportionate. I encourage everyone with an interest in poultry assurance to share their views.

This document sets out the proposed changes, which are also summarised on the Red Tractor website at redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation. **All feedback should be submitted through the consultation portal, accessible via this link.** The questions shown in this document mirror those on the portal.

You can comment on as many sections as you wish, save your feedback and return to complete it later. There is also an opportunity to provide general feedback at the end.

The consultation closes on 22 December 2026.

Your feedback will shape the final Poultry standards. The Poultry Technical Advisory Committee and Poultry Sector Board will consider every response before they are finalised.

Best wishes,

Nick Major
Chair, Poultry Sector Board

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PROPOSALS

How the proposals are presented

The proposals are presented in 16 sections, one for each area of the standards. each with a set of questions for you to consider. You do not have to complete every section. Go to the areas that matter to your enterprise and skip the rest.

What you'll find in each section

Every section follows the same order:

- Aim – why the standards in this area exist and what they are there to protect
- Summary of proposed changes – a short overview of what is changing, and why
- Proposed standards – the full detail, set out in tables

Reading the tables

The proposed standards are set out in tables. Each table sets out one row per standard or audit point. The columns tell you:

- Standard and Audit point – the reference code, so you can quote it in your feedback
- Sector – which enterprises the requirement applies to
- Documents required – the record or document an assessor would ask to see
- Template available – (T) means Red Tractor provides a template you can use
- Regulatory / legal requirement – (L) means this is already required by law
- Standard / audit point status – what is happening to this requirement

What the status labels mean

- New - a requirement that does not exist in the current standards
- Revised - the requirement itself has changed
- Upgraded - the requirement now carries more weight, such as a recommendation becoming a full standard
- Editorial change - the wording has been clarified, with no change to what is required
- Moved - the same requirement, relocated to a different section
- Retained - no change

Understanding what's required

Standards, audit points and recommendations set different levels of requirements.

Standards: Detail the requirements that Red Tractor members must demonstrate. All standards must be met.

Key Standards: A standard of elevated or particular significance. A major non-conformance raised against a Key Standard (indicating total disregard for the requirements) will result in a suspension of certification until the non-conformance has been addressed or can be legitimately downgraded to a minor non-conformance, allowing 28 days for corrective action. Donated by (Key) alongside the Standard reference e.g. XX.1 (Key)

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Audit Points: Provide additional detail about how the Standard will be assessed. Annotated by a lower-case letter following the Standard reference e.g. XX.1.a

Recommendations: Provide guidance on best practice and are assessed to aid industry knowledge and understanding, but do not require compliance. Recommendations do not pre-empt future standards. Some recommendations have remained recommendations since the scheme began.

Unless otherwise stated, the number coding of Standards and Audit Points is consistent with that in version 5 of the Standards. Coding may be modified in final standards.

How to give feedback

Only feedback submitted via the consultation portal on Red Tractor's website can be considered.

Visit: redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/ **or scan the QR code below.**

Scan the QR code to have your say

Your answers save as you go, and **save and continue later** at the foot of each page lets you return and finish another time

- On a phone or tablet, the tables scroll sideways so you can see all the columns
- If you have a question about the consultation, contact enquiries@redtractor.org.uk

The consultation closes at midnight on 22 December 2026.

The consultation survey asks specific questions on six of the 16 sections, focusing on areas where more significant changes are proposed and where your views will be particularly valuable.

The sections with specific questions are:

- Animal Health and Welfare
- Personnel
- Housing Shelter and Handling Facilities
- Feed and Water
- Vermin Control
- Environmental Protection and Contamination Control

You can still comment on any of the proposals across all 16 sections. At the end of the survey, there is an opportunity to provide any other feedback on any of the proposed Poultry Standards.

All questions are optional, and every scored question has a free-text box beneath it. Your comments are as valuable to us as the ratings.

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Proposed Standards

Enterprise Key

Chicken	Duck	Turkey
CD Breeder Replacements	KR Breeder Replacements	TR Breeder Replacements
CL Breeder Layers	KL Breeder Layers	TL Breeder Layers
CH Hatchery	KH Hatchery	TH Hatchery
CB Broilers	KG Grower	TG Grower
CF Free Range	KF Free Range	TF Free Range
CP Poussin		
EW Enhanced Welfare		

Documents and Procedures (DP)

Aim

To provide a strong framework for effective and responsible farm management, ensuring members have the right systems, information and processes in place to protect animal health and welfare, food safety, people and the environment. Members should be able to identify and manage risks, respond effectively to emergencies and incidents, maintain accurate and accessible information, and meet both Red Tractor and regulatory requirements.

Also to ensure assurance is focused on outcomes rather than paperwork alone – demonstrating that procedures are understood by those responsible, properly implemented and effective in practice. This will support clear, consistent and auditable standards across the poultry sector with no subjectivity.

Summary of proposed changes:

The proposed changes largely retain the existing requirements but aim to make them clearer, less subjective and easier to assess consistently. There is a greater focus on demonstrating that farm management systems and procedures are understood, implemented and effective in practice, rather than simply checking that the required paperwork exists. The changes also strengthen requirements around site information, emergency preparedness, recording and investigating issues, and understanding regulatory obligations.

Changes in detail

- DP.1 - The TAC considered the original wording potentially subjective and supported changes that better reflect the intended outcomes of the standard and improve consistency of assessment. The inclusion of animal health was specifically discussed alongside animal welfare.
- DP.1.1 - The TAC identified that site maps can become overcrowded and agreed that using multiple maps should be allowed where this makes information clearer. The TAC also discussed how biosecure boundaries should be shown in free-range systems, recognising that practical management boundaries may differ from traditional house-based approaches.
- DP.2 - The TAC strongly supported retaining the standard but agreed there should be a clearer distinction between information that needs to be displayed and information that simply needs to be readily accessible. Concerns about displaying personal contact details were also recognised. The assessment should focus on whether staff understand what to do and can

access the right information when needed, rather than simply checking that documents are present.

- DP.2.2 - Moved from DP.2.b as considered sufficiently distinct to warrant its own grouping.
- DP.4 - No longer relevant due to improved legislative controls; residues are now well controlled under statutory reporting

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
DP.1 (KEY)		The whole site must be maintained in a visibly well managed condition that does not present a risk to food safety, animal health and welfare or the environment	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	DP.1.a	External areas are managed to minimise risk (e.g., vermin harbourage, contamination or injury)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
DP.1.1		A site map, or set of maps, must be in place that together clearly describe the site.	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	DP1.1a	Site buildings: – position and size of bird housing – access points to bird housing – any auxiliary bird areas and their purpose Designated biosecure areas, including: – General site biosecure area – Bird biosecure area(s), plus associated range where applicable – For multi-age sites this shows segregation of each bird biosecure unit/house(s) and where applicable, staff facilities Emergency planning – first aid kit – fire extinguishers – available water sources for firefighting (where known and available) – OS map reference or What3Words location of site for emergency services Environmental features (where applicable) – watercourses, including ditches and ponds – boreholes, springs and wells, including any on neighbouring land, within 50m of the boundary – any areas of high pollution risk	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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		– all fields, including area (hectares/acres) Vermin Control (where applicable) – bait points			
GUIDANCE: Maps may be presented as a single document or as multiple maps covering different aspects of the site (e.g. biosecurity, environmental features, emergency access), provided all required information is clearly available.					
DP.2		A documented plan for the effective management of serious incidents and potential emergency situations must be in place, accessible and understood by those responsible for livestock	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	DP.2.a	You have considered the risks to your farm and documented the actions to be taken in the event of: – power cuts – feed and/or water equipment or supply failing – fire – extreme weather – disease outbreaks which have the potential to affect other farms/the general public – reporting activist activity – pollution incidents, e.g. slurry spillages or leaks – other site-specific risks (where applicable)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	DP.2.c	Up-to-date relevant contact details are available and accessible (including out of hours phone numbers) for e.g. vet, electricity supplier, Environment Agency hotline, feed and water supplier	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	DP.2.d	Key staff must be able to demonstrate awareness of and ability to implement emergency procedures	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Critical emergency information necessary for immediate response (e.g. site location, emergency contacts, access information) must be readily available to emergency responders. Full emergency plans may be held electronically or in hard copy provided they can be accessed without delay.					
DP.2.2		An Avian Influenza contingency plan is in place and is: – reviewed annually – updated when necessary – and for free range production, contains details for how to house the birds for the duration of the crop cycle without compromising the welfare standards expected for housed birds	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained

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GUIDANCE: The requirement should be considered as a specific contingency planning provision within the wider emergency planning framework. For free-range systems, the emphasis is on demonstrating that birds can be managed appropriately during periods of housing restriction while maintaining the welfare standards expected of housed birds.					
DP.2.1		You must contact Red Tractor and/or your certification body immediately if a serious incident or emergency threatens the welfare of birds, food safety or the environment occurs on farm	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Retained
DP.3		Systems must be in place to record, investigate and resolve complaints and defined sampling results relevant to Red Tractor standards	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	DP.3.a	System includes recording the: – complaint – investigation result – action taken to resolve the issue and prevent immediate recurrence – where relevant, a review or update of associated procedures or management controls	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
DP.5		Farms must record if their business requires an Environmental Permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations	CD,CL,CB, CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG,KF TR,TL,TG,TF	T	Retained
	DP.5.a	Permit numbers should be available on site			
	DP.5.b	Permits are reflective of the species and maximum number of that species that can be placed on site			
GUIDANCE: This requirement is intended to provide visibility of environmental permitting status and ensure that permit details remain consistent with the operation being conducted. It is not intended to duplicate regulatory inspection processes.					

PROPOSALS

Personnel (PL)

Aim

To ensure that all personnel have the knowledge, skills and practical competence needed to carry out their roles safely and effectively, protecting bird health and welfare, supporting good farm management and maintaining the integrity of the Red Tractor scheme. The standards aim to ensure that training and induction are appropriate to the individual's role and responsibilities, and that competence is demonstrated in practice rather than through records alone.

Summary of proposed changes:

The proposed changes simplify and clarify the Personnel requirements, with a stronger focus on demonstrating competence in practice rather than relying on training records alone. Poultry Passport and Poultry Training Record requirements have been more clearly separated, with a more

proportionate approach across different workforce models and roles. Further guidance will support consistent interpretation and implementation.

Changes in detail

- PL.3.a has been removed
- PL.3.1.c has been removed
- PL.3.2 has been upgraded to a standard

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
PL.1 (KEY)		Systems must be in place to ensure all personnel are effectively trained and can demonstrate competence to carry out the activities they are required to do	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	PL.1.a	No person starts work without completing the business induction process and receiving appropriate supervision relevant to their role	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL1.b	Induction record to include as a minimum: – Activity's role will undertake – Relevant procedures and SOPs – Health & Safety information – Reporting lines	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: The induction process should ensure that personnel understand the tasks they are expected to carry out, the relevant business procedures and SOPs, health and safety arrangements and reporting lines before starting work. The level of induction and supervision should be appropriate to the person's role; previous experience and the risks associated with the work being undertaken.					
PL.2		Records of training must be kept	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	PL2.a	A training record is available for all, including: – Name – details of training/events attended – date of training – who provided the training (in-house or external provider)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL2.b	Where workers are authorised to undertake specific tasks requiring additional training or competence, these are recorded	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL2.c	Records are retained in accordance with legal and business requirements	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Training records should provide a clear record of who has been trained, what training has been completed, when it took place and who delivered it. Where personnel are authorised to carry out specific tasks requiring additional training or competence, this should be identifiable from the training record or associated records. Record retention should be managed in line with legal and business requirements.					

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PL.3		The performance and competence of employees must be reviewed and refresher training implemented as required	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	PL.3.b	Identified gaps in competence are addressed through documented corrective action and refresher training where required	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Competency review should focus on whether personnel remain capable of carrying out their responsibilities effectively in practice, rather than relying only on the existence of training records. Where gaps in competence are identified, the business should take proportionate corrective action, which may include refresher training, additional supervision or other documented action.					
PL.3.1		Where applicable to their role, personnel must participate in the British Poultry Training Poultry Passport (UK) or Poultry Training Record (non-UK) scheme as the formal route for industry training and training recognition	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	PL.3.1.a1	The training and qualification requirements applicable to each person are those specified for their role and responsibilities within the British Poultry Training dashboard	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.3.1.a2	Mandatory training and qualification requirements are delivered by training providers or in-house tutors approved by British Poultry Training	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.3.1.b	New personnel required to participate in the Poultry Passport or Poultry Training record are enrolled within six months of starting their position	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.3.1.d	Where a Work Based Diploma, or recognised equivalent, is required for the role, personnel are enrolled on the relevant qualification	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Personnel who are required to participate in the Poultry Passport or Poultry Training Record should be enrolled within six months of starting their position. Where the person's role requires a Work-based Diploma, or recognised equivalent, enrolment on the relevant qualification should also be in place within the timeframes outlined in PL.3.2..					
PL.3.2		Personnel must progress through the Poultry Passport or Poultry Training Record until all training and qualification requirements applicable to their role have been completed	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change Upgraded
	PL.3.2.a	Personnel must demonstrate progression within 12 months of enrolment and every 12 months thereafter by completing a minimum of two training modules. A training module is either one Poultry Passport short course or one diploma unit	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.3.2.b	Personnel complete all Poultry Passport short courses required for their role and once completed, these remain in date	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.3.2.c	Where a diploma is required for the role, personnel demonstrate progression towards completion of the qualification	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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GUIDANCE:
Progression through the Poultry Passport or Poultry Training Record should continue until all training and qualification requirements for the role have been completed. The minimum annual progression requirement may be met through Poultry Passport short courses, diploma units, or a combination of both, provided that at least two training modules are completed within each 12-month period. Once short courses have been completed, they must remain in date.

Where a diploma is required, personnel should continue to progress towards completion of the qualification.

PL.4		Where labour providers are used, they are licensed and a documented agreement is in place	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Retained
	PL.4.a	All labour providers used hold a valid Fair Work Agency (FWA) gangmaster's licence	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.4.b	A Service Level Agreement is in place between the business and the labour provider	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.4.c	The agreement confirms that any workers provided are suitably competent	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.4.d	The agreement confirms any training completed by the labour provider as an alternative to the businesses' own training systems	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.4.e	The agreement confirms that all workers are legally permitted to work within the UK	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.4.f	The agreement defines allocation of Health & Safety responsibilities between labour provider and labour user	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

GUIDANCE:
Where labour providers are used, the business should be able to demonstrate that the provider is appropriately licensed and that responsibilities between the business and labour provider are clearly documented. The agreement should address competence, training, right to work and allocation of health and safety responsibilities.

PL.5		A written Health and Safety Policy must be in place	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	PL.5.b	The policy is communicated to all relevant workers as part of induction and ongoing training	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.5.c	Language and learning style enables workers to understand and apply the policy effectively	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

GUIDANCE:
The Health and Safety Policy should be communicated in a way that is understandable and relevant to the workers it applies to. Communication may be through induction, training, briefings, translated material, visual aids or other appropriate methods, depending on the workforce and the nature of the work. The focus should be on whether workers understand and can apply the relevant information, rather than on the format of communication alone.

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Specific feedback: Personnel – Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Poultry Passport requirements, whereby participation in the Poultry Passport or Poultry Training Record has been upgraded to a standard? This provides greater clarity on what is expected of members, while recognising that progression through the programme is a separate issue from participation?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Overarching feedback: Personnel – Which of the following best describes your view of the proposed Personnel standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Share feedback at:
redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/

PROPOSALS

Traceability and Assurance (TI)

Aim

To ensure that birds, young birds and eggs are fully traceable throughout the assured supply chain, with clear identification and records demonstrating where stock has come from and where it has moved to. The standards aim to protect the integrity of Red Tractor assurance by ensuring assured stock comes from verified assured sources and that assurance status is maintained and checked when birds or eggs move between businesses.

Summary of proposed changes:

The existing traceability requirements are largely retained, with changes focused on strengthening verification and making the standards clearer and easier to audit. The main change is a stronger requirement to check and confirm assurance status when ownership or custody changes, particularly at hatcheries, using recognised verification systems. Other changes improve consistency across poultry species, remove duplication and simplify requirements where possible.

Changes in detail

- TI.1.a now applies to Duck and Turkey hatcheries as well as Chicken
- TI.1.d now applies to all enterprises
- TI.1.f has been removed and merged into TI.1.d

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
TI.1 (KEY)		Birds/ [young birds]/eggs must be identified and records kept to maintain traceability and assurance status must be verified at relevant points where ownership or custody changes using the Red Tractor Checker, Tracker, certified API integration, or an equivalent documented process	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	TI.1.a	[young birds]/eggs are identified by tray and/or trolley and records kept to maintain traceability	CH KH TH		
	TI.1.b	Scheme registration number is included on dispatch notes	CL,CH,CB, CP,CF, EW KL,KH,KG, KF Tl,TH,TG,TF		
	TI.1.c	Systems are in place that deliver traceability of product throughout the operation, and records identify the assurance status of relevant sites, catch teams and transport providers where required by scheme rules. Where catch teams and transport providers are required to be assured, their assurance scheme membership numbers are recorded on the Animal Transport Certificate or an equivalent retained record	CL,CH,CB, CP,CF, EW KL,KH,KG, KF Tl,TH,TG,TF		
	TI.1.d	Records are kept of the origin of [young birds] and/or eggs and, where necessary, this information is passed on to the processor to allow accurate origin labelling of the final product	KR TR		
GUIDANCE: The standard should be interpreted as requiring both physical traceability and verification of assurance status where birds, young birds or eggs move between businesses or where custody changes. The method used to identify stock may vary between enterprises provided traceability can be maintained. Systems may include trays, trolleys, batches, dispatch documentation or equivalent approaches. Assurance verification may be undertaken through approved tools such as Checker, Tracker, API-based systems or other recognised verification processes. The requirement to record assurance scheme membership numbers for catch teams and transport providers is intended to improve supply-chain traceability and assurance verification where those activities are required to be assured.					
TI.2 (KEY)		Eggs and/or [young birds] must be sourced from Red Tractor Assured breeder farms and/or hatcheries certified to the relevant scheme standards	CL,CH,CB, CP,CF, EW KL,KH,KG, KF TL,TH,TG,TF	T	Retained
GUIDANCE: These standards establish the principle that eggs and young birds entering the assured production chain should originate from Red Tractor Assured breeder farms and/or hatcheries. The					

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standards should be read alongside traceability requirements elsewhere in the section to ensure assurance claims can be supported throughout the supply chain.					
TI.2.1 (KEY)		RT assured hatcheries only handle RT assured eggs	CH	T	Retained

Vermin Control (VC)

Aim

To ensure poultry farms take a proactive and risk-based approach to preventing and controlling vermin, pests and predators, protecting bird health and welfare, biosecurity, feed, housing and the wider farm environment. The standards aim to prevent problems developing in the first place through good site management, monitoring and appropriate controls, while ensuring any pest-control measures are used responsibly.

Summary of proposed changes:

The existing requirements are largely retained, but with a stronger emphasis on prevention rather than reactive control. Changes strengthen expectations around site management, structural proofing, reducing pest harbourage, routine monitoring and corrective action, while retaining requirements for the responsible use of toxic bait. The revisions also consider predator control in free-range systems and a broader approach to pest management, including flies.

Changes in detail

- VC.1.d, has been added to ensure significant vermin activity leads to investigation and corrective action.
- VC.1.e has been added to highlight the importance of proofing an exclusion where possible
- VC.1.f has been added to include predator risks on the range in Free Range systems
- VC.3 new standard for Free Range systems

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
VC.1 (KEY)		There must be effective prevention and control of vermin, pests and, where relevant, predators	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	VC.1.a	No build-up of vegetation close to farm structures that could harbour vermin, and potential pest harbourage, including accumulated materials, equipment and waste, is minimised	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.1.b	A site survey is completed at least quarterly, detailing: – date of inspection – locations inspected – findings – actions required – date actions completed and identifying any preventative actions required to minimise pest harbourage and access to biosecure areas	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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	VC.1.c	Dead/trapped vermin are searched for and disposed of when bait points are checked	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.1.d	Evidence of significant vermin activity is investigated and appropriate corrective action taken where required	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		NEW
	VC.1.e	Poultry housing and associated structures are maintained, where reasonably practicable, to minimise access by vermin and other pests	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		NEW
	VC.1.f	Where birds have access to range areas, the risks posed by predators are assessed and appropriate control measures implemented where necessary	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		NEW
GUIDANCE: Intended to support a preventative approach to pest management rather than relying solely on corrective action once vermin activity is established. Prevention may include management of vegetation, accumulated materials, equipment, waste, building condition and other factors that could provide harbourage or access opportunities for pests. Site surveys are intended to be an active management tool that identifies risks and drives corrective and preventative actions.					
VC.2		Toxic bait must be used responsibly and only where justified as part of an integrated pest control approach	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	VC.2.a	Prior to treatment with baits the use of non-chemical control methods is considered first followed by the least toxic alternatives (see Appendix – risk hierarchy) The decision to use toxic bait is justified.	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.b	An Environmental Risk Assessment is undertaken in accordance with the Appendix before bait is laid	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.c	Where baits are used a Bait Plan identifies: – location of bait points – bait used – bait point inspection frequency replenishment dates	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.d	Non-target animals do not have access to baits	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.e	Bait is prevented from contaminating animal feed	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.f	Permanent baiting is not routinely undertaken and toxic bait is removed when treatment is finished unless required as part of a documented pest control programme supported by risk assessment	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.g	Product label directions are followed	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	VC.2.h	A documented COSHH assessment is carried out where there are 5 or more employees	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Part of an integrated pest-management approach in which toxic bait is one potential control measure					

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rather than the default response. The hierarchy of prevention, non-chemical controls and least-toxic alternatives should be considered before bait use is justified. Environmental risk assessment, bait planning and controls to protect non-target species, feed and the wider environment remain central principles.

VC.3		Free-range enterprises undertaking predator control activities must ensure that these activities are lawful, appropriate and carried out by competent persons where required	CF KF TF	T	NEW
	VC.3.a	Predator risks are assessed and appropriate control measures implemented where required	CF KF TF		
	VC.3.b	Any predator control activities are undertaken in accordance with relevant legislation	CF KF TF		
	VC.3.c	Where licences, permits or specific competencies are required, evidence is available that these requirements have been met	CF KF TF		
	VC.3.d	Significant predator-related incidents affecting bird welfare are recorded, together with any actions taken in response	CF KF TF		

GUIDANCE:
Predator control should be proportionate to the risks presented and focused on protecting bird welfare. Predator risk assessment does not necessarily require a standalone document and may be incorporated within existing management systems where appropriate.

Specific feedback: Vermin Control – Do you agree that specific standards should be introduced for free-range enterprises in relation to predator control activities?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Overarching feedback: Vermin Control – Which of the following best describes your view of the proposed Vermin Control standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Share feedback at:
redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/

PROPOSALS

Housing Shelter and Handling Facilities (HF)

Aim

To ensure that poultry housing, hatchery areas, ranges, equipment and emergency systems provide a safe, hygienic and welfare-supportive environment appropriate to the species, age and production system. Facilities should protect bird health and welfare, biosecurity and safety, and be effectively managed, monitored and maintained.

Summary of proposed changes:

The existing requirements are largely retained but have been simplified and restructured to make them clearer, more practical and easier to audit. There is a stronger outcome-based approach across areas including ventilation, flooring, lighting, bedding, range use and equipment management, with greater consistency across species and reduced duplication. Enterprise-specific requirements are retained where necessary, while unnecessary prescription has been reduced and the distinction between core standards and supporting guidance made clearer.

Red Tractor is considering a proposal to introduce a maximum planned stocking density of 30 kg/m^2 in a voluntary module. We are in the process of gathering data to understand where the industry is at in terms of stocking density before any final standards will be implemented.

Changes in detail

- HF.1.d has been removed as it is duplicated in the BI section
- HF.1.1 now also applies to Chicken Hatcheries
- HF.2.x1 has been added for Duck and Turkey
- HF.2.1.a now applies to Duck and Turkey Hatcheries
- HF.2.1.b has been removed and merged into HF.2.1.a
- HF.3.a now applies to all enterprises
- HF.3.b now applies to all enterprises
- HF.3.c and d have been re worded and merged into HF.3.b
- HF.4.a and b have been re-worded and merged into HF.4.a
- HF.4.a now applies to all enterprises other than Hatcheries
- HF.4.2.b now applies to all enterprises other than Hatcheries
- HF.4.7 has been moved to the HC section
- HF.4.8 has been moved to the HC section
- HF.5.1.a now applies to all enterprises other than Hatcheries
- HF.5.1.a has been removed
- HF.5.3 and 5.3.a have moved to HF.5.2 and HF.3.a is new for CF
- HF.5.4 now applies to CF
- HF.6.a, HF.6.b and HF.6.c now applies to all enterprises
- HF.8.b and HF.8.c now applies to all enterprises

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
HF.1 (KEY)		Housing/hatchery must be constructed and maintained to provide a safe and secure environment for birds/[young birds]	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	HF.1.a	Housing securely contains birds	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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	HF.1.b	There are no sharp edges, projections or other features presenting a hazard to birds	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.1.c	Electrical installations are inaccessible to birds/ [young birds]	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		
HF1.1		The sound level in housing must be minimised to avoid causing unnecessary stress to birds	All chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	
	HF.1.1.a	Ventilation fans, feeding machinery and other equipment are managed and maintained to minimise noise	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: It is not intended to prevent all operational noise, but to ensure that fans, feeding systems and other equipment are managed and maintained so that unnecessary noise likely to disturb birds is minimised.					
HF.2		Housing/hatchery must be appropriately and effectively ventilated to maintain a suitable environment for bird health and welfare	All chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	HF.2.a, HF.2.d, HF.2.h	Ventilation minimises excessive humidity and the build-up of harmful gases and odours and maintains conditions suitable for bird health and welfare	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.2.x1	Where ammonia or carbon dioxide levels exceed acceptable limits, corrective action is taken and recorded	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.2.c	Concentration of Ammonia should not exceed 20ppm	CB,CP,EW		
	PL.3.1.a 2	Concentration of Ammonia should not exceed 25ppm	KR,KL,KG		
	HF.2.d	Concentration of Carbon Dioxide should not exceed 3000ppm at the level of the birds heads	CB,CP,EW		
	HF.2.e	The average relative humidity measured inside a house during a 48-hour period should not exceed 70% when the outside temperature is below 10°C			
GUIDANCE: The ventilation plan should be site-specific and appropriate to the housing system and bird type. Where environmental measures such as ammonia, carbon dioxide or humidity are specified, these remain part of the compliance framework, but the wider expectation is that environmental conditions are actively managed to support bird health and welfare. “Acceptable limits” should be understood in relation to the applicable species or enterprise requirements, observed bird condition and any relevant scheme or legal thresholds.					
HF.2.1		Temperature records must be kept	All chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Retained
	HF.2.1.a	Records kept of minimum and maximum daily temperatures at bird/[young birds] level	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
HF.2.2		A written heat and cold stress contingency plan must be in place outlining recognition of and	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW	T	

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		procedures to be followed in the event of heat or cold stress occurring, including actions to be taken where weather conditions may increase the risk to bird welfare	KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.2.2.a	The heat stress contingency plan and ventilation plan are implemented when environmental conditions indicate an increased risk to bird welfare	CD,CL,CB,C P,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.2.2.b	Policy reviewed in the event of bird losses due to an exceptional weather incident The contingency plan is reviewed: – at least annually – following a significant weather-related welfare incident or bird losses associated with exceptional weather conditions.	CD,CL,CB,C P,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
GUIDANCE: The heat and cold stress contingency plan should explain how risks are recognised, when the plan is implemented and what actions are taken when weather or environmental conditions increase welfare risk.					
HF.3		Floors must be constructed, maintained and managed in a manner that minimises the risk of injury and supports bird health, welfare and hygiene	All chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	HF.3.a	Floors are maintained in a condition that supports effective cleaning and disinfection and minimises the risk of injury to birds	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	PL.4.e	Where slatted flooring is provided under water facilities it makes up no more than 25% of the total floor area	KR,KL,KG		
	HF.3.b	Floors are effectively drained and managed to minimise water ingress, flooding and excessive moisture accumulation	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Floors should be suitable for the housing system and managed so that they minimise injury risk, support cleaning and disinfection, and reduce water ingress, flooding or excessive moisture accumulation. The revised approach allows for different flooring systems where the welfare, hygiene and biosecurity outcomes are met.					
HF.4 (KEY)		Conditions within the housing must be maintained in a manner that ensures birds are able to keep clean	All chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	HF.4.a	A written cleaning and disinfection policy is in place, which contains: – cleaning and disinfection procedures for bird accommodation, house furniture and water tanks and other relevant equipment – cleaning and/or disinfection procedures for egg storage facilities and bulk feed bins, where present and relevant to the enterprise – handling of waste materials including litter, packaging and feed spillages	CD,CL,CB,C P,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		

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		– details of Defra approved disinfectants and detergents used, including safe usage, storage and dilution – the circumstances in which cleaning and/or disinfection is required, including routine turnaround and risk-triggered cleaning			
	HF.4.c	Whenever bird accommodation is emptied it is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the policy	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.4.d	Swabs are taken for environmental bacteria and are cultured in a government approved laboratory - records are kept of these tests	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.4.e	Environmental swabs for TVCs are carried out weekly and records are maintained	CH		
		Environmental swabs for TVCs are carried out monthly and records are maintained	KH TH		
	HF.4.f	Bedding/bale stores are cleaned and disinfected whenever they are emptied	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.4.g	Non-bird biosecure areas identified as presenting a cross-contamination risk are cleaned in accordance with the cleaning and disinfection policy	CP KF TF		
	HF.4.h	A written cleaning and disinfection policy is in place	CH KH TH		
GUIDANCE: Covers the management of housing conditions so that birds can remain clean, with cleaning and disinfection controls forming a key part of that outcome. The written policy should cover relevant accommodation, equipment, waste materials, disinfectants and detergents, and circumstances where routine or risk-triggered cleaning and/or disinfection is required. “Where present and relevant to the enterprise” should be used to avoid applying requirements such as egg storage facilities or bulk feed bins where they do not exist or are not relevant.					
HF.4.1		Surfaces within housing/hatchery must be maintained in a condition that permits effective cleaning and disinfection	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This standard should be understood as requiring surfaces to remain capable of effective cleaning and disinfection. Surface defects are relevant where they prevent effective cleaning, harbour contamination or create a biosecurity concern.					
HF.4.2		Flocks are provided with clean, fresh bedding to a minimum depth of 2cm	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF, EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		Retained
	HF.4.2.a	Products which expand to a minimum depth of 2cm may be used	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF, EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		

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	HF.4.2.b	Bedding is not re-used	CD,CL,CH,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
		Areas around water facilities and slats may be free of bedding	KR,KL,KG, KF		
HF.4.3		Bedding must remain in a dry, friable condition	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		Editorial Change
	HF.4.3.a	Wet or capped litter is managed promptly	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF, EW TR,TL,TG,TF		
		Birds are bedded daily	KG.KF		
HF.4.4		Bedding stored in the open is stored on pallets and is covered	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF, EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		Editorial Change
	HF.4.4.a	Storage arrangements protect bedding from contamination by water, wild birds and vermin			
	HF.4.4.b	Damaged or wet bales are not used			
	HF.4.4.c	Stored bales are double wrapped and wrapping is disinfected at the point of bales being moved into bird housing			
HF.4.5		Fixed housing must have a minimum of a 1 metre 'door mat' designed to minimise contamination entering the housing	CF		Editorial Change
	HF.4.5.a	'Door mat' is well drained and easily cleaned			
HF.4.5		Bedding is traceable	KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF	TBD	Retained
HF.4.9 (RECOMMENDATION)		*It is recommended that bales are stored in buildings that prevent that prevent access by wild birds or rodents*	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF, EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		Retained
HF.5		Housing/hatchery must be lit to allow normal behaviours, rest and effective inspection of birds/ [young birds]	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	HF.5.a	Lighting intensity is at least 20 lux, measured at least once per crop, at bird eye level and illuminating at least 80% of the useable area, during lighting periods	CB,CP.CF KL,KG,KF		
	HF.5.b.a	Lighting intensity is at least 10 lux in enclosed housing, measured at bird eye level and recorded at least once per crop, and illuminating at least 80% of the useable area, during lighting periods	KR TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.5.c	Lighting intensity is at least 10 lux measured at bird eye level and recorded once every crop within the first 4 weeks, and illuminating at least 80% of the useable bird area, during lighting periods	CD,CL		

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	HF.5.b	A light level below 10 lux maybe used when bird welfare is compromised but any reduction will be recorded and reviewed by the farm manager. The review will: – be documented, containing evidence of why the change was made – include records of the light intensity, taken at bird level at each turn around	TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.5.c	Reductions in lighting made only on advice of vet	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG,KF		
	HF.5.d	Lighting intensity is at least 50 lux provided by natural daylight through the provision of windows which equate to a minimum of 3% of the floor area	EW		
	HF.5.e	Artificial light can be used to supplement daylight on dark days	EW		
	HF.5.d	Lighting patterns are recorded	KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.5.f.d	Levels of natural or artificial lighting in [young birds] grading areas is of a level that all [young birds] can be seen clearly	CH KH TH		
	HF.5.g.e	Holding rooms should be lit with controlled or blue lighting	CH KH TH		
HF.5.1		Lighting follows a 24-hour rhythm	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF	T	Retained
	HF.5.1.a	Lighting patterns for the flock are recorded	CD,CL,CB,CP,CF,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.5.1.c	This occurs within seven days of the [birds] being placed in the building and until three days before foreseen slaughter	CB,CP,EW KR,KL,KG, KF TR,TL,TG,TF		
	HF.5.1.b	24-hour rhythm includes: – periods of darkness lasting at least six hours, – with at least one uninterrupted period of darkness lasting at least four hours	CB,CP,EW		
	HF.5.1.f	There is a minimum of six hours of continuous darkness in every 24-hour period, except: – when the natural dark period is shorter than six hours – during the first seven days of brooding and the last three days prior to slaughter when the minimum continuous darkness is two hours in every 24-hour period	CF		
	HF.5.1.d	A minimum of eight hours of natural or artificial light are provided in a 24-hour period	CD,CL.CF		

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	HF.5.1.b	24-hour rhythm includes: – period of uninterrupted darkness lasting at least 6 hours – a minimum of 8 hours natural daylight or artificial light	KR,KL,KG,KF		
		24-hour rhythm includes: – periods of darkness lasting at least 8 hours, except where natural dark period is shorter than 6 hours, – with a minimum of 4 hours continuous darkness – a minimum of 8 hours of continuous darkness in free range houses – a minimum of 7 hours natural daylight or artificial light – a minimum of 7 continuous hours of light for breeder replacement hens	TR,TL,TG,TF		
	Hf.5.1.c	Transition between light and dark periods occurs over a period of at least 30 minutes	KR,KL,KG, KF		
	HF.5.1.e	Natural daylight is provided at all times during the natural daylight period from at least five days of age	EW		
HF.5.2		Birds must have access to the range for at least half their lives	CF KF TF	TBD	Retained
	HF.5.2.a	Birds have access to the range area for a minimum of 8 hours per day	CF KF TF		
	HF.5.3.a	Pop-holes are open for 8 hours except where: – natural daylight lasts less than 8 hours – there are inclement weather conditions	CF KF TF		
	HF.2.f	Pop-holes are evenly distributed around the house	CF KF		
		Pop-holes make up a combined length of at least 4m per 100m2 of floor space	CF KF TF		
	HF.2.h	Pop-holes are a minimum height of 400mm	CF		
	HF.2.g	Pop-holes are a minimum height of 450mm	KF		
HF.5.4		Shelter and cover must be provided on the range to encourage use of the range and support bird welfare	CF KF TF	TBD	Editorial Change
	HF.5.4.a	Natural shelter/cover is encouraged, however where this is not present, artificial cover must be provided (e.g. camouflage netting, big bales, A frames)			
	HF.6.c	The range comprises an area mainly covered by vegetation			
GUIDANCE: Shelter and cover may be natural or artificial, and the purpose is to encourage range use, support bird distribution and contribute to welfare outcomes. The inclusion of vegetation reflects the move to bring					

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range-related requirements together. Any species-specific range area or vegetation expectations should be addressed in guidance or appendices where the final structure places those details.					
HF.5.5		Windows equating to a minimum of 3% of the floor area are fitted in all buildings which house birds	CB,CP,CF		Retained
	HF.5.5.a	The translucent area of the windows equates to a minimum of 3% of the floor area	CB,CP,CF		
	HF.5.5.b	Windows are evenly distributed along the side panels providing uniform daylight throughout the building	CB,CP,CF		
	HF.5.5.c	Windows are double glazed to provide insulation and prevent condensation	CB,CP,CF		
	HF.5.5.d	Where glass is used it is laminated or toughened on the inside for added safety	CB,CP,CF		
	HF.5.5.e	Shutters are fitted in order that daylight can be closed out if required (e.g. during extremely hot or cold days)	CB,CP,CF		
	HF.5.5.f	Shutters are open from day 5 during daylight hours unless veterinary advice states otherwise	CB,CP,CF		
HF.5.5 Recommendation)		*It is recommended that windows equating to 3% of the floor area are fitted in all buildings which house birds*	KG,KF		Retained
	HF.5.5.a	The windows equate to a minimum of 3% of the floor area	KG,KF		
	HF.5.5.b	Windows are evenly distributed providing uniform daylight throughout the building	KG,KF		
HF.6 (KEY)		Housing/ [young birds] areas must be of sufficient size	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised NEW
	HF.6.a	Birds are not kept in cages or multi-tier systems	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.6.b	Stocking density is in line with the following: – Bird Weight (KG) = 1.5, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 17 – Bird Weight (KG) = 2, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 18 – Bird Weight (KG) = 2.5, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 20 – Bird Weight (KG) = 3, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 21 – Bird Weight (KG) = 3.5, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 22 – Bird Weight (KG) = 4, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 23 – Bird Weight (KG) = 4.5, Max. Stocking Density kg/m2 = 24	KR,KG		
GUIDANCE: See Appendix for maximum stocking densities					
	HF.6.b	Realistic key performance indicators are used when planning stocking densities	All Chicken All Duck		

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			All Turkey		
	HF.6.c	Key welfare indicators are not compromised by stocking regime, particularly in relation to weather conditions	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.6.e	Stocking density does not exceed 15kg/m2	KR,KL		
	HF.6.d	Planned stocking densities must not exceed 38kg/m2	CB		
	HF.6.0	Planned stocking densities must not exceed 30kg/m2	VOLUNTARY TIER		
	HF.6.f	Stocking density must not exceed 30kg/m2	CP		
	HF.6.g	Stocking density must not exceed 25kg/m2	EW		
	HF.6.h	Housing stocking density must not exceed 27.5 kg/m2	CF		
	HF.6.i	Range stocking density must not exceed 1 bird per m2	CF		
HF.6.1		Houses must have plates which highlight important information	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Retained
	HF.6.1.a	Plates list: – total floor space available to the birds – number of feeders and drinkers – feed bin capacity	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
HF.6.2		If thinning is practiced, it must be limited to one thin per flock	EW	T	Retained
HF.7		Housing areas must provide for the specific needs of young birds	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
HF.8		Automatic equipment is inspected once a day	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	HF.8.a	Records kept of: – checks – malfunctions – rectifications	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.8.b	Equipment is maintained and calibrated in accordance with the documented schedule	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.8.c	Records demonstrate completion of maintenance and calibration activities.	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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GUIDANCE: Daily checks, fault rectification and records of checks are distinct from planned maintenance and calibration schedules. These standards separate operational checks from preventative maintenance and calibration, reducing overlap with generator and alarm testing.					
HF.8.1		An alternative power supply must be available which is capable of supplying all essential electrical systems within the poultry houses/hatchery	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	HF.8.1.a	Malfunctions are rectified immediately	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.8.1.b	Generators are tested weekly on load and records kept of: – checks – malfunction – rectifications	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Generator testing should demonstrate that the backup supply is capable of operating on load. Malfunctions should be addressed promptly so that essential systems remain protected in the event of power failure.					
HF.8.2		An alarm system must be in place which alerts stockmen to ventilation equipment failure	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Retained
	HF.8.2.a	Alarm system responds to high and low temperatures and to failures in each phase of the mains electricity	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	HF.8.2.b	Alarm systems are checked daily and records kept of: – checks – malfunction – rectifications	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	HF.8.2.c	Alarm system tested every 7 days and results recorded	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	HF.8.2.d	Alarm system works without mains power supply	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW		

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			KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
HF.9		Fire prevention measures must be taken	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	HF.9.a	Safe use and storage of flammable/combustible materials	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.b	Every building exceeding 30m in length has two doors and complies with relevant building regulations, particularly with regard to fire escape exits	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.c	Access to building is restricted	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.d	Buildings are secure	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.e	Smoking and vaping are restricted to designated areas only	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.f	Machinery undergoes routine maintenance	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.g	Escape routes and passages are kept clear at all times	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	HF.9.h	Notices are displayed in all main houses of the nearest telephone point	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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Specific feedback: Housing, Shelter and Handling Facilities – Do you agree that HF.2.2 for a written heat and cold stress contingency plan are proportionate to the risks to bird welfare and practical for poultry businesses to implement?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Overarching feedback: Housing, Shelter and Handling Facilities – Which of the following best describes your view of the Housing, Shelter and Handling Facilities proposed standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Share feedback at:
redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/

Feed and Water (FW)

Aim

To ensure birds have access to sufficient, suitable feed and drinking water to support health, welfare and production outcomes, with feeding and watering systems effectively managed and monitored.

Summary of proposed changes:

The proposed changes retain the existing approach to feed and water provision while improving clarity and auditability. They introduce a broader controlled-feeding approach focused on nutritional outcomes and competent oversight, alongside a separate potable water standard to distinguish water quality from water access. Overall, there is a greater emphasis on outcomes and practical management controls.

Changes in detail

- FW.1.b now applies to CD, CL, KR, KL, TR and TL
- FW.2.1 has been removed
- FW.2.c no longer applies to CD and CL
- FW.0 new standard and audit points including previous FW.3.c/f and FW.3.g audit points

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
FW.1		Birds must be provided with sufficient feed to meet their nutritional requirements and support health, welfare and production status	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	TBD	Editorial Change
	FW.1.a	The diet is adequate and suitable to the production status and body condition of the bird	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		

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	FW.1.b	Birds managed under a controlled feeding programme have their nutritional requirements met through a documented feeding programme appropriate to the species, age, sex, breeding status and stage of production. The programme is developed by, and reviewed at least annually by, a suitably competent person to ensure it remains effective and appropriate for the birds being managed	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Feed provision should be considered in relation to the nutritional needs, production stage and condition of the birds being managed. The standards focus on achieving appropriate nutritional outcomes rather than prescribing particular feeding methods, feed types or management systems. Where nutritional requirements differ between species, ages or production stages, producers should be able to demonstrate that feed provision has been adapted accordingly. Controlled feeding programme may take different forms depending on species, breeding status and production system. The intention is not to prescribe a single feeding model, but to ensure that birds' nutritional requirements are met through a documented programme that is subject to appropriate review. TAC discussion supported flexibility regarding who may provide oversight, provided competence can be demonstrated. Examples of competent persons may be addressed through guidance rather than the standard (e.g., AIC register)					
FW.2		Birds must be provided with sufficient access to feed	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Editorial Change
	FW.2.a	Feed delivery systems are free of sharp edges, and other defects capable of causing injury and are adjustable to provide a comfortable feeding level			
	FW.2.b	Feed delivery systems are checked daily for correct performance and cleanliness			
	FW.2.c	Birds do not have to travel more than 4m within the confines of the house to reach feed	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	FW.2.c	[birds] do not have to travel more than 7m to reach feed within the confines of the house	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.2.c	Feed space allowances are as follows:	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		

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		– day old to 8 weeks 50cm feeding space/100 [birds] – 8 weeks and over 60cm feeding space/100 [birds]			
	FW.2.d	Feed space allowances are provided at a minimum of: – pan feeders 1 linear metre per 100 birds – chain feeders 0.75 linear metre per 100 birds	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	FW.2.d	Feed space allowances are as follows for [birds]: – pan & chain feeders - 1 linear metre per 200 [birds] < 6 weeks (42 days of age) – pan feeders - 1 linear metre per 100 [birds] > 6 weeks of age – chain feeders 0.75 linear metre per 100 [birds] > 6 weeks of age	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.2.e	For Poussin and in the case of Brood & Move to Free Range, feed space allowances in the house (CP)/brood house (CF) are provided at a minimum of: – broiler pan feeders 1.00 linear metre per 150 birds – broiler chain feeders 0.75 linear metre per 150 birds	CP, CF		
	FW.2.j/d/e	Feed is not provided on the range	CF KF TF		
	FW.2.f	Feed space allowances are provided at a minimum of: – broiler pan feeders 1.25 linear metre per 100 birds – broiler chain feeders 1.00 linear metre per 100 birds	CF		
	FW.2.g	Feed space allowances are provided at a minimum: – 10 cm trough space per side per breeding female – 7 cm circumference per bird on pan feeders	CD, CL		

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	FW.2.h	In breeder flocks female feeders may be fitted with male excluders, provided separate feeders are available for males	CD		
	FW.2.i	Floor feeding is acceptable where it is managed to maintain feed hygiene and minimise waste	CL		
FW.3		Birds must be provided with adequate access to drinking water	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Editorial Change
	FW.3.a	Drinker height is checked daily, and drinkers are positioned and maintained in a way that minimises spillage and supports effective access to water	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW		
	FW.3.a	50% of water provision is allocated as drinking water, minimum drinker space/ratio allowances are as follows: – Troughs – 30cm per 100 birds – Bells – 30 cm per 100 birds – Nipples – 1 nipple per 20 birds before 3 weeks of age – 1 nipple per 10 birds, after 3 weeks of age, depending on manufacturers' recommendations, water pressure and flow rate	KH, KG, KF		
	FW.3.a	Water space allowances are as follows for [birds]: – Bells: - 1 bell per 200 [birds] before 6 weeks – 1 bell per 100 [birds] after 6 weeks – Pendulum drinkers: - as per manufacturers recommendation – Nipples: - 1 nipple per 20 [birds] only before 6 weeks	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.3.b/e	Adequate water supply is available right up to depopulation	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		

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	FW.3.b	Trough drinkers are no more than 25cm high	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		
	FW.3.b	[birds] do not have to travel more than 7m to reach water within the confines of the house	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.3.c	Bell type drinkers are of the wide channel type when used beyond 3 weeks of age	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		
	FW.3.c	Drinker height is checked daily, birds are checked to ensure they are drinking adequately and drinkers are positioned and maintained in a way that spillage is minimised	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.3.d	Drinker height is checked daily, birds are checked to ensure they are drinking adequately, and drinkers are positioned and maintained in a way that spillage is minimised	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		
	FW.3.e	Birds do not have to travel more than 3m within the confines of the house to reach water	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	FW.3.f	Water space allowances are provided at a minimum of: – bells 1 bell per 150 birds – nipples and cups 1 nipple/cup per 10 to 20 birds depending on manufacturers' recommendations, water pressure and flow rate or 1 large cup per 60 birds	CB,CF, EW		
	FW.3.g	In the case of Brood & Move to Free Range Water space allowances in the brood house are provided at a minimum of: – bells - 1 bell per 150 birds – nipples and cups - 1 nipple/cup per 20 to 40 birds depending on manufacturers' recommendations, water pressure and flow rate or 1 large cup per 90 birds	CF		
	FW.3.h	Water space allowances are provided at a minimum of: – bells 1 bell per 250 birds – nipples and cups 1 nipple/cup per 10 to 30 birds depending on	CP		

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		manufacturers' recommendations, water pressure and flow rate			
	FW.3.i	Water space allowances are provided at a minimum of: – bells: 1 bell per 100 birds – nipples and cups 1 nipple/cup per 10 to 20 birds depending on manufacturers' recommendations, water pressure and flow rate or 1 large cup per 40 birds	CD, CL		
	FW.3.j/d	Each house has a water meter and consumption rate is monitored and recorded daily	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.3.k	Each house has a water meter and consumption rate is monitored and recorded daily, for mobile systems there is a water meter available for each field	CF		
	FW.3.l	Water is not provided on the range	CF		
FW.3.0		Birds must be provided with fresh, clean drinking water	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	YES	NEW
	FW.0.b	Water quality is assessed and monitored to verify that drinking water provided to birds remains potable	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.3.c/f	Non-mains water is tested every 6 months to ensure it is potable and results are recorded	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.0.d	Water quality risks and management controls is considered within the flock health planning process	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH,		

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			KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.0.c	Where water quality, flock health indicators or flock performance indicate a potential issue, appropriate investigation and corrective action is undertaken	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.3.g	Water storage facilities and drinking systems, including header tanks and drinking lines, are hygienically managed, maintained and kept in a condition that minimises contamination risks	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: The standard focuses on the outcome that birds receive fresh, clean and potable drinking water. Assessment of water quality may include testing, monitoring, review of flock health or performance indicators, inspection of storage and distribution systems, or other evidence demonstrating that water remains suitable for birds. TAC discussion emphasised that water quality should be considered at the point of consumption and that suitability may be influenced by header tanks and drinking lines as well as source water.					
FW.3.1		A system must be in place to ensure that any water supply problems are identified and rectified within a timescale that does not compromise welfare	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	TBD	Retained
	FW.3.1.a	There is an emergency water supply capable of providing water at maximum demand for 24 hours	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
FW.4		Feed must be suitable	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Editorial Change
	FW.4.a	Feed is palatable (i.e. not stale or contaminated)	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		

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			TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.4.b	Feed only includes feed materials and additives permitted by the scheme and UK and EU law	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.4.c	The composition of all purchased and home mixed feed is known	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.4.d	Antibiotic or hormonal growth promoters must not be used	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.4.e	Feed does not contain processed animal protein, poultry by-products or tallow	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.4.1		Feed formulas must comply with the poultry meat marketing legislation	CF		Retained
	FW.4.1.a	A minimum of 70% cereals during the fattening stage (half of life)	CF		
	FW.4.1.b	For corn fed a minimum of 50% maize during the fattening stage (half of life)	CF		
FW.5		Bought-in feed must be from an assured source or in specific circumstances with a warranty declaration	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.5.a	The following materials are sourced as follows:	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF,		

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		– compounds and blended feed - UFAS, or equivalent – bagged or sealed compounded or blended feed - from a UFAS merchant a UFAS, or equivalent, compounder – straights - UFAS, FEMAS, or equivalent, or a farm that is a member of a combinable crops assurance scheme accompanied by a completed grain passport – processed food by-products UFAS, FEMAS, or equivalent	EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.5.b	The following materials are sourced with a completed warranty declaration: – farm-to-farm supplies of any feeds unexpectedly in surplus	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.6		Records of all feedstuffs purchased must be kept	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.6.a	Feed records detail: – supplier name – feed type including ingredient composition – date of delivery – quantity – load or batch number	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.6.b	Records are kept for 2 years	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.6.c	Samples of each delivery of feed are taken and kept for three months	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW		

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			KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.7		When mixing two or more feed materials together records must be kept	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Retained
	FW.7.a	For total mixed rations (TMR) that incorporate forages or moist feeds produced on a daily basis, produce a record of the ingredients and quantities and update it when the mix changes	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.7.b	For home mixed compounds, meals or blends based on dry feed ingredients records of every batch mixed are kept detailing ingredients, quantities, mixing dates	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.7.1		Wheat for incorporation as whole wheat must be treated for the control of Salmonella	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.7.1.a	Treatment records are kept include: - date of treatment - method used - name of product - batch number	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.8		When the mix formulation changes samples must be kept	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.8.a	Samples of dry feed ingredients (over 3% inclusion) are kept	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW		

PROPOSALS

			KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.8.b	For dry mixes, samples of finished feed mix are kept	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.8.c	Samples are kept for a minimum of four weeks after last use	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.8.d	Samples are: - representative (small samples from several different points) - of adequate quantity (approx. 0.5 kg) - free from contamination - identifiable (labelled with feed details and date) - stored in a cool, dry area	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.9		If mixing using 'pre-mixtures', 'additives' or medicated feeds you must have Local Authority approval and meet any associated obligations	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.9.a	Not applicable to the inclusion of bought in mineral feeding stuffs (labelled as such) used in TMRs	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.9.b	You have Local Authority approval, a HACCP system in place and a Quality Control Plan if mixing using: – feed additives (labelled as such); substances such as vitamins, trace	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		

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		elements (e.g. copper, zinc) and preservatives – pre-mixtures (labelled as such); are mixtures of feed additives at high concentration	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.9.c	If you are incorporating medicated feeds you have additional approval from the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD)	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.10		Mobile feed milling and/or mixing contractors must be suitably certified	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.10.a	Contractors certified to the NAAC Assured Land Based Contractor Mobile Feed Mixing and Processing scheme, or scheme deemed equivalent by Red Tractor	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.11		Controls must be in place to minimise the risk of contamination of feeds by machinery and equipment	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.11.a	All feeding and mixing equipment and lorries/trailers/feed boxes/buckets used for transporting feed are maintained in a clean condition and are suitable for purpose	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.11.b	Particular attention is paid to cleaning between batches if feed contains additives or medication	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		

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			TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
FW.12		Feed must be stored in a manner which minimises the risk of contamination	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	FW.12.a	Storage facilities protect against feed contamination by domestic animals, wildlife and vermin	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.12.b	In loose feed storage areas, lighting is covered or shatterproof bulbs are used	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.12.c	Risk of cross-contamination is minimised by ensuring feed is readily identifiable and keeping different feeds separate	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.12.d	Medicated feed is managed in a way which ensures withdrawal periods are met	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	FW.12.e	Medicated feed is kept in separate, clearly labelled bulk storage or bags.	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW		

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Specific feedback: Feed and Water – To what extent do you agree with separating the requirements for water access and water quality, and adopting a more outcome-based approach to water quality?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree

- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Overarching feedback: Feed and Water – Which of the following best describes your view of the Feed and Water proposed standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Share feedback at:
redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/

PROPOSALS

Animal Health and Welfare (AH)

Aim

To ensure bird health and welfare are actively managed through effective planning, competent stockmanship, routine monitoring, timely intervention and appropriate veterinary oversight, enabling risks to be identified early, welfare concerns to be addressed promptly and continuous improvement to be supported throughout the enterprise.

Summary of proposed changes:

The Animal Health and Welfare section sets requirements for the planning, monitoring and management of bird health and welfare throughout the production cycle. The review largely retains the existing policy intent while simplifying requirements, reducing duplication and improving consistency across species. Key themes include proactive flock health planning, effective use of health and welfare information, clear responsibility for welfare oversight, competent stockmanship, timely intervention where concerns are identified, appropriate veterinary involvement and humane euthanasia. The revised standards place greater emphasis on outcomes, accountability and auditability, with supporting guidance used to provide technical detail and practical implementation advice.

Changes in detail

- AH.7.2.a new audit point
- AH.5 now applies to all enterprises
- AH.5.c and d have been removed
- AH.4.a has been removed
- AH.4.1 new for KR and KL
- AH.5.1 has been removed but merged into other standards
- AH.6.a and b has been removed

- AH.8.a and c have been removed
- AH.9, b, c, j and j have been removed
- AH.9.2 new for CD, CL, CH and all duck and turkey enterprises
- AH.9.1 has been removed
- AH.10.3 (CL) has been removed
- AH.10.6 new for KL

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
AH.1 (KEY)		A documented Flock Health & Welfare Plan must be established and implemented. The plan must support the proactive management, monitoring and continuous improvement of bird health and welfare	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	AH.1.a	The plan is: – specific to the holding – Prepared and reviewed by the vet, or veterinary practice, that has overall responsibility for the care of the birds – Identifies the key health and welfare risks relevant to the enterprise – Includes measures to prevent, monitor and manage those risks	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.1.x1	The Flock Health & Welfare Plan includes health and welfare indicators appropriate to the enterprise and species	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.1.x2	Health and welfare indicators are recorded for each flock as a minimum	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.1.x3	Health and welfare indicators are reviewed to identify issues requiring investigation or action	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.1.c	The plan is reviewed with veterinary input at least annually and updated when health or welfare outcomes, veterinary advice, changes to husbandry practices or poor performance indicate that revision is required	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.1x4	Veterinary recommendations relating to flock health and welfare are recorded and, where appropriate, actions agreed and implemented within agreed timescales	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.1.g	Is available to all members of staff who have responsibility for birds	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Examples of health and welfare indicators are not limited to, but must include:					

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– First week mortality, culls; total mortality; … [The specific indicators and performance measures expected for each species and generation will be developed following consultation and further industry engagement] – Relevant veterinary recommendations arising from routine visits, post-mortems, laboratory investigations or other veterinary interventions should be incorporated into the Flock Health & Welfare Plan, together with agreed timescales for implementation where appropriate. Measure → Record → Review → Update Plan → Take Action					
AH.7.2 (KEY)		All farms and hatcheries must retain the services of a named veterinary surgeon or practice	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	AH.7.2.a	The veterinary surgeon undertakes an on-site visit at least annually unless flock health, welfare and performance outcomes, supported by risk assessment and veterinary judgement, indicate that an alternative approach is appropriate	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Need to demonstrate where on site visit is clearly exempted. Expectation is that there would have been a vet visit within the last 12 months.					
AH.2		Health, welfare and performance records must be maintained and readily accessible to support the monitoring and management of flock health and welfare	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	AH.2.x1	Records may be retained electronically or in hard copy	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.2.a	Records are available for current and previous flock/hatchery cycles	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.2.b	Where performance or welfare information is provided by processors, hatcheries, veterinary laboratories or integrated management systems, relevant information is available to support review of flock health and welfare	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.2.c	Records contain as a minimum: – Number of eggs, young birds or birds delivered – Date eggs, young birds or birds delivered – Origin of flock (hatchery, breeder flock) – Breed – Daily mortality rate and cumulative daily mortality rate, including culls and reasons for culls – Hatchability (where eggs are hatched on-farm) – Date of sale, number sold and average weight – Incidence of disease	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		

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		– Veterinary advice and investigations, including post-mortem records: Levels of PMI rejections (not BL) – Any problems or extraordinary events			
	AH.2.d / e	– Any problems or extraordinary events – Veterinary advice – injury and cull records for each hatching day	CH KH TH		
AH.3 (KEY)		Health and welfare records must be reviewed to identify adverse trends, investigate potential causes and take appropriate action where concerns are identified	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Upgraded Revised
	AH.3.a	Health and welfare records are reviewed at a frequency appropriate to the enterprise and production cycle	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.3.x	Reviews are documented	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.3.b	The business has defined and documented intervention levels for health and welfare indicators relevant to the enterprise	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.3.b	Where an intervention level is exceeded, or a significant adverse trend is identified: – the cause is investigated – findings are recorded – veterinary advice is sought where appropriate – corrective actions are recorded	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

GUIDANCE:
Members should establish intervention levels appropriate to their enterprise and production system. Intervention levels should be used to identify when further investigation, management action or veterinary input may be required. Where intervention level have been exceeded there should be evidence of an appropriate investigation.

AH.3.a: frequency appropriate to the species:
End of flock for all growing birds, rearers and layers – mindful that any production cycles >12 months will be subject to the veterinary review
Hatcheries – welfare incident / 'near misses' (specific rather than timescale)

Species-specific triggers
Broilers (as a minimum to absorb AH.5.1 and AH.8)
end of flock mortality: >5% by house
Mortality by house: >0.3% in a 24 hour period
Pododermatitis over 15%
Hockburn
Other welfare outcome triggers: [INSERT]

Breeder Chickens
end of lay mortality: >11%

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mortality by house: >0.3% in a 72 hour period
Other welfare outcome triggers: [INSERT]

Turkeys (as a minimum to absorb AH.5.1)
mortality by house: >0.5% in a 24 hour period
pododermatitis (TG TF only)
Other agreed welfare indicators: [INSERT]

Ducks (as a minimum to absorb AH.5.1)
mortality by house: >0.5% in a 24 hour period
First week mortality
eye cleanliness
nostril cleanliness
feather cleanliness
Pododermatitis (TG TF only)
Other agreed welfare indicators: [INSERT]

Hatcheries
Hatchability or chick quality indicators exceed: [INSERT]

AH.5		Birds must be inspected regularly to assess their health, welfare and behaviour and to identify any issues requiring investigation or corrective action	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Revised
	AH.5.a	Inspections include assessment of bird health, welfare and behaviour	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.5.b	Inspections are carried out at a frequency appropriate to the age, species and production system	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.5.c	Young, newly placed or otherwise vulnerable birds are monitored closely	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.5.e	Inspections findings, including observations problems identified and any actions taken, are recorded	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

GUIDANCE:
Effective flock inspections involve active observation of birds rather than simply walking through the house. Encouraging birds to stand and move can help identify issues that may not be immediately visible when birds are sitting or resting, including lameness, injury, poor mobility and signs of illness.

Routine flock inspections should provide the stockperson with sufficient opportunity to assess the health, welfare and behaviour of birds throughout the house.
When carrying out inspections, stockpeople should:

- move throughout the house in a manner that allows all areas and groups of birds to be observed;
- walk close enough to birds to assess their condition and encourage birds to move – 3 metres is the best rule of thumb;
- observe birds for signs of illness, injury, lameness, poor mobility, abnormal behaviour, distress or other welfare concerns;
- pay particular attention to birds that appear reluctant to move, isolated, injured or otherwise compromised;

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– ensure inspections include assessment of the house environment, including litter quality, feed and water availability, ventilation and enrichment; – increase the level of monitoring where concerns have been identified or during higher-risk periods such as placement, early life or following management changes. Day olds should be monitored at least 3 times a day until 72 hours of age. **Hatcheries:** Routine observations should include assessment of behaviour; persistent or excessive distress vocalisation may indicate a welfare issue and should prompt further investigation. Good flock inspections should enable stockpeople to identify emerging health and welfare concerns at an early stage and take appropriate action before issues become more widespread.					
AH.1.1 (KEY)		Only breeds acceptable to the scheme can be used	CF,EW	T	Retained
	AH.1.1.a	Acceptable breeds are: Hubbard: JA757, JA787, JA957, JA987, Redbro (indoor use only), Norfolk Black, JACY57 Aviagen: Rambler Ranger, Ranger Classic, Ranger Gold, Rustic Gold	CF,EW		
AH.10.4		Birds must not be slaughtered before 56 days of age	CF	T	
AH.4		The health and welfare of birds must be met at all times	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
AH.4.1		Environmental enrichment must be provided from day 3 at the latest	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.4.1.b	Environmental enrichment is evenly spaced throughout the house	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.4.1.c	Bales: – at least 1 bale per 1000 birds used throughout the bird's life – bales of shavings or straw (processed or chopped) are wrapped or treated (except where homegrown or locally procured straw is used) – bales are placed in the house prior to chick placement and are evenly distributed by day 3	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.4.1.d	CB| CP ONLY Perches or platforms perches: – At least 2 linear metres of usable perch space per 1000 birds or 0.3m2 of platform perch per 1000 birds – perches/platforms perches should be no more than 15cm off the ground – perches/platform perches promote natural perching behaviour and do not cause damage/injury to birds.	CB, CP		
	AH.4.1.e	FR | EW ONLY Perches or platforms perches:	CF, EW		

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		– 2 linear metres of usable perch space per 1000 birds or 0.3m2 of platform perches per 1000 birds – perches/platforms perches should have a minimum height of 10cm to facilitate perching from an early age and a maximum height of 80cm off the ground, depending on the age of the birds – perches/platforms perches promote natural perching behaviour and do not cause damage/injury to birds			
	AH.4.1.f	Pecking objects: at least 1 pecking object per 1000 birds	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.4.1.g	When reusable, environmental enrichment is capable of being cleaned and disinfected	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.4.1.h	Enrichments are maintained and replaced throughout the rearing period, as necessary to ensure they remain effective and do not create a risk from plastic contamination	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.4.1.i	After a thin, all environmental enrichment is replaced to ensure the correct level of enrichment for the number of birds in the shed	CB, CP, CF, EW		
AH.4.1		NEW FOR KR | KL Environmental enrichment in the form of bathing water and straw is provided at all times from day old	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		Editorial Change
	AH.4.1.a	50% of water provision is allocated as bathing water which equates to 30cm per 100 birds: – the water facilities allow the birds to cover their head and take water up by the bill so that they can shake water over the body without difficulty bathing water can be provided in, for example, troughs, bells, baths or showers	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		
AH.4.1		Environmental enrichment must be provided from day 7 at the latest	TG, TF		Editorial Change
	AH.4.1.a	Environmental enrichment is evenly spaced throughout the house and consists of at least 1 pecking object per 500 birds	TG, TF		
	AH.4.1.b	Where reusable, environmental enrichment is capable of being cleaned and disinfected	TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Enrichment should be appropriate to the species, age and production system and should encourage birds to express natural behaviours. Members should select, position, maintain and replace enrichment materials as necessary to ensure they remain effective throughout the production cycle. Enrichment materials should be regularly assessed to ensure they remain safe, accessible and fit for purpose. Damaged, contaminated or deteriorated materials should be replaced or removed where					

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necessary. Particular consideration should be given to the risk of plastic contamination arising from enrichment materials, including damaged enrichment devices, bale wrap, netting, string or other plastic components that may become accessible to birds. Additional species-specific guidance or enrichment provision, examples of suitable enrichment materials, how enrichment may be assessed, and examples of good practice will be provided separately and may be updated periodically to reflect developing evidence and industry practice.					
AH.7		All persons responsible for the care of birds must be demonstrably competent to carry out their duties and protect birds' health and welfare	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	TBD	Editorial Change
	AH.7.a	Persons responsible for bird care understand: – normal and abnormal behaviour – signs of good health and poor health and welfare – factors that can affect birds' health and welfare – procedures to follow when concerns are identified	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.7.b	The member is satisfied that any contractors undertaking activities that may affect bird health and welfare are competent to carry out those activities	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Activities such as vaccination, beat treatment, or specialist husbandry activates that may affect bird health and welfare are competent to carry out those activities					
Ah.7.1		A named Welfare Officer is responsible for co-ordinating bird health and welfare and overseeing welfare governance within the-farm or hatchery	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	AH.7.1.a	The Welfare Officer's name and contact details are available to relevant staff	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.7.1.b	The Welfare Officer acts as the designated point of coordination for welfare matters and escalation of welfare concerns within the business, and where appropriate to external stakeholders	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Purpose of the Welfare Officer The purpose of the Welfare Officer is to provide clear coordination and oversight of bird health and welfare within the enterprise. The role may be undertaken by different individuals depending on the size and structure of the business. For example, the Welfare Officer may be the owner, farm manager, hatchery manager or another appropriately designated individual. Regardless of business structure, there should be clear arrangements for: • communication of welfare concerns; • escalation of welfare issues requiring further investigation or intervention; • coordination of welfare-related actions; • liaison with veterinary surgeons and regulatory authorities where appropriate;					

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- and oversight of welfare performance and continuous improvement activities

Business Structure
The Welfare Officer does not need to undertake all welfare-related activities personally.
In larger businesses, responsibility for training, welfare monitoring, veterinary liaison and implementation of corrective actions may be shared across several individuals or teams. The Welfare Officer should, however, be able to demonstrate clear oversight and coordination of these activities.

Escalation and Communication
Staff should know:
who the Welfare Officer is;
how welfare concerns should be reported;
when concerns should be escalated; and
how support can be obtained where health or welfare problems are identified

Veterinary and Regulatory Liaison
Where required, the Welfare Officer may act as a point of contact or coordinate communication with:
veterinary surgeons;
APHA;
Defra; and
other relevant authorities

This responsibility does not replace the legal responsibilities of the keeper or business.

AH.6 KEY		Birds must be handled in a way that avoids injury and minimises stress	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	TBD	Editorial Change

GUIDANCE:
Birds should be handled calmly and appropriately for the species, age and purpose of production.
Particular care should be taken during procedures that require direct handling of birds, such as:

- insemination;
- milking of stags;
- health inspections;
- vaccination;
- weighing;
- movement of birds.

Birds should be handled by competent persons using techniques that minimise fear, stress and the risk of injury. Where birds are routinely handled, they should be accustomed to human contact and handling appropriate to the production system.

AH.8 (KEY)		Sick, injured or compromised birds are identified, assessed and receive prompt and appropriate attention	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	AH.8.a	Appropriate action is taken based on the condition of the bird and the likelihood of recovery	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.8.b	Birds receiving treatment or additional care are monitored appropriately	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

GUIDANCE:
The standard should address what happens when you find a compromised bird? (not how do you identify or euthanise - covered under competency and euthanasia standard) Birds should be assessed

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promptly when illness, injury or other welfare concerns are identified. Appropriate action will depend on the condition of the bird and may include:

- additional monitoring;
- treatment;
- provision of supportive care;
- segregation where this supports recovery and welfare;
- veterinary consultation where appropriate.

Segregation Facilities

Where segregation facilities are used, they should allow birds to be monitored and managed appropriately without creating additional welfare concerns. Segregation facilities may be used for:

- observation;
- treatment;
- recovery; or
- management of birds requiring additional care

Broody pens and segregations pens must be separate

The provision of segregation facilities does not remove the requirement to make timely welfare decisions where recovery is unlikely.

AH.9 (KEY)		Birds requiring euthanasia must be culled promptly and humanely by a trained and competent person using a legally permitted method appropriate to the birds' weight	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Revised
	AH.9.a /d /e	Persons carrying out euthanasia are trained and competent for the method used (see guidance)	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.9.x1	Birds are checked after euthanasia to confirm the method has been effective	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.9.x2	Equipment used for euthanasia is managed and maintained so that it can be used safely and effectively	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		

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	AH.9.x3	Where euthanasia may be required during catching or other contracted activities, responsibility for carrying this out is clearly defined and competent persons are available	CD, CL, CH, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		

GUIDANCE:

Permitted Euthanasia Methods (farm)

<3kg Liveweight

Manual cervical dislocation1
Mechanical cervical dislocation
Penetrative captive bolt
Non-penetrative captive bolt

3kg–5kg Liveweight

Mechanical cervical dislocation2
Penetrative captive bolt
Non-penetrative captive bolt

>5kg Liveweight

Penetrative captive bolt
Non-penetrative captive bolt

1 Manual cervical dislocation

May only be carried out by trained and competent persons
Manual cervical dislocation must not be used on birds exceeding 3kg liveweight and is limited to a maximum of 70 birds per person per day

2 Mechanical cervical dislocation

is limited to birds up to 5kg liveweight
Crushing the neck (for example using pliers) is not an acceptable euthanasia method.

Bolt guns

Euthanasia equipment should be maintained, serviced and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure it remains effective and capable of delivering a humane outcome. Where manufacturers specify routine inspection, servicing, replacement of components or calibration requirements, these should be followed. Members should be able to demonstrate that equipment is maintained in working order and fit for purpose. This may include maintenance records, service records, inspection logs or other documentary evidence appropriate to the equipment being used.
Particular attention should be paid to older equipment, which may require more frequent checks, servicing or replacement of worn components to ensure continued effectiveness. Penetrative and non-penetrative captive bolt devices are permitted to be used only by trained and competent operators. These methods provide significant welfare advantages over cervical dislocation because they cause immediate unconsciousness.

All euthanasia methods must be followed by checks to confirm effectiveness.

AH.9 (KEY)		Birds requiring euthanasia must be culled promptly and humanely by a trained and competent person using a legally permitted method appropriate to their weight	CH KH TH	T	Revised

PROPOSALS

	AH.9.a /d /e	Persons carrying out euthanasia are trained and competent for the method used (see guidance)	CH KH TH		
	AH.9.x1	Birds are checked after euthanasia to confirm the method has been effective	CH KH TH		
	AH.9.f	Newly hatched birds are examined immediately following removal from the hatcher and separated eggshell waste and hatch debris	CH KH TH		
	AH.9.e /f	Euthanasia carried out using a documented and approved method, with birds requiring euthanasia processed at intervals not exceeding 15 minutes	CH KH TH		
	AH.9.j	Dislocation of the neck is used only where immediate emergency culling is required and is limited to a maximum of 70 birds by any one operator	CH KH TH		

GUIDANCE:

Permitted Euthanasia Methods (hatchery)

Embryonated eggs* and embryos in hatchery waste

* Pre-14 days incubation: not considered an embryonated egg /14 days incubation onwards: considered an embryonated egg /Pipped eggs / live viable chicks: treated separately from embryonated eggs.

Instantaneous Mechanical Destruction (IMD/Maceration)

Where automated euthanasia systems are used, hatcheries should have procedures in place to verify that the method is operating effectively. Checks should confirm that the output consists of non-recognisable remains and that no live birds are present within the processed output. Appropriate action should be taken immediately if any concerns are identified

Day-old birds (<72 hours)

Instantaneous Mechanical Destruction (IMD/Maceration);

Where automated euthanasia systems are used, hatcheries should have procedures in place to verify that the method is operating effectively. Checks should confirm that the output consists of non-recognisable remains and that no live birds are present within the processed output. Appropriate action should be taken immediately if any concerns are identified

Approved anoxic gas mixtures1

1Approved Gas Mixtures

≥90% argon (or other inert gas) with ≤2% oxygen

≤30% carbon dioxide plus ≥60% inert gas with ≤2% oxygen

Minimum Dwell Times

Chicks – 3 minutes

Turkey poults – 5 minutes

Ducklings – 5 minutes

birds should be separated from hatchery waste and debris before entering the mechanical destruction device

[include guidance on handling in order to absorb AH.9.1]

PROPOSALS

AH.9.2		Equipment used for euthanasia is suitable for its intended purpose, maintained in working order and checked regularly to ensure it remains effective	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	AH.9.2.a	Defective equipment is not used and corrective action is taken	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.9.2.b	Equipment is appropriate for the type of cull	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AH.9.2.c	A documented and suitable back-up method of euthanasia is in place in case of equipment failure	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

GUIDANCE:
Euthanasia equipment should be maintained, serviced and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure it remains effective and capable of delivering a humane outcome. Where manufacturers specify routine inspection, servicing, replacement of components or calibration requirements, these should be followed. Members should be able to demonstrate that equipment is maintained in working order and fit for purpose.
This may include maintenance records, service records, inspection logs or other documentary evidence appropriate to the equipment being used. Particular attention should be paid to older equipment, which may require more frequent checks, servicing or replacement of worn components to ensure continued effectiveness. Penetrative and non-penetrative captive bolt devices are permitted to be used only by trained and competent operators. These methods provide significant welfare advantages over cervical dislocation because they cause immediate unconsciousness.

All euthanasia methods must be followed by checks to confirm effectiveness.

AH.10		Flocks must be monitored for Salmonella under the National Control Plan	CB,CP,CF,EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Retained
	AH.10.a	Tests are carried out in a government authorised laboratory	CB,CP,CF,EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.10.b	Where a flock has been confirmed as infected a written cleaning and disinfection procedure is implemented	CB,CP,CF,EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.10.c	Confirmed infected flocks are sent for slaughter at the end of the processing plant's daily programme	CB,CP,CF,EW TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.10.d	Two pairs of boot swabs per flock (house or airspace) are taken within three weeks of any slaughter	CB, CP, EW		
	AH.10.d	Flocks are tested a minimum of 7 days prior to slaughter for Salmonella under the National Control Plan	CF		
	AH.10.d	Testing is carried out according to a written sampling plan set out by a vet	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.10.e	This includes [young birds] fluff, meconiums, hatcher tray liners or [young birds] box liners	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
	AH.10.f	Records of tests are kept which include:	CB, CP, CF, EW		

PROPOSALS

		– the date on which each flock is sampled for Salmonella – where there is more than one flock on the holding, the identification of the flock. The flock should be identified by the house name/number, month and year the flock was moved into the house – the age of the flock sampled – the Government approved laboratory to which the sample was sent and the result of each test when it is received from the testing laboratory – the date of intended slaughter	TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		
AH.10		Flocks must be monitored for Salmonella	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF		Retained
	AH.10.a	Tests are carried out in a government authorised laboratory	KG, KF		
	AH.10.b	Where a flock has been confirmed as infected a written cleaning and disinfection procedure is implemented	KG, KF		
	AH.10.c	Confirmed infected flocks are sent for slaughter at the end of the processing plant's daily programme	KG, KF		
	AH.10.d	Litter samples are taken two weeks prior to slaughter and tested	KG, KF		
	AH.10.e	Composite faeces or boot samples are taken from each house at 20-24 weeks and thereafter every 12 weeks	KR, KL		
	AH.10.f	Egg supplies cease immediately if either S. enteritidis or S. typhimurium is positively confirmed in a house and the following steps are taken: – all unhatched eggs are recovered, destroyed and disposed of – a slaughter programme is implemented – a written cleaning and disinfection procedure appropriate to ensure effective eradication of the pathogen is implemented once depletion is complete – inputs for subsequent flocks are not brought on farm until the farm is confirmed as Salmonella-negative	KR, KL		
	AH.10.g	Parent stock are vaccinated with an approved Salmonella enteritidis and S. typhimurium vaccine			
AH.10.1		Breeder Layer and Breeder Replacement flocks must be monitored for Salmonella under the National Control Plan	CD, CL	T	Retained
	AH.10.1.a	Tests are carried out in a government authorised laboratory	CD, CL		

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	AH.10.1.b	Where a flock has been confirmed as infected a written cleaning and disinfection procedure is implemented	CD, CL		
	AH.10.1.c	Samples are taken from each breeding flock: – when the birds in the flock are [young birds] ([young birds] box liners — one liner for each 500 [young birds] delivered, up to a maximum of 10 liners per hatchery delivery. – all [young birds] dead on arrival and culls at day old- up to a maximum of 60 per hatchery delivery) – when the birds in the flock are four weeks old – two weeks before the date the flock is expected to come into lay or move to the laying phase or laying unit (samples to be boot swabs or faeces as outlined in the NCP)	CD		
	AH.10.1.d	Samples are taken from each breeding flock: – two weeks before the date the flock is expected to come into lay or move to the laying phase or laying unit – every second week during the laying period or every three weeks if a derogation has been given by APHA when the country has achieved its national target	CL		
	AH.10.1.e	Records of tests are kept which include: – the date on which the sample was taken and the type of sample (boot swab or pooled faeces) – the identification of the flock. The flock should be identified by the house name/number, month and year the flock was moved into the house – the age of the flock sampled – the Government approved laboratory to which the sample was sent and the result of each test when it is received from the testing laboratory	CD,CL		
	AH.10.1.f	Egg supplies cease immediately from a house if S. enteritidis or S. typhimurium is positively confirmed: – egg supplies are recovered, destroyed and disposed of	CD,CL		
	AH.10.1.g	Slaughter programme is implemented if S. enteritidis or S. typhimurium is positively confirmed	CD,CL		

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	AH.10.1.h	Subsequent flocks are not brought onto farm until it is confirmed as Salmonella negative	CD,CL		
AH.10.1		Where a flock has tested positive for Salmonella Enteritidis and/or Typhimurium environmental swabs, representative of the building/housing must be taken and building/housing not restocked until two negative results have been obtained	KR, KL, KH, KG, KF TR, TL, TH, TG, TF	T	Retained
AH.10.2		Hatcheries must be monitored for Salmonella	CH KH TH	T	Retained
	AH.10.2.a	Tests are carried out in a government authorised laboratory			
AH.10.3		Flocks must be tested to determine Mycoplasma gallisepticum and Mycoplasma synoviae and Mycoplasma meleagridis status	TL	T	Retained
	AH.10.3.a	Flocks are tested as a minimum: – 4 weeks prior to the onset of lay – at least every 12 weeks after initial testing	TL		
	AH.10.3.b	Testing records with date of testing. Results of testing are retained for at least 5 years and communicated to the hatchery. A positive test will be considered to be a field strain infection unless laboratory testing on the isolated Mycoplasma shows this is caused by a vaccine strain	TL		
AH.10.5		Parent stock must be vaccinated with a licensed S. enteritidis and S. typhimurium vaccine	CD,CL	T	Retained
	AH.10.5.a	In countries in which the Chief Veterinary Officer has confirmed that poultry are S. enteritidis and S. typhimurium free, a derogation will be considered	CD,CL		
AH.10.6		Moulting must not be induced	CL KL	T	Revised

PROPOSALS

Specific feedback: Animal Health and Welfare – To what extent do you agree that the revised requirements in AH.3 are clear and deliverable, and will support meaningful welfare improvements by requiring farms to record, measure and monitor welfare outcomes and take action when intervention thresholds are exceeded? The aim is that members establish intervention levels appropriate to their enterprise and production system to enable more meaningful and timely investigation and management action.

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Specific feedback: Animal Health and Welfare – To what extent do you agree that the proposed AH.3 requirements and supporting guidance capture the right health and welfare outcomes for poultry enterprises? The aim is to ensure that members use relevant health and welfare records to identify adverse trends, set appropriate intervention levels, investigate concerns and take timely action to support continuous improvement?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Overarching feedback: Animal Health and Welfare – Which of the following best describes your view of the proposed Animal Health and Welfare standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

Share feedback at:
redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/

PROPOSALS

Hatchery Eggs (HC)

Aim

To ensure hatching eggs and young birds are received, stored, incubated, handled, recorded and transported under controlled conditions that protect biosecurity and welfare, maintain effective traceability and hygiene, and support consistent and auditable hatchery management.

Summary of proposed changes:

The Hatchery Eggs section sets requirements for the management of hatching eggs and young birds through the hatchery process, with a focus on biosecurity, traceability, hygiene and bird welfare. The review largely retains the existing policy intent while updating requirements to reflect current hatchery practice and improve clarity, consistency and auditability. Key changes cover incubation equipment and operating parameters, egg storage and environmental controls, traceability and record retention, the removal of routine dead-in-shell analysis, and clearer transport requirements for eggs and young birds. The revised standards modernise outdated requirements while avoiding unnecessary new obligations where established hatchery practices already deliver the intended outcomes.

Changes in detail

- HF.4.8 moved from housing into hatchery
- HF.8.4 moved from housing into hatchery

- HF.8.3 moved from housing into hatchery
- HC.11.a (KH and TH) has been removed and merged into CH HC.11.a
- HC.12.e has been removed and merged into another audit point
- HC.13.a has been removed

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
HC.1		Eggs from flocks infected with Salmonella enteritidis or Salmonella typhimurium must not be admitted to the hatchery	CH KH TH	T	Editorial Change
	HC.1.a	Hatchery has ensured that breeding flocks supplying eggs have been tested for Salmonella in accordance with applicable disease control requirements			
GUIDANCE: This standard should be understood as a control on the health status of eggs admitted to the hatchery. The requirement applies to the disease status of the supplying breeding flock and is supported by evidence that relevant Salmonella testing has been undertaken. Where eggs are imported, further clarification may be needed on the evidence required to demonstrate Salmonella Typhimurium status if accompanying certification does not expressly cover this.					
HC.2		All incoming eggs must be from breeder flocks certified Mycoplasma gallisepticum free and of known Mycoplasma synoviae status	CH	T	Retained
	HC.2.a	The setting of eggs from Mycoplasma gallisepticum and/or Mycoplasma Synoviae positive flocks should be avoided. If unavoidable, the continued use of eggs from positive flocks must be accompanied by a documented Mycoplasma Containment plan that covers the following basic parameters: Methods of containment of the spread of the Mycoplasma concerned An intervention plan in the event of health and welfare problems associated with the Mycoplasma (breeder and progeny) Programmed depletion of the affected flock(s) at the earliest opportunity with due consideration for the availability of hatching eggs A positive test will be considered to be a field strain infection unless laboratory testing on the isolated Mycoplasma shows this is caused by a vaccine strain	CH		
HC.2		All incoming eggs must be from breeder flocks certified Mycoplasma gallisepticum free and of known Mycoplasma synoviae and Mycoplasma meleagridis status	TH	T	Retained

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	HC.2.a	The setting of eggs from Mycoplasma gallisepticum, Mycoplasma Synoviae or Mycoplasma meleagridis positive flocks should be avoided. If unavoidable, the continued use of eggs from positive flocks must be accompanied by a documented Mycoplasma containment plan that covers the following basic parameters: Methods of containment of the spread of the Mycoplasma concerned An intervention plan in the event of health and welfare problems associated with the Mycoplasma (breeder and progeny) Programmed depletion of the affected flock(s) at the earliest opportunity with due consideration for the availability of hatching eggs A positive test will be considered to be a field strain infection unless laboratory testing on the isolated Mycoplasma shows this is caused by a vaccine strain	TH		
HC.3		One- way product flow must be maintained from egg receipt to [young bird] dispatch	CH KH TH		Retained
HC.4		Incoming air must be filtered and a positive airflow from eggs to [young birds] must be maintained	CH KH TH	T	Editorial Change
	HC.4.a	Filters are cleaned/changed weekly, or in accordance with manufacturers' instructions	CH KH TH		
	HC.4.b	Records of filter inspection, cleaning and replacement are maintained	CH KH TH		
	HC.4.c	Exhaust systems must be managed to minimise the impact of down and dust on neighbouring areas, people and livestock	CH KH TH		
HC.4.8		Drains in production areas are accessible and cleanable	CH KH TH		Retained Moved
HC.5		Differentiation must be maintained between designated clean and dirty areas	CH KH TH		Editorial Change
	HC.5.a	Personnel operating in clean and dirty areas are aware of site requirements and are provided with dedicated protective clothing and footwear	CH KH TH		
	HC.5.b	Equipment is segregated between clean and dirty areas	CH KH TH		

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HC.6		All eggs must be fumigated or sanitised prior to setting	CH KH TH		Retained
	HC.6.a	Fumigation and sanitising parameters are recorded for each batch	CH KH TH		
HC.7		Incubation, hatcher and setter equipment must be easy to clean, maintained in good working order and sealed to the floor where appropriate to the equipment design	CH KH TH		Editorial Change
HF.8.4		Incubation equipment is alarmed for high and low temperatures and mains failure	CH KH TH		Retained Moved
	HF.8.4.a	Incubation equipment includes both setters and hatchers	CH KH TH		
HF.8.3		Alarms must be responded to within 15 minutes	CH KH TH		Retained Moved
	HF.8.3.a	When an alarm is triggered the following are recorded: time date response	CH KH TH		
HC.7.1		Automation and conveyors must be designed, set up, operated and maintained to minimise the risk of injury or distress to [young birds]	CH KH TH		Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This standard applies to automation and conveyor systems used to move or handle young birds. It should be interpreted as an outcome-focused welfare requirement: systems should be set up, operated and maintained so that they do not create avoidable risk of injury or distress. The standard does not require a specific type of system, but it does require the hatchery to manage equipment so that welfare risks are minimised.					
HC.7.2		Incubator equipment must be operated using documented parameters appropriate to the system in use	KH TH	T	Editorial Change
	HC.7.2.a	Documented incubation parameters or operating set points are available for inspection			
GUIDANCE: This standard replaces the previous reference to an incubation or hatchery “programme”. It should be interpreted flexibly so that it applies to different types of incubation system, including systems that operate through documented parameters or set points rather than a discrete programme. The requirement is to demonstrate that incubation equipment					
HC.8		The hatchery must have designated facilities and processes for the storage and preparation of eggs prior to setting	CH KH TH		Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This standard should be interpreted as requiring controlled and designated arrangements for storing and preparing eggs before setting. The wording is intended to accommodate recognised pre-warming practices while retaining the need for clear facilities, processes or areas that support good hatchery					

PROPOSALS

control. It should not be read as requiring only one fixed room if the hatchery can demonstrate appropriate control over storage and preparation.					
HC.9		Eggs must be stored in a temperature-controlled environment appropriate to the stage of storage and incubation process	CH KH TH	T	Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This standard focuses on temperature control during egg storage, with the temperature environment appropriate to the stage of storage and incubation. Humidity may be monitored rather than actively controlled in practice.					
HC.10		Hatching eggs must be identifiable and traceable throughout storage, handling and incubation	CH KH TH	T	Editorial Change
	HC.10.a	The following can be identified for each tray, trolley or batch of eggs: – farm of origin – date of lay – flock/house ID – age of flock			
	HC.10.b	Floor eggs and dirty nest eggs are identified, segregated and stored separately			
HC.11		The hatchery must retain production records for each consignment of eggs for a minimum of two years	CH KH TH	T	Editorial Change
	HC.11.a	Production records include: – farm of origin – date of lay – date of collection and vehicle identity – setting date – setter number – transfer date – hatchery number – [young birds] and cull numbers (hatchability) – transport records which include quantity, destination and driver's name – placement details	CH KH TH		
GUIDANCE: Routine dead-in-shell analysis is not a standard requirement because formal analysis is generally undertaken where a hatchability concern or investigation arises, rather than as a routine assurance expectation.					
HF.4.7		[young birds] must be loaded into clean [young birds] boxes	CH KH TH		Retained
	HF.4.7.a	[young birds] boxes are cleaned, dried and sanitised after every delivery	CH KH TH		
HC.12		Eggs and [young birds] must be transported in purpose-built vehicles suitable for the load being carried and maintained in a condition that protects biosecurity, traceability and welfare	CH KH TH		Editorial Change

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	HC.12.a	Vehicles transporting young birds are fitted with: – a powered ventilation system – a temperature recording system – an in-cab read-out – a load-locking system – a tail-lift (where applicable)	CH KH TH		
	HC.12.b	Vehicles transporting young birds must be capable of maintaining appropriate environmental conditions through effective airflow and ventilation management	CH KH TH		
	HC.12.c	Vehicles are designed and maintained to enable effective cleaning and disinfection	CH KH TH		
	HC.12.d	Where transporting [young birds], drivers must have access to emergency contact arrangements and suitable means of communication	CH KH TH		
	HC.12.e	If a vehicle containing eggs or young birds is left unattended, it must be secured	CH KH TH		
GUIDANCE: This grouping covers transport of eggs and young birds, with particular emphasis on vehicle suitability, welfare protection and emergency preparedness for young bird transport. The wording recognises that the controls needed for eggs and young birds may differ. Requirements relating to powered ventilation, temperature recording, in-cab read-out, load-locking and tail-lift apply to vehicles transporting young birds. Vehicles should also be capable of effective cleaning and disinfection, and should be secured where left unattended.					
HC.13		A documented vehicle cleaning and disinfection procedure is in place	CH KH TH	T	Editorial Change
	HC.13.b	Vehicles are cleaned and, where required, disinfected between loads unless undertaking a documented split delivery	CH KH TH		
HC.14		Injured or sick [young birds] must not be transported	CH KH TH		Editorial Change
	HC.14.a	Injured or sick [young birds] are humanely culled without undue delay	CH KH TH		
HC.15		The time between hatch and unloading at the farm must not exceed 72 hours	CH KH TH	T	Retained
HC.16		[young birds] must be placed in clean, dry, ventilated containers that protect their welfare during transport	CH KH TH		Editorial Change
	HC.16.a	Containers or trolleys are labelled to ensure traceability	CH KH TH		

PROPOSALS

Breeder Layer Eggs (BE)

Aim

To ensure hatching eggs are collected, handled, identified and stored in a way that maintains egg quality, protects bird health and welfare, supports effective biosecurity and provides clear traceability from the point of lay through to the hatchery, while reflecting practical production systems across different species and enterprises.

Summary of proposed changes:

This section sets requirements for the collection, handling, identification and storage of breeder hatching eggs to support egg quality, traceability, biosecurity and bird welfare. The review largely retains the existing policy intent while modernising the standards to better reflect current production systems and industry practice. Key changes include recognising the widespread use of automated nest systems in chicken breeder flocks, clarifying the management of floor eggs, aligning traceability requirements between breeder and hatchery operations, and simplifying legacy requirements that no longer reflect current practice. The revised standards focus on greater clarity, consistency and auditability, with limited substantive policy change.

Changes in detail

- BE.1.3 has been removed and moved to guidance on next box provision [BE.1.1]
- BE.1.4 now applicable to CL and KL
- BE.1.5 has been removed
- BE.1.6 has been removed
- BE.1.7 has been removed
- BE.3.a/b now applicable to CL and KL
- BE.3.1 now applicable to CL and KL
- BE.4.b has been removed
- BE.10 now applicable to CL and KL
- BE.6.a now applicable to CL and KL
- BE.7 has been removed
- BE.9 (TL) has been removed

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
BE.1		Eggs are collected using an automated nest box system	CL		Upgraded
GUIDANCE: This requirement is intended to reflect current production systems rather than introduce a new husbandry approach. The requirement does not remove flexibility for other species where different nest systems may still be used.					
BE.1		It is recommended that, where manual nest boxes are used, single tiers are used for all heavy and medium strain of [birds]	TL		Retained
	BE.1.a	Where double tier boxes are used the design facilitates easy and safe entry and exit			
BE.1.1		Nest box provision must be sufficient for flock size and comply with manufacturer	TL		Editorial Change

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		recommendations and applicable legislation			
GUIDANCE: Nest box provision should take account of flock size, system design, bird strain and manufacturer recommendations. During TAC discussion there was recognition that historic numerical stocking ratios may not reflect all modern nest systems, particularly automated and communal designs. This standard therefore focuses on the outcome of adequate nest provision rather than a fixed ratio.					
BE.1.2		Hens must be able to turn around in nest boxes	TL		Retained
BE.1.4.		Nest boxes must be designed, maintained and managed to provide a safe, clean and hygienic environment for laying birds	CL, KL, TL	T	Revised
BE.1.4.a		Nest box facilities must be maintained in a condition that minimises the risk of injury and enables birds to remain clean.	CL, KL, TL	T	Revised
BE.1.6.a		A documented cleaning procedure must be in place covering nest box cleaning and maintenance	CL, KL, TL		Retained
GUIDANCE: Nest boxes should be maintained in a condition that promotes bird welfare, reduces the risk of contamination and supports the production of clean hatching eggs. Requirements relating to specific design features, bedding materials or ramp configurations are better treated as examples of how the outcome might be achieved rather than as standalone standards. Nest box surfaces, bedding materials where used, and internal nest conditions should be maintained to support cleanliness and hygiene.					
BE.1.8		Broody control features on automatic nest box systems must operate without causing injury or avoidable distress	TL		Editorial Change
BE.1.9		Automatic nest boxes systems must be checked daily and maintained in working order	TL		Editorial Change
BE.2		Egg collecting staff must maintain hygiene procedures handling hatching eggs including between handling floor eggs and nest eggs where both are collected	CL, KL, TL		Editorial Change
BE.3		Eggs that are cracked, defective or excessively contaminated must be rejected for the hatching egg supply	CL, KL, TL		Editorial Change
	BE.3.a	Eligible floor eggs may be used for hatching provided they are identifiable and managed in accordance with the site procedure	CL, KL, TL		
	BE.3.b	Floor eggs deemed unsuitable for sanitisation must be segregated and rejected from the hatching egg supply	CL, KL, TL		
GUIDANCE: To distinguish between eggs that are unsuitable for hatching and must be rejected, and floor eggs that may remain eligible for hatching under controlled procedures. Eligibility of floor eggs should be determined through the site's documented procedures, including any sanitisation processes where					

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permitted. Eggs that are damaged, defective or excessively contaminated should not enter the hatching egg supply.					
BE.3.1		Where egg sanitation is carried out, it must be conducted in accordance with a documented procedure using Defra approved sanitisers	CL, KL, TL	T	Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: Where egg sanitisation forms part of the site's hatching egg management system, it should be undertaken in accordance with a documented procedure and using approved products.					
BE.4		Eggs must be collected frequencies appropriate to the species and production system to maintain egg quality and minimise contamination	CL, KL, TL		Editorial Change
	BE.4.a	In rollaway systems eggs are collected once per day	CL		
	BE.4.c	Floor eggs are collected three times a day	CL		
	BE.4.a	Eggs are collected at least once per day	KL		
	BE.4.a	Eggs are collected at least six times a day	TL		
	BE.4.b	Floor eggs are collected at least two times a day	TL		
BE.5		Eggs selected for hatching must be placed in clean, dry trays and transferred to suitable storage facilities as soon as practicable after collection and grading	CL, KL, TL		Editorial Change
	BE.5.a	Egg storage facilities must maintain conditions appropriate for preserving egg viability	CL, KL, TL		
GUIDANCE: This grouping should be considered as a continuous process covering the transfer of eggs from collection and grading through to storage. Eggs should be handled in a manner that protects cleanliness, physical integrity and viability. Suitable storage conditions may differ by species, production system and hatchery requirements; therefore, the standards focus on maintaining egg viability rather than prescribing specific environmental parameters.					
BE.10		Egg storage facilities must be capable of maintaining the required storage conditions for the species and production system	CL, KL, TL	T	Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This requirement should be read alongside BE.5 and BE.5.a and focuses on the capability of the storage facility rather than the management of individual batches of eggs. Suitable storage conditions may vary according to species, storage duration and hatchery requirements. The key consideration is whether the facility can consistently maintain the conditions necessary to preserve egg viability and quality					
BE.6		Hatching eggs must be identified using a black indelible mark and managed to maintain traceability from the flock of origin through to supply to the hatchery	CL, KL, TL		Editorial Change
	BE.6.a	Egg, tray and/or trolley identification must enable the breeder farm, flock or	CL, KL, TL		Editorial Change

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		house of origin and date of lay to be determined			
GUIDANCE: Traceability should be maintained throughout the movement of hatching eggs from collection through storage and onward supply to the hatchery. Identification may be applied to eggs, trays, trolleys or a combination of these, provided the required traceability information can be demonstrated. The black indelible marking requirement has been retained. The intention is to ensure that egg origin can be established rapidly in the event of a disease investigation, hatchability issue or traceability exercise					
BE.8		Egg collection records are retained for a minimum of 2 years and include: – quantities collected – quantity of floor eggs – number of reject eggs	CL, KL, TL	T	Editorial Change
BE.11		The use of broody pens to manage broody hens is permitted where welfare is maintained	TL		Editorial Change
	BE.11.a	Broody pens must not be used for the isolation or treatment of sick or injured birds	TL		
GUIDANCE: Broody pens may be used as a management tool where bird welfare is maintained. Birds housed in broody pens should continue to be managed in accordance with applicable welfare requirements, including provision of feed, water and sufficient space. Broody pens should not be used as an alternative to appropriate facilities for sick or injured birds.					
BE.12		Procedures for artificial insemination must include checks to confirm semen quality before insemination takes place	TL		Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: The requirement is intended to provide assurance that semen quality is assessed before insemination takes place. The standard focuses on the outcome being achieved rather than prescribing a particular assessment method.					

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Biosecurity and Disease Control (BI)

Aim

To minimise the risk of disease introduction and spread through effective, risk-based biosecurity controls, hygiene measures and flock management practices, supported by clear biosecurity planning and traceability.

Summary of proposed changes:

This section sets requirements to prevent and control disease risks across poultry production systems. The review largely retains the existing policy intent while simplifying wording, improving consistency between standards and strengthening the application of risk-based biosecurity principles. Key controls covering people, vehicles, equipment, housing, birds and site management have been retained where they reflect established industry practice and provide effective protection against significant disease threats, including avian influenza, salmonella and blackhead. The revised standards focus on clearer, more practical and auditable requirements, with targeted refinements where these improve disease prevention and assurance without introducing unnecessary prescription.

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
BI.1		A documented Biosecurity policy must be in place to identify and manage risks of disease introduction and spread	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	BI.1.a	Policy reflects the activities, housing systems and biosecurity risks present	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.1.b	Policy details control measures to minimise the spread of disease on farm and between farms, including identified risks associated with: – incoming stock – equipment – vehicles – staff and visitors	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.1.c	Policy is being implemented and personnel are aware of the controls relevant to their role	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.1.d	Policy is reviewed annually, and corrective action taken where necessary following changes in disease risk, site operations, infrastructure or disease events	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.1.1		The farm/hatchery entrance and exit for vehicles must be secure	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
BI.2		Access to the farm must be limited to essential visitors only and visitor records must be maintained and are sufficient to identify and trace visitors attending the farm	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	T	Editorial Change
	BI.2.a	A record is kept of all visitors who are not site-specific staff members, detailing: – date – time of arrival – name – organisation (contact details) – site name of last contact with poultry if within the last 72 hours (or within 14 days if visited overseas) – confirmation of no vomiting or diarrhoea, or flu-like symptoms in the last 24 hours	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.2.b	Entry is refused if there is significant risk to the health and welfare of the birds	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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GUIDANCE:
Visitor controls are intended to support both disease prevention and disease tracing. Records should provide sufficient information to identify who has attended the site and, where relevant, the organisation they represent. The recording of livestock-related visitors and assured service providers may support disease investigations, movement licensing activity and assurance verification. The method used to maintain visitor information may vary provided records remain accessible and traceable. Particular consideration should be given to visitors whose activities involve direct contact with birds or poultry premises.

BI.3		The biosecure areas on the farm/hatchery must be defined and managed to minimise disease transmission risks	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	BI.3.a	General and bird biosecure areas are indicated on a farm/hatchery map(s)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.3.b	Biosecure areas include, but are not limited to: – the farm site – each bird area, including, where applicable, the associated range and brood house – feed stores – litter stores – staff offices – any other area identified through the site's biosecurity risk assessment as requiring biosecurity controls	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.3.d	Biosecure area on the range for fixed housing has a clearly defined perimeter fence	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.4		Controls on access to the site must be in place and the risk of disease spread by vehicles and equipment must be minimised	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	BI.4.a	Where safety necessitates parking inside the general biosecure area, wheels of all vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected on entry. Otherwise, designated parking must be outside the general biosecure area	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.4.b	Wheels and equipment of all vehicles entering or leaving the farm/hatchery are cleansed and disinfected in accordance with site biosecurity procedures	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.4.c	There are effective facilities for vehicle cleansing and disinfection, and drainage does not create a contamination risk	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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	BI.4.d	Defra-approved disinfectants, appropriate to the intended use, are used at the prescribed dilution rates	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.4.e	Disinfectants are used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.4.f	The farm/hatchery has an area of clean, well-maintained hard standing area sufficient for delivery and bird collection activities	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.4.g	Loading areas are level, well drained and cleaned at each turn around or more frequently if required	All Chicken All Turkey		
	BI.4.g	Loading areas are level, well drained and are cleaned daily	KR, KL, KG, KF		
BI.6.1		Controls must be in place on the movement of reusable equipment between sheds	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	BI.6.1.a	Intra-site biosecurity is observed and reusable equipment, such as wheelbarrows and buckets are confined to the general biosecure area where possible, or else are cleaned and disinfected between bird biosecure areas	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.6.1.b	Vehicles used for bedding up have wheels disinfected between sheds and operate on areas that are cleaned before use	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.5		Farm/hatchery dedicated protective clothing must be supplied and worn by anyone entering operational areas	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.5.a	Clothing is washed or discarded between flocks	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	BI.5.b	Clothing is changed daily and discarded or washed at the end of each day	CH KH TH		
BI.6		Risk of disease spread from footwear is minimised	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	BI.6.a	Foot dips are provided at the entrance to the general biosecure area and at the entrance of each bird biosecure area	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.6.b	Foot dips are used by anyone entering the general biosecure area and any bird biosecure area	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.6.c	All staff and visitors change into clean site-specific boots (capable of being dipped in disinfectant) or use new disposable overshoes on entry to the	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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		general biosecure area and any bird biosecure area			
	BI.6.d	Defra approved disinfectant solutions in foot dips are maintained, replenished and recorded in accordance with site procedures and manufacturer instructions	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.6.e	A physical barrier footwear system, that is no less than 30 cm high, is provided at the entrance to each biosecure bird area	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	BI.6.f	Anyone entering a biosecure bird area uses the physical barrier system to remove outdoor footwear on the external side and put on dedicated footwear on the internal side	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	BI.6.g	The physical barrier will: – be removable for washing, or a fixed barrier may be used if appropriate drainage allows effective cleansing of the barrier area at the end of the crop – offer provision to be seated whilst changing boots	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	BI.6.h	Foot dips are covered when placed outside	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.7		Hand cleanliness is maintained	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	BI.7.a	Toilets with means to clean and disinfect hands are available	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.7.b	Hands are washed or sanitised prior to starting work, after handling deadstock, before and after meals and after visits to the toilet	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.7.c	Hand sanitisers or hand wash facilities are present within reach of the physical barrier at the entrance to each biosecure bird area	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	BI.7.d	Hands are sanitised or washed before entry and after exit of the biosecure bird area	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.7.1.b		Bird housing is maintained to prevent: – water ingress – ingress of wild birds – ingress of rodents or other pests	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Editorial Change
	BI.7.1.a	All buildings are inspected at each turn around for damage that could compromise site biosecurity	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW		

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			KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	BI.7.1	Repairs and maintenance to buildings are carried out between production cycles where practicable, except where delays could affect bird welfare	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
BI.8		The farm must operate a period free of all birds between flock cycles	CD, CL, CB, CP, EW KG, KF TG, TF		Retained
	BI.8.a	Where farms have multiple ages of birds on site at the same time, house(s) within separate general biosecure areas are to be single age and operate as all-in/all-out	CD, CL, CB, CP, EW KG, KF		
BI.8.1		Each biosecure bird area, including each brood house must operate a period free of all birds between flock cycles	CF		Retained
BI.8.2		It is only permitted to move birds to another building where birds are being moved from brood houses to finishing sites	CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KL, KG, KF TL, TG, TF		Retained
	BI.8.2.a	In exceptional circumstances, e.g. flooding, it is permissible for birds to be moved to another building	CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KL, KG, KF TL, TG, TF		
BI.8.3		Turnaround times between flocks on farm must be no less than 5 calendar days	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
	BI.8.3.a	The turnaround time is defined as 'last bird out to first bird in' on a per house basis	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
BI.9		Permanent standing water must not accumulate on the farm	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
BI.10		Employed and contracted staff must not keep other poultry or any avian species	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	BI.10.a	Where staff also work with pigs they must follow an additional farm specific biosecurity protocol before coming into contact with poultry	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.11		Toilets, offices, stores and break rooms must be maintained in a clean, tidy and hygienic condition	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
BI.12		There must be no smoking, vaping or consumption of food within bird areas	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change

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BI.13		Pets and other animals must not have access to poultry houses, service buildings and where applicable, the range	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	BI.13.a	Naturally ventilated buildings are netted with a gauge of 25mm or less, to prevent wild birds accessing bird housing	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
BI.14		Farms must be capable of implementing a compulsory housing order	CF KF TF		Editorial Change
	BI.14.a	A documented procedure for submitting birds for postmortem, including biosecurity controls, is in place	CF KF TF		
BI.14.1		It is recommended that each free-range farm should only rear a single species at any given time	CF KF TF		Editorial Change
	BI.14.1.a	If other domestic poultry are present, there is effective spatial separation between populations, for example through double fencing or equivalent physical barriers	CF KF TF		

Animal Medicines (AM)

Aim

To ensure veterinary medicines are used legally, safely, responsibly and under appropriate veterinary direction, with effective controls over purchase, storage, administration, record keeping, disposal and antibiotic stewardship, thereby protecting animal health and welfare, food safety and consumer confidence.

Summary of proposed changes:

The Animal Medicines standards are intended to ensure veterinary medicines are obtained, stored, administered, recorded and disposed of responsibly under appropriate veterinary oversight, while supporting animal health, food safety and antibiotic stewardship. The review has largely retained the existing policy intent, with changes focused on improving clarity, reducing duplication, strengthening auditability and aligning the standards with current veterinary practice and industry antibiotic stewardship approaches. Key themes include responsible antibiotic use, the role of veterinary decision-making, competence of those administering medicines, proportional record-keeping and the practical application of stewardship requirements. The review is evolutionary rather than a substantive policy shift, with an emphasis on maintaining robust controls whilst improving consistency and usability of the standards.

Changes in detail

- AM.4.b has been removed
- AM.9 has been removed
- AM.11 now applicable to CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW, KR, KL, KG, KF (all enterprises accept hatcheries, new for chicken and duck)

PROPOSALS

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
AM.1		Only authorised veterinary medicines are used	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	AM.1.a	POM-V products are prescribed by a vet	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.1.b	POM-VPS products are prescribed by a vet, pharmacist or Suitably Qualified Person (SQP)/Registered Animal Medicines Advisor (RAMA)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.1.c	An approved medicines list, compiled in conjunction with a vet, is kept, listing: – storage requirements – administration requirements – active ingredient – withdrawal period – dosage – duration of treatment – circumstances for use The medicines list is reviewed and kept consistent with current veterinary prescribing arrangements and authorised medicines available for use	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.1.d	Prescriptions for medicated feed detail all legally required information, including: – the species of animal, the number of animals and their ID – the diagnosed disease to be treated or prevented – name, active substance and amount of product prescribed and inclusion rates (medicinal premix and active ingredient) – overall amount of feed to be supplied under the prescription	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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GUIDANCE:
Ensuring that medicines used on assured units are appropriately authorised, prescribed and supported by suitable veterinary oversight. The approved medicines list should act as a practical reference for medicines that may be used on the unit and should reflect current prescribing arrangements and authorised products available for use. Where medicines are prescribed under veterinary direction, the supporting information should be sufficient to enable medicines to be used correctly and consistently. Particular value is identified for medicines lists where off-label use, minor species or more complex prescribing arrangements may occur

AM.2		Veterinary medicines must be used appropriately	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	AM.2.a	Prescription-only medicines are used in accordance with the prescription	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.2.b	General Sales Medicines (AVM-GSL) (non-prescription) are used in accordance with manufacturers' or veterinary instructions	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.2.c	Expired medicines and open medicines not used within specified timescale (in-use shelf-life) are not used	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
AM.3		Veterinary medicines must only be administered by demonstrably competent persons who have received appropriate training and/or gained appropriate experience for the task undertaken	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained Editorial Change

GUIDANCE:
Competence may be demonstrated through a combination of training, practical experience, supervision and workplace instruction. Competence is not necessarily dependent on completion of a formal qualification and may be achieved through industry training, veterinary instruction, pharmaceutical support or relevant experience. The focus should be on the individual's ability to carry out the task correctly and safely.

AM.4		Veterinary medicines must be stored appropriately and in accordance with manufacturer instructions	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained Editorial Change
	AM.4.a	Kept in a locked storage facility/room			
	AM.4.d	Medicines are not stored in the same refrigerator as food/drink			
	AM.4.e	Refrigerators are temperature checked at least weekly, whenever temperature-sensitive medicines are stored in them			

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	AM.4.f	Where temperatures fall outside the required range, appropriate corrective action is recorded and implemented			
GUIDANCE: Storage arrangements should protect medicines from unauthorised access, contamination, deterioration and misuse. Storage conditions should reflect the requirements specified for the medicine concerned, including temperature-sensitive products where applicable. Where refrigerated medicines are stored, emphasis should be placed on identifying and responding appropriately to temperature excursions rather than creating records solely for administrative purposes.					
AM.5		Purchase records for all veterinary medicines must be kept	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	AM.5.a	Records detail: – identity of medicine – quantity – date of purchase – supplier name & address – batch number(s) and assigned bottle number if using for administration records – expiry date(s) Veterinary prescriptions may be used as evidence of purchase where they contain the required information.	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.5.b	Medicine purchase records are kept for 5 years	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.5.c	Medicated Feeding Stuff Prescriptions (MFSPs) are kept for 5 years	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Purchase records should provide sufficient traceability to identify what medicines were obtained, from whom they were obtained and when they entered the medicine management system. Veterinary prescriptions may fulfil this function where they contain the necessary information. The requirement supports traceability throughout the lifecycle of medicine use.					
AM.6		Records must be kept of all administered veterinary medicines (paper and/or electronic)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained

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	AM.6.a	Records detail: – identity of medicine – date of administration – quantity of medicine administered – length of withdrawal period for meat and eggs – identification of the bird or group of birds to which administered batch number(s) or assigned bottle number linked back to purchase records – number of birds treated – date treatment finished – date when bird(s)/eggs becomes fit for human consumption – name of person administering medicine – reason for treatment – expiry date, where applicable and available within the administration record system	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.6.b	Medicine administration records are kept for 5 years	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
AM.7		Veterinary medicines, their containers and administration equipment must be disposed of responsibly in accordance with manufacturer instructions and applicable waste requirements	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	AM.7.a	Expired and unusable medicines awaiting disposal are stored separately to in-use medicines	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.7.b	Used needles and blades are stored in a dedicated sharps container pending disposal	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	AM.7.c	Records of medicine disposal are kept, detailing: – identity of medicine batch/bottle number – quantity – date of disposal – route of disposal	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

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	AM.7.d	Medicines, their containers and administration equipment are disposed of through the supplier, a registered waste disposal contractor or local authority, referring to the manufacturer's instructions and product literature for further guidance	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: The requirement covers the disposal of unused medicines, expired products, containers and administration equipment in a manner that minimises risk to animal health, human health and the environment. Disposal arrangements should reflect both the nature of the product and the disposal route used. Manufacturer information may provide additional support where disposal requirements are product-specific.					
AM.8		Total antibiotic used per crop must be measured as Milligrams active antibiotic per population correction unit (mg/PCU) and recorded	CB, CP, CF, EW KG, KF TG, TF		Editorial Change
	AM.8.a	Total amount of antibiotic used per crop known by farm manager	CB, CP, CF, EW KG, KF TG, TF		
	AM. 8.b	Total antibiotic used per crop calculated using the following method: Milligrammes of active antibiotic used per crop divided by (Number of birds slaughtered including rejects x 2.4kg)	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AM.8.b	Total antibiotic used per crop calculated using the following method: Milligrammes of active antibiotic used per crop divided by '(Number of birds slaughtered including rejects x 4.2kg)	KG, KF		
	AM.8.b	Total antibiotic used per crop calculated using the following method: Milligrams of active antibiotic used per crop divided by (Number of birds slaughtered including rejects x13.2kg)	TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: The purpose of antibiotic measurement is to enable producers and their veterinary advisers to understand, monitor and review antibiotic use over time. The methodology should be applied consistently to allow meaningful assessment of antibiotic use and support stewardship objectives. This supports the ongoing industry transition towards revised reporting methodologies and reporting metrics.					

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AM.8.1		Prophylactic administration of antibiotics is only permitted in exceptional circumstances	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
	AM.8.1.b	The rationale for prescribing a product for prophylaxis is clearly recorded by the vet	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	AM.8.1.c	When an antibiotic is prescribed for administration to a group of animals for prophylaxis a management review is carried out by the vet to identify factors and implement measures for the purpose of eliminating the need for any future such administration	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Prophylactic antibiotic use is intended to remain an exceptional and veterinary-led decision rather than a routine management tool. The expectation is that repeated prophylactic use prompts consideration of underlying causes and opportunities to reduce future reliance on antibiotics. This standard requirement should be read alongside wider antibiotic stewardship expectations.					
AM.8.2		Antibiotic usage must be supported by veterinary intervention	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
	AM.8.2.a	Use of antibiotics supported by at least one of the following: - – postmortem report – site visit report by vet – other written instruction from a vet	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	AM.8.2.b	Antibiotics are used only for treatment of disease, following diagnosis and/or clinical signs of disease in all or part of the flock and under veterinary direction	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: The requirement establishes that antibiotic use should be linked to veterinary assessment and evidence of disease risk, disease challenge or clinical need. The intention is not to prescribe a single form of veterinary evidence but to ensure antibiotic use remains supported by appropriate veterinary involvement and diagnosis.					
AM.9.1		Use of macrolides and fluroquinolones must only be as a last resort, under veterinary direction	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained

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	AM.9.1.a	Use is supported by a veterinary statement outlining the justification for use	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	AM.9.1.b	Use is supported by written agreement from the most senior person responsible for agricultural or livestock operations within the business	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Reflects the heightened stewardship expectations associated with the use of critically important antibiotic classes. Their use should be considered only where alternative options are not appropriate and where clear veterinary justification exists. The supporting approval process is intended to provide additional scrutiny and senior-level oversight of such decisions.					
AM.10		Prescribed withdrawal periods must be correct and complied with	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
AM.11		Procedures must be in place to deal appropriately with needles or part needles remaining in a bird	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained [NEW for Chicken and Duck]
	AM.11.a	Broken needle policy detailing: – how the animal should be identified – procedures around informing the abattoir if sent for slaughter – records to be kept	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	AM.11.b	Broken needle policy is followed	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
	AM.11.c	Livestock containing broken needles may only be sold for slaughter if the animal is identifiable up to the time of slaughter	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW KR, KL, KG, KF TR, TL, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Broken needle procedures should ensure that any bird containing a retained needle or needle fragment remains identifiable and is managed in a way that protects food safety and downstream processing. Procedures should clearly define responsibilities, identification methods, communication requirements and record keeping arrangements. The principles may be relevant wherever injectable medicines or vaccines are used.					

PROPOSALS

Husbandry Procedures (HP)

Aim

To ensure that any husbandry procedure carried out on poultry is lawful, necessary, justified on welfare or management grounds where permitted, and undertaken by appropriately trained and competent persons under suitable veterinary oversight, while minimising the use of procedures that have the potential to affect animal welfare.

Summary of proposed changes:

The Husbandry Procedures section aims to ensure that husbandry interventions are lawful, welfare-led, justified and carried out by competent persons. The review has largely retained the existing policy intent whilst improving clarity, consistency and auditability. The most substantive changes focus on clarifying veterinary oversight and evidencing requirements for permitted procedures, particularly beak treatment within breeding stock and hatchery operations. TAC discussion confirmed continued support for the prohibition of mutilations in growing stock, whilst recognising that certain legally permitted procedures may continue to be required in breeding systems. A recurring theme throughout the review was ensuring that standards clearly distinguish prohibited mutilations from permitted, welfare-justified procedures carried out under appropriate veterinary control.

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
HP.1		Mutilations are not permitted	CB, CP, CF, EW; KG, KF		Editorial Change
	HP.1.a	This includes beak/bill trimming, castration and other mutilations prohibited under legislation	CB, CP, CF, EW; KG, KF		
GUIDANCE: Mutilations are not permitted for growing stock. Where procedures such as beak treatment, de-toeing or identification marking are permitted elsewhere within breeding systems, they should only be undertaken where allowed by legislation and relevant scheme requirements. The distinction between prohibited mutilations and legally permitted procedures should be clearly understood when applying this standard.					
HP.2		Husbandry procedures are carried out by competent persons in accordance with scheme requirements, relevant legislation, and only when necessary for animal welfare or legitimate management purposes	CD, CL; KR, KH; TR, TL, TH, TG, TF		Editorial Change
	HP.2.a	Beak/Bill trimming is kept to a minimum and written veterinary approval has been obtained and is documented within the Veterinary Health Plan or supporting veterinary records	CD, CL; KR, KH		

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GUIDANCE: Competent persons should have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to carry out the procedure being undertaken. Certain procedures may be undertaken for welfare or management reasons within breeding systems where legally permitted. The standard is intended to ensure such procedures remain justified, proportionate and appropriately controlled. Veterinary approval may be retained within a Veterinary Health Plan or within supporting veterinary correspondence and records. Veterinary Health Plans can be used to document the justification for beak or bill treatment in breeding flocks.					
HP.2		Where beak trimming is carried out in the hatchery, it must be done using infrared on day old poults and in accordance with documented veterinary approval and hatchery procedures	TH		Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This standard applies where beak treatment is carried out within the hatchery. The standard reflects current industry practice of infrared treatment in day-old poults and provides sufficient assurance that procedures are appropriately controlled.					
HP.2.1		If a secondary beak trim is required after 21 days of age this must be carried out under the direction of a veterinary surgeon	TR, TH, TG, TF		Retained
	HP.2.1.a	Is only carried out by a vet or by a person who has been trained by a veterinary surgeon	TR, TH, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: Secondary beak trimming is intended to be an exception rather than a routine procedure. Veterinary involvement should ensure the need for the procedure is appropriately justified and directed. Training may be provided directly by a veterinary surgeon. The requirement is intended to ensure that anyone undertaking the procedure has received appropriate instruction and is competent to carry it out.					

PROPOSALS

Fallen Stock (FS)

Aim

The standards in this section are intended to ensure that fallen and euthanised stock are managed promptly, securely and lawfully, so that risks to biosecurity, animal health, environmental protection, vermin control and traceability are minimised.

Summary of proposed changes:

The fallen stock section sets out the expectations for the identification, removal, secure storage and lawful disposal of fallen and euthanised stock, including hatchery waste where applicable. The review has retained the existing policy intent and the overall sequence of removal, storage and disposal, with amendments focused mainly on clarification, consistency and improved auditability. The most significant change is the clearer definition of acceptable carcass storage arrangements, particularly where a room is used. TAC discussion also identified areas where guidance may be helpful, including

carcass storage interpretation, the use of incinerators and the unresolved industry question of whether dyeing stock should be recognised as good practice.

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
FS.1		Fallen stock must be identified and removed from housing, pens and fields without due delay	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	FS.1.a	Evidence that checks for fallen stock are regularly conducted and any found are promptly removed from areas accessible to livestock	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Checks for fallen stock should be understood as part of routine bird monitoring and site management. The requirement is aimed at ensuring that fallen stock are identified and removed promptly, particularly where there is evidence that birds have been missed for a period of time. The presence of a freshly dead bird will not necessarily indicate non-compliance in isolation.					
FS.2		Carcasses of fallen and euthanased stock and IMD waste must be stored securely and in a manner that protects them from vermin and other animals and prevents unauthorised access	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change
	FS.2.a	Carcases are stored in a locked container or locked room. Where a room is used, it must comprise four walls, a roof and a solid floor and be capable of being secured against unauthorised access and vermin ingress	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	FS.2.b	IMD and other hatchery waste is stored in locked containers or containers which are accessible only to authorised removal services	CH KH TH		
GUIDANCE: Where a room is used for carcass storage, the wording clarifies that it should be a secure space with four walls, a roof and a solid floor, capable of being secured against unauthorised access and vermin ingress. This clarification is intended to support consistent interpretation by members and assessors.					
FS.3		Carcasses must be disposed of correctly, either by a licensed collector or by approved on-farm incineration, in accordance with relevant legal requirements	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Editorial Change

PROPOSALS

	FS.3.a	Carcasses disposed of before storage conditions give rise to a hygiene, vermin or disease-control risk	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	FS.3.b	Where carcasses are removed off site, they are collected by a licensed fallen stock collector	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	FS.3.c	No evidence of carcasses being disposed of by burning or burying, other than through approved incineration	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	FS.3.d	On-farm incinerators are covered by species approval document issued by the relevant competent authority and are not used as routine carcass storage facilities	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	FS.3.e	Records relating to carcass collection and disposal are kept for a minimum of 2 years	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: The requirement should be applied to ensure carcasses are disposed of through approved routes and are not allowed to accumulate in a way that creates a hygiene, vermin or disease-control risk. Where on-farm incineration is used, the incinerator should not be treated as routine carcass storage. No minimum operating frequency has been included, as the source material records this as a point requiring further consideration rather than an agreed threshold					

Environmental Protection and Contamination Control (EC)

Aim

Environmental protection aims to minimise the impact of farming activities on the environment by preventing pollution, protecting soil and water resources, managing waste responsibly, and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources. Effective environmental management helps safeguard ecosystems, maintain farm productivity. A nutrient management plan supports soil health and reduces water pollution risk, and reflects the direction of regulation

Summary of proposed changes:

The section has been re-ordered as environmental standards do not apply to all poultry farming activities, so guidance is provided to clarify when the Environmental Protection and Contamination Control (EC) and Urea (UR) standards are applicable. This includes requirements for all Red Tractor assured poultry farms and specific scenarios involving PPP use, bird ranging, poultry litter spreading, and crop production where the land is not already Red Tractor Crops assured. The update also introduces revised requirements for recording organic manures and related materials that are transferred off farm, improving traceability and nutrient management oversight.

In addition, Red Tractor is exploring a more risk-based audit approach. The intention is that standards are not automatically reviewed in full at every audit where this is unnecessary, and that parent-company records and earned-recognition arrangements may be used where appropriate. This will help

PROPOSALS

focus audit activity on higher-risk areas whilst reducing unnecessary duplication and administrative burden for members.

Changes in detail

- EC.9 has been updated to better reflect the Environmental Permitting Regulations
- EC.9.1 has been upgraded to a standard and revised so that records of organic manures transferred off the holding are maintained

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
EC.1		Potential pollutants must be stored in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination and pollution to crops, feedstuffs, animals, soils, groundwater and watercourses	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	EC.1.a	Fuel tanks are bunded where required by legislation (see Appendix)	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	EC.1.c	Manufactured fertiliser is stored on a hard, dry surface	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	EC.1.d	Fertilisers that pose a combustion or oxidiser hazard are stored in accordance with the Safety Data Sheet	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Legislation reflects the legislative principle to prevent pollution, the legislation is met by the specific measure reflected within the audit points of this standard, i.e. bunding, well maintained stores etc. Environmental Protection Act 1990 and Water Resources Act 1991. codes of practice for fertiliser and agrochemical storage. Environmental Protection Helping reduce the reputational risk to growers through aiding them meeting legislation.					
EC.2		In the case of packaging breakages potential pollutants must be transferred to a suitable container	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	EC.2.a	Container has an appropriate safe closure cap or bag tie	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	EC.2.b	The original label information is displayed	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
GUIDANCE: Legislation a bit weak, not explicitly mentioned but reflects a legal principle under hazardous					

PROPOSALS

substance and pesticide regulations Environmental Protection relating to the principle of preventing leaks, contamination and unsafe storage being a legal obligation

EC.9.1		Records are maintained for organic manures transferred off the holding, including quantity, date and destination	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Upgraded Revised

GUIDANCE:

This standard applies where poultry litter, muck or other organic manures are transferred from the holding. The purpose of the requirement is to provide traceability of manure movements and improve visibility of how organic manures are managed within the sector. It is not intended to require members to verify, audit or take responsibility for the subsequent use of manure once it has left their control.

The destination may be another farm, an anaerobic digestion facility, an energy generation facility, a contractor, merchant, intermediary or other legitimate recipient.

Records may be maintained electronically or in paper format and may form part of wider business management systems. Where manure movements are managed centrally through integrated business systems, centrally held records are acceptable.

The standard does not require members to:

- demonstrate how manure was ultimately used once transferred;
- verify land-spreading arrangements undertaken by third parties;
- audit compliance of the receiving business;
- maintain nutrient application records for land outside their control

EC.11		All wastes which cannot be utilised are disposed of in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination and pollution	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	EC.11.a	Wastes are disposed of by a registered waste carrier	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	EC.11.b	Wastes are not burnt, with the exception of vegetation and untreated wood	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	EC.11.c	Empty PPP containers are: - cleaned using an integrated pressure rinsing device, or triple rinsed appropriately and the rinsate returned to the spray tank - stored securely - not reused - returned to the supplier or where non-returnable, disposed of via a registered waste carrier	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
	EC.11.d	Redundant PPPs are disposed of via the supplier or a registered waste carrier	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		

PROPOSALS

GUIDANCE: Legislation legal duty of care under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011, which implement the EU Waste Framework Directive. These laws require that all waste, including agricultural waste, must be stored, transported, and disposed of in a way that prevents harm to human health and the environment, which includes minimizing contamination and pollution.					
EC.12		Systems are in place to manage waste responsibly	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		Retained
	EC.12.a	Opportunities are considered for: - reducing the production of waste - re-using waste - recycling waste, plastics in particular	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey		
EC.4		PPPs must be appropriate for their intended use	All Chicken All Duck All Turkey	TBD	Retained
	EC.4.a	Manufacturer's instructions are followed			
	EC.4.b	PPPs are approved for use			
	EC.4.c	Unapproved product is kept in a segregated area of the pesticide store, pending collection for disposal at the earliest opportunity; clearly marked with signs/labels stating that it must not be used			
EC.4.1		PPPs are mixed/handled in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination and pollution			Retained
GUIDANCE: Legislation PPP Reg 2012.					
EC.5		PPPs must be applied in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination and pollution			Retained
	EC.5.a	PPP application does not occur in areas of high pollution risk, as identified on farm map			
	EC.5.b	PPP application does not occur in unsuitable conditions e.g. when there is a risk of drift or where soil conditions are unsuitable e.g. waterlogged, flooded or snow-covered soil or where the soil has been frozen for more than 12 hours in the previous 24 hours			
	EC.5.c	Buffer zone requirements of the PPP being applied are complied with			
EC.6		PPP application must be undertaken by competent operators			Retained

PROPOSALS

	EC.6.a	NPTC Pesticide Application Certificates/Lantra Awards Level 2 Pesticides qualification			
GUIDANCE: Legislation PPP Reg 2012. Note, these regulations implement the EU Sustainable Use Directive (2009/128/EC) Training and Professional Competence. The legislation requires that anyone applying PPPs professionally must be trained and hold a certificate of competence. Note, an audit point associated with this standard is the requirement for NROSO- VI principle.					
EC.7		All PPP application equipment must be maintained and tested			Retained
	EC.7.a	Frequency of testing is carried out as follows: – all new trailed/mounted/self-propelled sprayers are NSTS tested before they are 5 years old – subsequently trailed/mounted/self-propelled sprayers with a boom width over 3m are NSTS tested once every 3 years – subsequently trailed/mounted/self-propelled sprayers with a boom width of 3m or under and other application equipment (slug pellet, micro-granular applicators, weed wipers) are NSTS tested once every 6 years – knapsack, handheld and pedestrian equipment does not require an NSTS test but should be checked by the operator at least annually			
	EC.7.b	Equipment calibration occurs at least annually			
GUIDANCE: Legislation Legal Basis: The requirement became law on 26 November 2016 as part of the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD). [nsts.org.uk] Testing Requirements: Boom sprayers over 3 m, air blast sprayers, train and aircraft sprayers: Tested at least every 3 years. Boom sprayers 3 m or under, slug pellet and micro-granular applicators, weed wipers, seed treatment and other specialist equipment: Tested every 6 years. Knapsack, handheld and pedestrian equipment: No formal NSTS test required, but they must be inspected regularly by a competent person, repairs made as necessary, and records kept. [nsts.org.uk] First Test: For new equipment, the first test must be done before the machine is 5 years old.					
EC.8		Records must be kept of all PPP applications			Revised

PROPOSALS

	EC.8.a	Records include: – field/area identifier – crop/variety – total area, where applicable – sowing or planting date, where applicable – date and time applied – justification/target for application – product name and active ingredient – rate of application – water volume – wind direction and speed – grazing/harvest interval, where applicable – first permissible harvest date, where applicable – name of sprayer operator			
	EC.8.b	Records include: – area identifier – date and time applied – justification/target for application – product name and active ingredient – rate of application – water volume – name of sprayer operator			
	EC.8.c	Records are kept for at least 3 years			
GUIDANCE: Legislation Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/1657) require professional users to maintain records of PPP use. These records must include details such as: – Product name and authorisation number (MAPP) – Date and time of application – Dose applied – Area treated – Crop or situation – Location					
EC.8.1		Where PPPs are used on crops an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan is completed			Retained
GUIDANCE: Legislation The requirement comes under: Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/1657), which implement the EU Sustainable Use Directive (2009/128/EC). Food and					

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Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA) and associated pesticide control regulations.

These laws require professional users to follow all conditions of PPP authorisation, including harvest intervals, which are specified on product labels to ensure food safety and compliance with Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)

EC.1.1		Organic manures must be stored in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination and pollution			Revised
	EC.1.1.a	Temporary field heaps are not located: – within 10m of inland freshwaters or coastal waters – within 50m of a spring, well or borehole – over field drains – where there is significant risk of runoff entering watercourses			
	EC.1.1.b	Contaminated run-off, effluent or seepage from manure storage sites does not enter surface water or groundwater			
	EC.1.1.c	Temporary field heaps are moved at least every 12 months			
	EC.1.1.d	Where birds have access to range areas, the range is managed to minimise the risk of contamination and pollution from manure deposition			
GUIDANCE: Watercourse = includes, water courses (ditches, streams, rivers), ponds, lakes, reservoirs, canals, estuaries, coastline. Organic manure = livestock manures, sewage sludge/biosolids, compost, digestates, organic industrial wastes. Risk factors which could lead to runoff, which should be taken into account are: slope (especially if greater than 12 degrees), ground cover, proximity to watercourses or wetlands, weather conditions and forecasts, soil type and condition, presence and condition of land drains					
EC.9		Manufactured fertilisers and organic manures must be applied in a manner that minimises the risk of environmental pollution			Revised
	EC.9.a	Any materials applied to land have a demonstrated agricultural benefit			
	EC.9.b	Relevant permits, exemptions or authorisations for the to use, storage, transfer or application of waste materials are held			

PROPOSALS

	EC.9.c	Where organic manures are applied to land [under the control of the business], a Manure Management Plan (MMP) is maintained, implemented and reviewed			
	EC.9.d	MMP includes, as a minimum: – areas where manure can and cannot be applied – available spreading area sufficient to utilise nutrients generated by the enterprise – nutrient requirements and planned application rates – arrangements for any surplus manure – - contingency arrangements where storage, spreading or disposal routes become unavailable.			
	EC.9.e	Where organic manures are applied routinely, nutrient content, soil nutrient information is available to support the application planning			
	EC.9.x1	Applications comply with applicable legal nutrient application limits			
	EC.9.f	Applications are not undertaken where there is a significant risk of run-off, leaching, pollution or nutrient loss			
	EC.9.x2	Records of manure applications are maintained and include: – location of application – date of application – quantity or application rate applied			
	EC.9.g	Biosolids are assured under the Biosolids Assurance Scheme			
	EC.9.h	Untreated sewage sludge, untreated abattoir or catering derived animal by-products are not applied			
	EC.9.i	Applications comply with relevant legislative requirements and Appendix [No.]			
GUIDANCE: The Reduction and Prevention of Agricultural Diffuse Pollution (England) Regulations 2018 (commonly known as the Farming Rules for Water) These regulations require land managers to plan and apply fertilisers and organic manures so that they do not exceed crop and soil needs and do not create a significant risk of agricultural diffuse pollution (e.g., runoff, leaching into watercourses)					

PROPOSALS

EC.10		All manufactured fertiliser application equipment must be maintained and calibrated at least annually		T	Retained
GUIDANCE: Not explicitly mentioned but reflects a legal principle under hazardous substance and pesticide regulations Environmental Protection relating to the principle of preventing leaks, contamination and unsafe storage - accurate calibration essential to comply with FRfW.					
UR.1		Fertiliser containing urea must only be applied where the following requirements are met			Retained
	UR.1.a	Protected/inhibited fertilisers containing solid urea can be applied within any product use by/best before dates			
	UR.1.b	Protected/inhibited fertilisers containing liquid urea can be applied with the prescribed rate of protector/inhibitor for the application, and within any product use by/best before date			
	UR.1.c	In England, unprotected/uninhibited solid fertiliser containing urea can only be applied between 15th January and 31st March			
	UR.1.d	In England, unprotected/uninhibited liquid fertiliser containing urea can be applied between 15th January and 31st March			
	UR.1.e	In England, unprotected/uninhibited liquid fertiliser containing urea can be applied between 1st April and last application in autumn* only if agronomic justification is provided by FACTS-qualified farm personnel** or o Advice specific for the crop has been provided by a FACTS-Qualified Adviser and been followed (see EC 9.1)			
	UR.1.f	In Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales fertiliser containing urea (solid and liquid) can be applied as per relevant legislation			
GUIDANCE: Earned recognition with DEFRA through option 4, self-regulation agreed by industry to reduce ammonia emissions from fertiliser; replaces the need for a total ban on untreated urea by enforcing responsible use.					

Specific feedback: Environmental Protection and Contamination Control – Do you agree with EC.9.1 that members should maintain records showing the quantity, date and destination of poultry litter

PROPOSALS

transferred off the holding, to support industry protection, traceability and understanding of how litter is managed after it leaves the farm?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree

Specific feedback: Environmental Protection and Contamination Control – Do you agree with the proposed risk-based approach in EC.9, which recognises members holding an Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) permit while strengthening requirements for other members, to support industry protection and avoid unnecessary duplication?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree

Specific feedback: Environmental Protection and Contamination Control – Which of the following best describes your view of the proposed Environmental Protection and Contamination Control standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree

Overarching feedback: Environmental Protection and Contamination Control – Which of the following best describes your view of the proposed Environmental Protection and Contamination Control standards?

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree

Share feedback at:
redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation/

PROPOSALS

Depopulation (DE)

Aim

To ensure that birds are prepared, handled and loaded for depopulation under appropriate welfare and biosecurity controls, with clear responsibility for oversight, facilities and supporting systems during the process

Summary of proposed changes:

This section sets out the standards for managing depopulation in a way that protects bird welfare, maintains biosecurity and supports effective oversight during a high-risk point in the production cycle. The review has not proposed significant policy change, as the existing controls remain broadly appropriate. The main changes are intended to improve clarity, auditability and consistency, particularly where depopulation involves both farm personnel and specialist catching teams. The revised section places greater emphasis on clear responsibility for facilities, systems and oversight, while recognising that some operational controls sit at the interface between farm assurance and Catching & Transport requirements. An important overarching theme is the need to maintain parity between these standards so that shared responsibilities, legal accountability and practical delivery are clearly understood.

Changes in detail

- DE.3.1 now applicable to CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW (all enterprises other than hatcheries, new for chicken)
- DE.5.a now applicable to KR, KL, KG, KF, TR, TL, TG, TF (all enterprises other than hatcheries, new for duck and turkey)

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
DE.1		Person responsible for birds must be available and providing oversight during during catch and must ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to safeguard bird welfare, biosecurity and compliance throughout the depopulation process	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Editorial Change
GUIDANCE: This standard should be interpreted as requiring clear responsibility and active oversight of the depopulation process, rather than necessarily requiring the responsible person to be physically present in the poultry house throughout the whole catch. Oversight may include being available on site, maintaining effective communication with the catching team, ensuring appropriate arrangements are in place before catching starts, and being able to respond where welfare, biosecurity or compliance issues arise. Where operational activities are carried out by a third-party catching team, the farm remains responsible for ensuring suitable arrangements are in place and that responsibility for the birds is not diluted.					
DE.2		A loading area must be available for the loading of birds for transport and must be clean, tidy and hygienically managed to minimise biosecurity risks during depopulation and loading activities	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Editorial Change

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DE.3		Feed must not be withdrawn for more than nine hours prior to catching	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
GUIDANCE: This standard should be interpreted as a welfare control around the timing of feed withdrawal before catching. Feed withdrawal should be planned in conjunction with catching and transport arrangements so that birds are not left without feed for longer than permitted.					
DE.3.1		Water must be provided up to transfer and must be available in the destination house prior to unloading the birds	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
DE.4		Water must be available up to catching	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Retained
DE.5		There must be a system in place for a designated person to inspect forklifts and other catching equipment, including catchers' transport, for cleanliness and disinfection with a Defra approved disinfectant prior to entry to the biosecure area and to take appropriate action where deficiencies are identified	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Editorial Change
	DE.5.a	This includes mechanical harvesting equipment where used	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		
	DE.5.b	Where catching frames are not farm specific, they must to be cleansed and disinfected before arrival onto farm	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		
GUIDANCE: The farm's responsibility is to ensure that suitable inspection and escalation arrangements are in place, while recognising that some operational controls will be carried out by the catching contractor or transport operator. Suitable inspection arrangements could be identifying who carries out checks, how deficiencies are escalated, and what action may be taken if equipment or vehicles are not suitably clean or disinfected. Where mechanical harvesting equipment is used, it should be treated as part of the catching equipment covered by the system.					
DE.6		Clean and tidy facilities must be made available for catchers to use during breaks and managed in a manner that maintains farm biosecurity controls	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		Editorial Change
	DE.6.a	If catchers use their own company vehicle for breaks, controls must be in place to ensure it is clean and disinfected on entry to the general biosecure area	CD, CL, CB, CP, CF, EW; KR, KL, KG, KF; TR, TL, TG, TF		

PROPOSALS

On Farm Hatching (HF)

Aim

To ensure that birds are prepared, handled and loaded for depopulation under appropriate welfare and biosecurity controls, with clear responsibility for oversight, facilities and supporting systems during the process

Summary of proposed changes:

The existing requirements for on-farm hatching are currently spread across several sections of the Chicken standards. We propose bringing these together into a single, dedicated On-Farm Hatching section, making the requirements clearer and easier for members to find and follow. No substantive changes are proposed; the existing standards covering specialist training, egg handling and temperature, hygiene, hatching management and the welfare of newly hatched and non-viable birds have been retained and moved into this section.

Proposed Standards

Standard	Audit point	Proposal	Species / enterprise	Record / Template (T)	Change status
PL.2.1		Where eggs are hatched on-farm all personnel involved with the management of the system and associated process (e.g. operation of IMD) must have received additional training	CH		Retained Moved
	PL.2.1.a	Training from the manufacturer or a training provider with specific expertise in in-house hatching is documented	CH		
	PL.2.1.b	Task-specific training covering egg handling, hatching process, [young birds] grading, operation of IMD machinery and handling of waste	CH		
HF.2.3		Eggs destined for dispatch for on-farm hatching must not be allowed to cool prior to transportation	CH		Retained Moved
	HF.2.3.a	Egg shell temperature is between 32°C and 34°C	CH		
HF.2.4		Eggs destined for dispatch for on-farm hatching must be loaded into clean trays after candling	CH		Retained Moved

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	HF.2.4.a	Trays are cleaned and disinfected on return from farm	CH		
	HF.2.4.b	Only trays dedicated for on-farm hatching are used	CH		
HF.4.6		Trays used for on-farm hatching of eggs must be cleaned and disinfected before return to the hatchery	CB, CP, CF, EW		Retained Moved
	HF.4.6.a	Only trays dedicated for on-farm hatching are used	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	HF.4.6.b	Defra approved disinfectants are used	CB, CP, CF, EW		
HF.7.1		Where eggs are hatched on-farm they must not be allowed to cool on placement	CB, CP, CF, EW		Retained Moved
	HF.7.1.a	On arrival, eggs are placed in housing pre-heated to 34-35°C, or a temperature that achieves a litter surface temperature of 30°C	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	HF.7.1.b	Egg shell temperature is monitored and recorded an hour post placement, and then every 3 hours until the egg temperature has stabilised (between 36-38.5°C), otherwise temperatures should continue to be checked 3 times a day until over 50% of [young birds] have hatched	CB, CP, CF, EW		
AH.4.2		Where eggs are hatched on-farm they must not be placed until day 17 of the incubation period	CB, CP, CF, EW		Retained Moved
AH.4.3		Only eggs that have been candled at the hatchery may be placed for hatching on farm	CB, CP, CF, EW		Retained Moved
AH.4.4		Where eggs are hatched on-farm, eggs are monitored regularly during hatching	CB, CP, CF, EW		Retained Moved
	AH.4.4.a	Eggs are monitored at least 3 times daily	CB, CP, CF, EW		
AH.9.1		Where eggs are hatched on-farm, nonviable [young birds] must be	CB, CP, CF, EW		Retained Moved

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		promptly and humanely euthanased by a trained and competent person			
	AH.9.1.a	Decision to euthanase made by a trained and competent person	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.9.1.b	In shell embryos (unhatched or partially pipped eggs) and non-viable [young birds] are euthanased in accordance with relevant legislation	CB, CP, CF, EW		
	AH.9.1.c	Euthanasia is carried out within 15 minutes of the decision to euthanase	CB, CP, CF, EW		

Simper more consistent structure for poultry standards

Aim

To create a simpler and more consistent set of Poultry Standards by bringing the Chicken, Duck and Turkey requirements together in one place, reducing duplication while clearly identifying which standards apply to each species and enterprise.

Summary of proposed changes:

Currently, Chicken, Duck and Turkey have separate standards, despite many requirements being the same or very similar across the three species. Under the proposed structure, common requirements would appear once, rather than being repeated across separate standards.
Where a requirement applies only to a particular species or type of enterprise, this is clearly identified within the standard. This means members would still be able to see exactly which requirements apply to their farm, while creating a more consistent structure across poultry.

The proposed standards have also been reorganised by subject, bringing related requirements together and introducing dedicated sections where this makes the standards easier to follow. This is intended to reduce duplication, improve consistency and make the standards easier for members, assessors and the wider industry to navigate.

This structural change does not mean that every requirement will apply to every poultry enterprise. Species- and enterprise-specific requirements are clearly identified.

Overarching Feedback: Which of the following describes your feedback on the proposal to bring the existing Chicken, Duck and Turkey Standards together into one set of Red Tractor Poultry Standards, with species- and enterprise-specific requirements clearly identified? [multiple choice]

- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree

PROPOSALS

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Your feedback on the wider proposals

Questions in the consultation focus on sections where significant changes to standards have been proposed. This document contains the proposed standards in full, including sections where no changes or only minor editorial changes are proposed.

Do you have any other feedback on the proposals?'

Thank you for taking the time to review the proposals. All feedback is appreciated. Your feedback will be considered by the Sector Boards and Technical Advisory Committees before any changes are made in 2027.

Find out more about the proposals and what happens next at redtractor.org.uk/poultry-consultation

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