

HOUSING, SHELTER AND HANDLING FACILITIES – STOCKING DENSITY

Turkey Indoor Grower Stocking Density Requirements

The following table gives worked examples of the stocking density formula.

$A = k \cdot W^{2/3}$ (where A is the space required in m², k is the co-efficient 0.0459 and W is liveweight in kg), applied to various liveweights.

For comparison, if a coefficient of 0.0121 were used, equating to the minimum area per bird, stocking density for 5, 15 and 20 kg liveweight birds would be, 141, 203, and 224kg/m² respectively. At these densities the turkeys would be in contact with each other on all sides and have no room to move.

Liveweight (W) (kg)	Floor space per bird (A) = 0.0459W ^{2/3} (m ²)	Stocking rate (birds/m ²)	Stocking density (kg/m ²)
0.5	0.0289	34.5823	17.3
1	0.0459	21.7865	21.8
2	0.0729	13.7253	27.5
3	0.0955	10.4746	31.4
4	0.1157	8.6468	34.6
5	0.1342	7.4517	37.3
6	0.1515	6.5989	39.6
7	0.1679	5.9545	41.7
8	0.1836	5.4474	43.6
9	0.1986	5.0360	45.3
10	0.2130	4.6945	46.9
11	0.2270	4.4055	48.5
12	0.2405	4.1572	49.9
13	0.2537	3.9412	51.2
14	0.2666	3.7513	52.5
15	0.2791	3.5827	53.7
16	0.2914	3.4318	54.9
17	0.3034	3.2959	56.0
18	0.3152	3.1727	57.1
19	0.3268	3.0603	58.1
20	0.3381	2.9575	59.1

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Breeder Stag Stocking Density Target

To minimise fighting, injury and to aid semen production stocking density for breeding stags should be:

Liveweight (W) (kg)	M ² per stag	Kg/m ²
12	0.49	24.48
15	0.61	24.59
17	0.74	22.97
18+	1 stag/m ² in naturally ventilated pole barn housing* 1.25 stags/m ² where recirculation fans are used, 1.5 stags/m ² where forced ventilation is in use	

*The stocking density for stags must not exceed 1.2 stags per m² during the first 5 weeks of lay. Thereafter a target of 1.0 stags per m² must be complied with.

Turkey Free Range Stocking Density Requirements

- the indoor stocking rate per m² floor space does not exceed 25kg liveweight
- the open-air range provides no less than 4m² per turkey