



Red Tractor Meat & Poultry Processing Scheme Consultation

STANDARDS PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATION

POULTRY WELFARE MODULE

Standard section	Standard proposal	New (N) or Revised (R)
Poultry welfare policy, welfare officers and training	An external source of training must be demonstrated for Animal Welfare Officers (AWOs). External training is in addition to certificate of competence training. An example of external training is the Bristol University Poultry Welfare Officer course	N
	PW.a.7 – contacting Red Tractor about a serious incident/emergency. The following has been included as a proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serious incidences or emergencies which may impact on the capacity to slaughter birds include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Breakdown of factory equipment- Staff availability- Emergency/disaster e.g. fire, flood- Lack of gas supply e.g. carbon dioxide• Where a serious incident or emergency results in a breach of a standard/s in any of the RT schemes and legislative requirements, Red Tractor is immediately informed if product from affected birds is destined to be packed with a Red Tractor claim	R



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of breaches to scheme standards and legislative requirements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exceeding maximum lairage time (6 hours) - Exceeding 12 hours withdrawal of feed and/or water - Exceeding farm stocking density requirements 	
	<p>PW.a.8 – We already require Welfare Outcome scoring on ducks. The standard has been revised to propose scoring is extended to chicken & turkey.</p> <p>Note, the standard has also been revised to require duck WOs to be shared with Red Tractor and for individual duck farm WO data to be fed back to the grower of that farm (by the member/factory)</p>	R
	<p>Linked to the proposal above.</p> <p>(Recommendation) Welfare outcome scoring is undertaken on Red Tractor chicken & turkey (as applicable) as per the Red Tractor Protocol.</p> <p><i>It is proposed that we gather views on what a Red Tractor Protocol should include through the consultation process and then the Protocol will be developed at a later stage</i></p>	N
The Lairage	PW.b – the lairage design avoids birds getting wet from the lorry wash	R
	PW.c – lairage floor is well maintained to prevent bouncing and jarring of crates/modules when moving live birds. Driving is smooth and of a speed that allows birds to remain calm at rest	R
	PW.d – No pooling of water after cleaning & disinfecting of the lairage walls and floors	R
Poultry Intake	PW.f.1 – information for each load of birds is documented. The information listed, which is required to be recorded, has been expanded	R
	PW.f.1.1. A system must be in place to check Animal Transport Certificates (ATCs) and Food Chain Information (FCI) are complete and contain all required information. Missing information is investigated	N



	<p>PW.f.2- proposed changes to the % Dead on Arrival (DOAs) in a single load before a root cause is established and corrective action undertaken. Chicken – change from 1.5% to 1% Turkey – change from 0.25% to 0.2% Duck – change from 0.5% to 0.3%</p>	R
Electrical stunning/killing	<p>PW.k - Large birds weighing more than 15kg liveweight are not shackled whilst conscious. Also, PW.l.5 allows the shackling of live birds > 15kg only where electrical stunning is needed as a back-up method of stunning/killing if the controlled atmosphere (gas) stunning (CAS) system fails and only where the official veterinarian (OV) recommends it use</p>	R
Controlled Atmosphere Stunning (CAS)	<p>Carbon dioxide must not exceed an average maximum concentration of 30% until birds have lost consciousness</p> <p>The proposal also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to bi-phasic and multi-phase gas stunning systems killing chickens and turkeys • An absolute maximum concentration of 33% is not exceeded until birds have lost consciousness • The induction to unconsciousness is calm i.e. no excessive wing flapping or escape behaviour observed 	N
Low Atmospheric Pressure Stunning (LAPS)	<p>New section within the scheme which proposes 6 new standards covering the use of LAPS to stun and kill chickens up to 4kg liveweight whilst minimising any pain and distress to them</p>	N
Transport wash facilities	<p>Automated machines must be inspected daily to ensure all nozzles and spray heads are working and operating in the correct direction. Requirement to record machine inspections. Soak systems and water agitation systems must be operating to standard</p>	R