


# Pitman Farms

Animal Welfare

Chicken

Grower Manual

FSNS Program

ANIMAL WELFARE PROGRAM	
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	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Replaces:
	Revision Date: 5/19/2019
	Prepared by: Ben Pitman

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# Emergency Contacts

## Call 911-For Major Emergency

Fire

Sheriff

Serious Injury or if harmful exposures to employees

## Order to Call

911

Karin Bridgeford 559-567-6555

Terry Thompson 501-617-8591

Rick Pitman 559-250-0258

David Pitman 559-284-6222

Jaime Caballero 559-356-2297

## Minor Emergency

### Order to Call or Supervisor

Karin Bridgeford 559-567-6555

Michael Calderon 559-301-1144

Jaime Caballero 559-356-2297

Oscar Caballero 559-994-7723

Meghan Loper 559-707-1623

Cesar Avila 209-355-8062

Nick Hedden 559-217-4455

Gissel Martinez 559-507-1380

Faviola Baeza 559-739-9794

Rigo Ibarra 559-362-4420

Ben Pitman 559-904-0484

Rick Pitman 559-250-0258

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## Loading Crew Supervisors

Jimmy Rowell 209-678-6304

Marisol Avalos 559-281-5432

Art Cervantes 209-617-0340


## Hanford Mill

Brian Franklin 828-391-4043

Jose Flores 559-696-7315

## Animal Welfare Hotline 844-3PITMAN

*If you see something, say something*

COMPANY POLICY & EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT	
	<b>Animal Welfare Management</b>
	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 001</b>

## Management

The Pitman Poultry Farms Corporate Animal Welfare Committee includes:

- Richie King (CEO)
- Terry Thompson (Live Operations Director)
- Ron O'bara (Broiler Processing Plant Manager)
- Maritza Rodriguez (Director, Human Resources)
- Ben Pitman (Animal Welfare, Officer)

This committee will meet biannually, or as needed, to discuss current animal welfare (AW) issues, give general direction to the AW program, and review AW policy and audit results. The AW Officer will serve as the chairman of the committee. The AW Officer will be responsible for facilitating committee meetings and general oversight of the program. Each production facility has specified management personnel who are responsible for performance of the program in that department.

## Responsibilities


### Live Operations Manager – chicken, duck, geese and turkey

Responsible for all live operation programs, including farm care: broiler, breeder, live haul, and hatcheries. This manager will ensure that the standards of bird care are maintained throughout and regular evaluations are performed. The Live Operations Team and HR will ensure that AW training is being conducted and documented regularly. This includes training growers and hatchery employees for all poultry, to be conducted by managers in those departments. Live Operations Manager will ensure that all farms have the proper and necessary equipment and housing agreed-upon to meet the standards in poultry care. Live haul may also be reviewed to ensure that training is being conducted with catch crews to ensure that all birds are being handled with the highest regard to animal welfare from the farm to the holding sheds at processing plant.

### Broiler Processing Plant Manager


Responsible for all plant aspects of the program, including live haul and the arrival of the birds to the production facility. This includes live haul, birds in holding sheds, and through first processing. Manager will work with Quality Assurance Manager and Processing Supervisors to ensure the highest standards of bird care are maintained throughout the plant. Frequent program audits will be completed on a regular basis to ensure that the standards are being maintained. These reviews include catching, transportation to the plant, live haul cages, and trucks entering holding sheds through first process.

**COMPANY POLICY & EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT**

	<b>Animal Welfare Management</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
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	Ben Pitman	


Human Resources (HR)

Responsible for ensuring training materials are available and current. Training records will be completed and current with Animal Welfare Training and new hire training and documentation will be completed before handling life animals. Any and all welfare incidents or issues involving employees will be handled through the HR Management.


RECORDS OF STOCKPERSON TRAINING	
	<b>Training Caretakers</b>
	Revision No. 2      Revision Date: 5/20/19
	Prepared by:
	Ben Pitman
<b>PF 002</b>	

Pitman Family Farms growers/caretakers must understand their job responsibilities and the affects that they have on the birds. It is imperative that growers understand the basic behavior of broilers and are able to recognize signs of good health.

- A. Behavior of broilers
  - a. Normal behavior of broilers
    - i. Activity in the house
      - 1. Even spread of birds eating, drinking, resting or moving about the house
  - b. Abnormal behavior of broilers
    - i. No activity
      - 1. No eating, drinking, resting or moving about the house
      - 2. Abnormal gait/inability to move
  - c. Excessive activity
    - i. Birds are very loud
- B. Bird handling
  - a. Avoid sudden movements to reduce stress
  - b. Follow animal welfare guidelines
    - i. No yelling, throwing, kicking, purposely scaring or other acts of abuse
- C. Catching
  - a. How to catch and pickup
  - b. Carrying birds
  - c. Prevent piling
- D. Deviations from normal activity
  - a. Decrease in feed consumption
  - b. Decrease in water consumption
  - c. Abnormal vocalization
  - d. Abnormal respiratory sounds
- E. Physical and Environmental Requirements of Broilers
  - a. Feed
    - i. Nutritious and free from contamination
    - ii. Available at all times (except 8 hours prior to loading)
  - b. Water
    - i. Available at all times (except prior to loading)
  - c. Ventilation and air quality
    - i. Provided to meet or exceed minimum ventilation standards for bird age


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- F. Recognize the signs of common disease
  - a. Contact Technician when these signs are present
    - i. Increased mortality
    - ii. Decrease in feed and water consumption
    - iii. Abnormal respiratory sounds (coughing)
    - iv. Lack of normal movement/activity in the house
    - v. Excessively wet litter without mechanical malfunction
    - vi. Diarrhea
- G. Litter management
  - a. Dry litter
    - i. Poor litter management results in animal welfare issues
      - 1. Difficulty walking
        - a. Paw pad lesions
        - b. Burnt hocks
      - 2. Breast blisters
- H. Caring for chicks
  - a. Air quality
    - i. Ammonia should not reach 20 ppm
  - b. Temperature
    - i. Chicks can't regulate their own body temperature, floor temperatures are important
      - 1. Ideally 84-86 degrees
  - c. Water
    - i. Fresh supply of water
    - ii. Water should be reachable with minimal effort
    - iii. Water should be a comfortable temperature
  - d. Feed
    - i. Feed within reach
    - ii. Can't start chicks on pelleted feed
- I. Blood Testing
  - a. Gather supplies you'll need.
  - b. Safe methods of handling the bird to prevent unnecessary stress or possible injury to the animal.
  - c. How to safely extract blood from bird.
  - d. How to store and ship the sample for testing.
- J. Vaccination
  - a. Gather supplies you'll need

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- b. Prepare vaccine to be administrated.
  - c. Administrate vaccine the correct method.
- K. Health scoring
  - a. Birds that cannot reach feed and water must be euthanized
- L. Culling of Pitman Family Farms broilers will be for the following bird health issues:
  - a. Stunted: broilers significantly smaller than the majority of broilers in the house, resulting in the bird being unable to comfortably reach feed and/or water
  - b. Lameness: Broilers unable to walk comfortably; they appear down, ruffled feathers, unwillingness to eat or drink
  - c. Sick: Broilers exhibiting signs of illness
  - d. Predation: Broilers harmed by predators
- M. Euthanasia
  - a. Birds must be euthanized using Pitman Family Farms approved method
  - b. Pitman Farms employees are to use rapid cervical disarticulation
  - c. Refer to SOP on removal, culling, and euthanasia
- N. Equipment operation
  - a. Recognizing and performing normal operation
    - i. Equipment is free from defect
    - ii. All equipment should be operated as per the manufacturers' specifications
  - b. Routine maintenance
    - i. Maintenance should be performed per manufacturers' specifications
    - ii. Notify Technician if equipment is in need of repair
  - c. Signs of malfunction
    - i. Equipment is not operating per manufacturers' specification
- O. Emergency Response Plan
  - a. Immediate emergency (fire, serious injury) dial 911
  - b. Contact Technician



OFFICE RECORDS & DOCUMENTATION	
	<b>Disaster Response and Recovery</b>
	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 03</b>

### Disaster Response and Recovery

- A. Emergency contact information and numbers, i.e. fire department, local utilities, etc.
- B. Primary and alternate numbers for at least three responsible farm workers, and a “telephone tree” to ensure that all responsible parties may be contacted if necessary
  - a. Broiler Farm Procedure:
    - i. Grow-out Managers
    - ii. Technicians
    - iii. Live Operations Manager
    - iv. Veterinary Services
  - b. Truck Driver Emergency Procedure:
    - i. Live Haul Supervisors
    - ii. Driver Supervisor
    - iii. Transportation Manager
    - iv. Live Operations Manager
- C. Contingency plans and precautions to cope with emergencies in order to safeguard the welfare of the animals, and the procedures to be followed by those discovering an emergency such as fire, floods, storms or other severe weather, interruption of power or water, etc.
  - a. Growers will receive annual documented training on how to locate and utilize the Emergency Response Plan

### Emergency Procedures

#### Fire

*When fire is discovered:*


- Notify the local Fire Department – dial 911
- If fire alarm is not available, notify site personnel about the fire emergency by the following:
  - o Voice communication
  - o Phone

*Fight the fire ONLY if:*

- The Fire Department has been notified
- The fire is small and it not spreading to other areas
- Escaping the area is possible by backing up to the nearest exit
- The fire extinguisher is in working condition and personnel are trained to use

*Upon being notified about fire emergency, occupants must:*

- Leave the building using the designated escape routes
- Assemble in the designated area (specify location)

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	<b>Disaster Response and Recovery</b>	
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- Remain outside until the competent authority announces that it is safe to reenter

*Designated Official or Supervisor must:*

- Disconnect utilities and equipment unless doing so jeopardizes his/her safety
- Coordinate an orderly evacuation of personnel
- Perform an accurate head count of personnel reported to the designated area
- Determine a rescue method to locate missing personnel
- Provide the Fire Department personnel with the necessary information about the facility
- Perform assessment and coordinate weather forecast office emergency closing procedures

*Area/Floor Monitors must:*

- Ensure that all employees have evacuated the area/floor
- Report any problems to the Supervisor at the assembly area

*Assistants to Physically Challenged should:*

- Assist all physically challenged employees in emergency evacuation


*Poultry*

- Move birds away from fire to safe location
- Gather birds to move to another barn
- Gather birds to load on to truck to relocate to another farm

**Power Loss**

In warm weather, the threat of power failure and fogger pump failure must not be overlooked. Procedures to follow in the event of these failures occurring are as outlined:

- A. Power Failure
  - a. Drop the curtains if necessary based on bird age and oxygen demand
  - b. Do not turn the fogger bypass on, this will quickly empty your water tank of valuable drinking water
  - c. It may be useful to contact the power company in your area to determine the expected duration of the power failure or to inform them of the problem
  - d. Notify your supervisor of the problem.
  - e. If a generator is used, do not attempt to overload it. Run the foggers, fans, and well pump only until full power is restored. Do not operate the feeders or lights.
- B. Fogger Pump Failure
  - a. Turn off the bypass at the water manifold
  - b. If bypass fails, drop curtains, open doors
- C. Water
  - a. Generators should be available as backup in the event of an electrical failure to ensure all electricity dependent mechanical systems necessary for bird health and well-being continue to operate during a power failure
  - b. If a generator is used, do not attempt to overload it. Run the foggers, fans, and well pump only until full power is restored. Do not operate the feeders or lights

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- D. Feed
  - a. If broken or power outage, manually distribute feed from tank and put into pans
- DI. Relief people: Please contact the closest ranch manager if any of these problems occur
- DII. Heat loss: please contact your supervisor immediately

#### Severe Weather and Natural Disasters

- A. Tornado
  - a. Warning notification in advance
    - i. Move birds to indoors and close curtains and/or doors
  - b. When a warning is issued by sirens or other means, seek inside shelter. Consider the following:
    - i. Small interior rooms on the lowest floor and without windows
    - ii. Hallways on the lowest floor away from doors and windows
    - iii. Rooms constructed with reinforced concrete, brick, or block with no windows
  - c. Stay away from outside walls and windows
  - d. Use arms to protect head and neck
  - e. Remain sheltered until the tornado threat is announced to be over
  - f. Safely investigate if necessary to move birds to another barn or relocate to another farm
- B. Earthquake
  - a. Stay calm and await instructions from the Supervisor
  - b. Keep away from overhead fixtures, windows, filing cabinets, and electrical power
  - c. Assist people with disabilities in finding a safe place
  - d. Evacuate as instructed by the Supervisor
  - e. Safely investigate, if necessary to move birds to another barn or relocate to another farm
- C. Flood
  - a. If Indoors
    - i. Be ready to evacuate as directed by Supervisor or designated official
    - ii. Follow the recommended primary or secondary evacuation routes
    - iii. Safely investigate if necessary to move birds to another barn or relocate to another farm
  - b. If outdoors
    - i. Climb to high ground and stay there
    - ii. Avoid walking or driving through flood water
    - iii. If car stalls, abandon immediately and climb to a higher ground
    - iv. Safely investigate if necessary to move birds to another barn or relocate to another farm

#### Structural Damage

- A. Once structural damage has been identified. Take caution.
  - a. Notify management
  - b. Consult with contractor if repairable
  - c. Make repairs
- B. If damage is not stable, take caution.
  - a. Do not put life at risk
  - b. Notify management

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- c. Consult with contractor if repairable
- d. Make repairs
- e. Safely open doors to allow indoor animals to escape

### Contingency Plan

The transporters should have a contingency plan and drivers aware of its content. If a transport truck is involved in an accident, the transporters should contact the identified, specialized catching crew as soon as possible.


If crates (cages) have been spilled and birds are still inside, turn the crates upright as soon as possible, ensure no heads, wings, or legs are protruding from the opening and stack them neatly by the side of the road away from the vehicle as quickly as possible.

Birds may be severely affected by extremes of cold or heat. In cold weather, there will be weather protection in place on poultry trucks. Birds in a disabled truck may suffocate if the weather protection is left in place on a stationary load. The birds must be closely monitored and weather protection should be adjusted if necessary to provide increased ventilation.

In the event of an accident involving a poultry transport truck or a roll-over of a poultry transport truck, the load should be pulled upright by a competent wrecker service as soon as it is safe to do so. If experienced handlers are available, rely upon their advice. Poultry shippers should provide catching crews to the accident site quickly. Birds should not be chased or caused to fly. It should be possible to gently, quietly, and calmly herd or direct a small group of birds in a specific direction. Severely injured birds should be humanely euthanized after dealing with the uninjured birds.

### Emergency Procedures


- A. Natural Disaster
  - a. In the event of fire, flood, or other natural disaster utilize the above directory to react immediately
  - b. Once emergency services are called, contact Technician
- B. Failure of Equipment
  - a. In the event of equipment failure in grow-out housing, ensure a reliable power sources is attached to equipment
    - i. Generators will be utilized in the event that the main power source is not available
  - b. Contact Technician for immediate equipment repair
    - i. Technician will use the Power Outage Phone Tree (posted in central location on grow-out facility) in the event that an immediate power source is available
- C. Extreme Temperatures
  - a. If extreme temperatures persist in grow-out housing:
    - i. Ensure equipment is running properly
    - ii. Ensure power is being supplied to equipment
    - iii. If there is a power outage, call Technician
    - iv. If temperatures in houses cannot be relieved and no power source is available; open end doors and drop curtains to allow humidity to be released and allow air flow through house
- D. Water Accessibility

OFFICE RECORDS & DOCUMENTATION	
	<b>Disaster Response and Recovery</b>
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	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 03</b>

- a. Primary water source is not available:
  - i. Call Technician immediately
    - 1. Technician will call for repair of primary water source and/or arrange transport for secondary water source
  - ii. Utilize a connection from adjacent ranch (if available)
  - iii. Utilize back-up pump from water storage tanks
  - iv. Utilize secondary power sources to engage water source

**Emergency Depopulation using a Federal and/or State Approved method**

- 1. Building structure
  - a. Ventilated housing
    - i. Ventilation shutdown, turn off all ventilation and seal up building
  - b. Natural ventilated housing
    - i. Seal up barn walls and use spray foam
  - c. Dispose livestock by approved federal/state law
    - i. Composting livestock in the housing

INSPECTIONS & MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT			
	<b>Temperature</b>		
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022	
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 004</b>	
	Ben Pitman		


Activity Check: Every time you enter a poultry house you should always observe the following activities:

- Birds eating
- Birds playing
- Birds drinking
- Birds “talking”
- Birds resting
- Birds should never be huddling

**Temperature/humidity guide:**

Age - days	Relative Humidity %	Temperature °C (F) for chicks from 30 week old parent flocks or younger	Temperature °C (F) for chicks from 30 week old parent flocks or older
0	30-50	93	91
7	40-60	88	86
14	40-60	81	81
21	40-60	75	75
28	50-70	70	70
35	50-70	66	66
42	50-70	64	64

- If humidity is less than above, increase temperature 1°F. If humidity is greater than above, reduce house temperature by 1°F. Always use birds’ behavior and effective temperature as the ultimate guide to determine the correct temperature for the birds.
- Chicks from smaller eggs (younger breeder flocks) require higher brooding temperatures because they produce less heat about 1°F for the first seven days.

INSPECTIONS & MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	
	<b>Ventilation Levels</b>
	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 005</b>

- Ventilation equipment must be checked daily and maintained for proper operation.
- Ventilation rates must be monitored, including any adjustments made in order to maintain minimum ventilation requirements and to maintain air quality parameters

A) Daily Ventilation Settings

- a. Growers will evaluate ventilation and air quality daily to ensure optimal bird comfort and growth
  - i. Minimum Ventilation: fans run according to a timer appropriate to bird age and size
    1. Minimum ventilation is increased to accommodate the following conditions:
      - a. Increased humidity
      - b. Wet litter
      - c. Ammonia
- b. Ventilation will never run less than the minimum ventilation settings in attempts to avoid an increase in humidity, wet litter, and poor air quality
- c. Ventilation will be updated as needed to accommodate cooler/warmer weather, rain, bird size, etc.
- d. Foggers and cool cells will be used in addition to tunnel fans
  - i. Foggers are used in extreme heat when fans and cool cells cannot cool house down
  - ii. Cool cells used with tunnel fans and programmed with controller
    1. Cool cells will be used in tunnel as house temperatures increase
- e. Ceiling/Stir Fans used to circulate air in addition to tunnel/wall fans

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INSPECTIONS & MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT		
	<b>Ammonia</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 007</b>
	Ben Pitman	

Ammonia Monitoring

- Results of tests of ammonia levels, measured at the height of the birds:
- ideally less than 10 ppm but in no case exceed 25 ppm at bird height
- If any ammonia test result was in excess of 25 ppm, actions must be taken to improve air quality.


The following levels must not be exceeded:

- Ammonia testing meters or strips: 25 ppm
- Sensory test: 1

The following steps will be taken to improve air quality if levels exceed the 25 ppm (measured) or a score of 2-5 (sensory) at bird level:

- Enclosed
  - o Adjust fans run time in minimum ventilation
  - o Add additional fans
- Curtain sided
  - o Open curtains
  - o Use stir fans

Scoring Air Quality			Action Required?
<b>0</b>	<b>ZERO</b>	odor and dust not noticeable (easy to breathe)	<b>No - acceptable air quality</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>WEAK</b>	odor and dust hardly noticeable	
<b>2</b>	<b>MODERATE</b>	odor and dust distinct, annoying (watery eyes and/or coughing)	<b>Yes – needs work to improve air quality</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>STRONG</b>	odor and dust irritating (stinging eyes and mouth, and/or excessive coughing)	
<b>4</b>	<b>VERY STRONG</b>	odor and dust bearable (stinging eyes and mouth, excessive coughing, and/or pain when swallowing)	
<b>5</b>	<b>OVERPOWERING</b>	odor and dust unbearable, you need to leave the barn (hurts to breathe in)	

ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES	
	<b>Litter Maintenance</b>
	Revision No. 2      Revision Date: 10/12/22
	Prepared by:
	Ben Pitman
<b>PF 008</b>	

Litter

- A. Excess moisture in the litter increases the incidence of breast blisters, skin burns, scabby areas, bruising, condemnations and downgrades. The wetter the litter, the more likely it will promote the proliferation of pathogenic bacteria and molds. Wet litter is also the primary cause of ammonia emissions, one of the most serious performance and environmental factors affecting broiler production today. Controlling litter moisture is the most important step in avoiding ammonia problems.
- B. Prolonged exposure to high levels (50 to 100 ppm) can result in keratoconjunctivitis (blindness). Obviously, when ammonia levels are high enough to blind birds, production is seriously affected; however, ammonia levels of just 25 ppm have been found to depress growth and increase feed conversion in broilers. In addition, a greater incidence of airsacculitis, viral infections and condemnations have been linked to ammonia levels at this concentration. Ammonia volatilization from poultry litter can also cause air pollution and lowered fertilizer value of litter due to nitrogen loss.
- C. Litter that is too dry and dusty can also lead to problems such as dehydration of new chicks, respiratory disease and increased condemnations. Ideally, litter moisture should be maintained between 20 to 25 percent. A good rule of thumb in estimating litter moisture content is to squeeze a handful of litter. If it adheres tightly and remains in a ball, it is too wet. If it adheres slightly, it has the proper moisture content. If it will not adhere at all, it may be too dry.


Litter Evaluation

- a. Litter moisture must be evaluated in the middle of the house.
- b. Litter should be loosely compacted when squeezed.
- c. If litter remains clumped it is too wet, take action to improve litter.

Maintenance and Management of Litter

- a. Proper house preparation to release ammonia trapped in the litter is necessary to minimize ammonia release from the litter during brooding. Heating and ventilating the house 24-48 hours prior to chick placement will help to accomplish this.
  - i. It may be necessary to increase minimum ventilation during the first few weeks of growout if ammonia levels become too high. Begin with at least 1 minute out of 5 on your timer and decrease the ratio as


**ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

	<b>Litter Maintenance</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/22
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 008</b>
	Ben Pitman	


needed.

- ii. Use circulation fans to move air within the house. The fans help litter dry by moving warm air (which can hold more moisture) off the ceiling and down to the floor.
  - iii. In negative pressure power-ventilated houses, use air inlets to bring fresh air into the house. When fans are on, static pressure should be maintained at .05 to .10 inches of water, so air velocity through the inlets stays within the range of 600 to 1,200 feet per minute. This keeps cold air from dropping to the floor as it enters the house and promotes good air mixing.
  - iv. Do not be afraid to add heat to the house to facilitate moisture removal. As air is warmed, its ability to hold moisture increases. The combination of heating and ventilating will remove considerable moisture from the house.
  - v. Check and manage watering systems to prevent leaks that will increase litter moisture. Adjust drinker height and water pressure as birds grow to avoid excessive water wastage into the litter.
  - vi. If leaks or spills occur and wet spots develop, the affected litter should be removed from the house promptly and replaced with clean, dry bedding.
  - vii. Remove cake with a housekeeping machine between flocks (rototilling is not recommended). Cake removal gets excessive moisture and manure out of the house, which, if left in the house, can contribute to elevated ammonia release from the litter in the ensuing flock. In most cases, these de-caking machines are more expensive than one grower can afford; however, several growers could share the equipment and reduce costs to a reasonable level. Take extreme care to completely disinfect such equipment before moving it from farm to farm.
  - viii. Make sure no moisture is getting in from the outside. Check grading and drainage around the building to ensure that storm water is being diverted away and not causing a seepage issue under the pad.
- a. Multiple runs on litter are acceptable as long as litter is in good condition

## ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

 <b>PITMAN FAMILY FARMS</b> PFF	<b>Litter Maintenance</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/22
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 008</b>
	Ben Pitman	

- i. Litter evaluations done at 15-20 days and re-evaluated the week prior to slaughter if first evaluation exceeds standard
  1. Soiled feathers
  2. Litter quality
  3. Footpad dermatitis
- ii. Growers should report any issues related to litter quality to Technician
  1. Burnt hocks, footpad lesions, breast blisters, etc.
  2. Excessive wet, caked litter
- b. Empty Barn
  - iii. Use Poultry Housekeeper to remove caked litter
  - iv. Completely remove wet spots
  - v. Add new layer 2" of litter (rice hulls or wood shavings)
- c. Full Cleanout
  - vi. Remove all litter from barn and pile outside
  - vii. Use shovel to remove litter around center posts and corners
  - viii. Treat for pests and/or rodents
  - ix. Add new 4" layer of litter (rice hulls or wood shavings)
- d. Use of Spray Products
  - x. Spread or spray litter treatment as per directions on label
  - xi. Wear proper PPE
- e. During Flock: Litter should be kept dry
  - xii. Maintain proper ventilation
  - xiii. Inspect and repair water lines daily
  - xiv. Fix water leaks immediately
  - xv. In the event of a large water leak, fence off wet spot until dry or litter is removed and replaced
  - xvi. Rototill litter as needed to aerate wet litter
- f. Darkling Beetle Control
  - xvii. Treat litter with an approved product in accordance with the type of broilers on farm (ie. Organic approved)
  - xviii. Spray product as per directions on label
  - xix. Wear proper PPE

TRANSPORT	
	<b>Water and Feed</b>
	Revision No. 2
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	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 009</b>

Routine monitor feed intake and water consumption

### Water

- a. Birds must have continuous access to an adequate supply of clean, fresh drinking water at all times, except immediately prior to transport for processing
- b. The number of Birds per waterer must be less than or equal to the maximum number specified by documents from the waterer manufacturer
- c. The number of chicks per waterer must be less than or equal to the maximum number specified by documents from the waterer manufacturer
  - i. Supplementary water must be provided for chicks during their first week

### Emergency Water Supply

- a. Generators should be available as backup in the event of an electrical failure to ensure all electricity dependent mechanical systems necessary for bird health and well-being continue to operate during a power failure
- b. If a generator is used, do not attempt to overload it. Run the foggers, fans, and well pump only until full power is restored. Do not operate the feeders or lights

### Access


- a. Inspect and repair water lines daily
  - i. Fix water leaks immediately
  - ii. In the event of a large water leak, fence off wet spot until dry or litter is removed
  - iii. Rototill litter as needed to aerate wet litter
- b. Waterers must be evenly distributed throughout the house to minimize competition among the birds
- c. Waterers must be of an appropriate design
- d. Placed at optimum height (per the manufacturer's guidelines) for the size and age of the birds to reduce water spillage and prevent consequent problems with litter management.

### Cleaning and Sanitation Program

The fastest way a pathogen can spread disease in a farm and affect the majority of your flock is through the drinking water.

Implementing a solid hygiene plan on a poultry farm through management, cleaning and disinfection could well be all in vain when drinking water was forgotten or not even included in your hygiene plan.

1. Clean the drinker system thoroughly

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2. Implement an adequate clean water program
3. Keep the water supply sanitized
4. If you run any additives that could feed biofilm through the medicator, flush the water system immediately afterward.

#### Routine flushing

- a. one of the simplest ways to help keep the water system clean. In addition to routine flushing, the system should also be flushed after any use of the medicator. Flushing helps wash away potential food sources for bacteria or other organisms.
- b. Be sure to flush long enough to completely purge the lines. A general rule of thumb is to flush one minute for every 100 feet of water line. If you have a 400-foot house with approximately 200-foot water lines in each half, then each line should be flushed for about two minutes. A 500-foot house with 250-foot water lines in each half would require a two-and-a-half- to three-minute flush per line.

#### In between flocks


- a. Remove scale build-up from the water lines, you will need to use a strong, acidic cleaner that is safe for nipple drinkers and can drop the pH of the water to below 6. Be aware that some acids break scale build-up into chunks, which can clog the system and prevent nipple drinkers from working properly.

#### Water withdrawal

- a. Water withdrawal should not exceed one hour prior to catch.

#### Feed

- a. Birds must be fed a wholesome diet which is fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and to satisfy their nutritional needs
- b. Birds must have unrestricted, daily access food, except prior to transport for processing or as required by the flock veterinarian
- c. The number of Birds per feeder must be less than or equal to the maximum number specified by documents from the feeder manufacturer
- d. The number of chicks per feeder must be less than or equal to the maximum number specified by documents from the feeder manufacturer
- e. Supplementary feed must be provided in trays or on paper for chicks during their first week
- f. Food must be fresh and not left in a contaminated (i.e. moldy, wet, soiled with rodent feces, etc.) or stale condition

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- g. Feed must be distributed evenly throughout the housing system to minimize competition among the birds

Emergency

- a. If broken or power outage, manually distribute feed from tank and put into pans

Feed withdrawal

- a. Feed withdrawal should not exceed 18 hours prior to slaughter.

NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS	
	<b>Animal Health Plan Standard Operating Procedures</b>
	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 010</b>

## Animal Health Plan (AHP)

**Objectives:** Responsibly raised poultry without exposure to antimicrobials or synthetic chemicals per consumer demand and associated labeling claims

### Guidelines:


#### A. Hatchery

- a. Maintains healthy parent (breeder) stock in accordance with National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) certification
  - i. NPIP status of *Salmonella typhoid*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and Avian Influenza monitored
  - ii. All breeder flocks are vaccinated for Marek's and coccidiosis
  - iii. Flocks are tested regularly for NPIP compliance
- b. Maintains satisfactory, sanitary conditions throughout hatching process
- c. Selectively and humanely culls substandard chicks in accordance with *AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals*
- d. Supplies chicks of uniformed size, hatched within 10-14 hours of each other, per flock
- e. Provides inoculation of chicks against:
  - i. Coccidiosis (by request)
  - ii. Marek's disease
  - iii. Infectious bursal disease


#### B. Feed Mill

- a. FDA certified or following established GMPs
- b. Organic certified (*applies to certified organic flocks only*)
- c. Diet developed in conjunction with Pitman Family Farms-Flock Nutritionist
  - i. Specific diets for specific aged birds
    1. Starter ration
    2. Grower ration
    3. Finisher ration
  - ii. Diet developed in accordance with guidelines provided by the most recently published National Research Council (NRC) standards
  - iii. Only organic certified or accepted ingredients are used in ration composition (*applies to certified organic flocks only*)
  - iv. Growth promoters are not used as additives to the feed in the stated formulation for the stated producer



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- v. In-feed antibiotics or anti-parasitic agents are not used in the stated formulation for the stated producer, except and unless for therapeutic reasons as prescribed by an attending veterinarian and as documented in the Animal Health Plan
  - d. Ingredient lists
  - e. Mixing procedures
  - f. Analysis records
  - g. Signed affidavit assuring organic, antibiotic-free, and/or vegetarian diets are being manufactured for Pitman Family Farms
- C. Grower
- a. Adhere to site prep protocols
    - i. Cleanout
    - ii. Sanitation
    - iii. Maintenance
    - iv. Down time
  - b. Adhere to brooding protocols
    - i. Temperature
    - ii. Lighting
    - iii. Ventilation
    - iv. Feeding/watering (Pitman Family Farms' protocols)
  - c. Adhere to grow-out protocols
    - i. Temperature
    - ii. Lighting
    - iii. Ventilation
    - iv. Feeding/watering (Pitman Family Farms' protocols)
    - v. Exclusively cage-free reared birds
  - d. Walk through and observe entire flock twice daily
    - i. Identify sick/unthrifty birds
      - 1. Cull as needed using Pitman Family Farms approved euthanasia techniques
      - 2. Treat as directed by Pitman Family Farms protocols and record specifics
        - a. ABF/Organic Treatment
          - i. Treatment used
          - ii. Condition treated
          - iii. Duration of treatment
        - b. Antimicrobial treatment
          - i. Veterinary prescription protocol on file and followed
          - ii. Treatment used

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- iii. Condition treated
- iv. Duration of treatment
- v. Marketing ticket clearly identifies as “conventional flock” at catch/transport


- ii. Remove dead birds
- iii. Monitor equipment

D. Company

- a. Provide training and resources associated with successful production of ABF/Organic chickens
  - i. Biosecurity
  - ii. Animal welfare
  - iii. Disease recognition
- b. Provide technical support throughout production cycle
  - i. Equipment maintenance and trouble shooting
  - ii. Husbandry and flock management
  - iii. Scheduling
    - 1. Chick delivery
    - 2. Catch crew
    - 3. Additional site visits and audits
  - iv. Biosecurity
    - 1. Employee protocol training
    - 2. Supplies
    - 3. Audits
  - v. Flock health
    - 1. Training
    - 2. Treatment protocols
      - a. ABF/Organic
      - b. *Judicious Use of Antimicrobials for Poultry Veterinarians*
    - 3. Post-mortem examinations
    - 4. Coccidia/Fecal oocyst monitoring
    - 5. Pre-processing carcass sample testing
- c. Internal audit of production records and protocols annually, at minimum

E. Disease Recognition and Response

- a. All producers with responsibilities to farm animals must have a plan in place to address a disease outbreak or suspected disease outbreak

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- i. Establish acceptable thresholds for your farm (e.g. mortality rate in a specific time period, unexplained changes in water and food, loss of body weight or slow gain, etc.)
  - ii. Establish a clean action plan for each threshold or trigger that include all steps and protocols you would follow (e.g. contact a veterinarian, self-quarantine of farm, animal isolation, etc.)
- F. Livestock and poultry must not be implanted or injected with any growth hormone/growth promoter or fed antibiotics (except ionophores) or fed beta-agonists for the purpose of boosting growth or feed efficiency

NOTE: Treatment must never be withheld to maintain an antibiotic-free production policy. Animals must be appropriate treatment, including antibiotics, if prescribed by the flock veterinarian, regardless of antibiotic-free production policy.

*Note: The following table (Table 1) has been completed with the minimum response plan options. In addition to this, Pitman Family Farms may specify other protocols to follow.*

Table 1. Animal Health Response Plan

Trigger for Investigation	Response Plan Options
An unexplained increase in mortality Mortality >0.5% in 24 hour period Mortality >1% in any given week	- Diagnostics – lab and/or veterinarian
Onset of clinical signs of disease such as reduced activity, huddling, cough, watery eyes, diarrhea, lameness, weakness or paralysis	- Monitor birds - Diagnostics - Cull - Enhance environmental comfort (e.g. heat, ventilation)
An unexplained change in feed/water consumption	- Monitor rate of change - Change feed - Supplement with vitamins - Assess pasture (if applicable) and barn environment



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Table 2. Treatment Protocols


	Signs you look for	Treatment protocols	When would a vet or other expert be contacted?
Bacterial infection a) yolk sacculitis b) Ecoli septicemia	a) High early mortality - Mushy, rotten chicks b) high mortality	a) Cull  b) Cull +/- antibiotics	a) - High Dead on Arrivals - Mortality > 1% in 1 <sup>st</sup> week  b) - mortality > 1% per week
Coccidiosis	- Diarrhea - ill thrift  (cyclical cycle every 7-10 days initially)	-Vaccinate -Coccidiostats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amprolium</li> <li>• Toltrazuril</li> </ul> -Vitamins A and K <b>-antimicrobials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sulphonamides</i></li> </ul>	- Excessive mortality - no response to treatment - fecal oocyst counts
Infectious bursal disease (IBD)	- May see diarrhea - lethargy - mortality	-no treatment -prevent by vaccination, isolation and a good C&D program	- Confirm with serology or lab submission
Marek's Disease	- Paralysis - Skin lesions at processing	- No treatment - Prevent by vaccination	- Confirm with lab diagnostics
Salmonella	- May observe diarrhea - May see an increase in mortality	-All in/All out -Maintenance of gut health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copper</li> <li>• Probiotic</li> <li>• Organic acid producer</li> </ul> <b>-antimicrobials:</b>	- Confirm by lab culture

**NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS**

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sulphonamides</i></li> <li>• <i>Neomycin</i></li> <li>• <i>Tetracyclines</i></li> <li>• <i>Amoxicillin</i></li> </ul> Use uninfected parent stock - Cull	
Necrotic Enteritis (NE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May see diarrhea</li> <li>- Lethargy/dehydration</li> <li>-mortality</li> </ul>	-Copper Sulfate/Acidifier at days 3-7 and 21-28 <b>-antimicrobials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bacitracin</i></li> <li>• <i>Neomycin</i></li> <li>• <i>Tetracycline</i></li> <li>• <i>Ppenicillin</i></li> <li>• <i>Lincomycin</i></li> </ul>	-Excessive mortality -no response to treatment -necropsy findings
Mites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Feather loss or scratching</li> <li>-skin irritation</li> </ul>	- Diatomaceous Earth	
Respiratory Disease* ILT, IBV, AI, NDV, Air Sacculitis/mycoplasma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Respiratory distress/difficulty breathing</li> <li>-May observe an increase in mortality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Vaccinate if unable to clean out and vaccine available</li> <li>-Utilize unaffected chicks</li> <li>-Strict biosecurity</li> <li>-All in/all out</li> <li>-Improved ventilation</li> <li>-Reduced litter moisture</li> <li><b>-antimicrobials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tilmicosin,</i></li> <li>• <i>Chlortetracycline</i></li> <li>• <i>Oxytetracycline</i></li> <li>• <i>tylosin</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	- Confirm by lab submission or serology
Ascites/ Congestive Heart Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Water belly</li> <li>-Blue birds</li> <li>-Lethargy</li> <li>-Difficulty breathing</li> <li>- Mortality following cold nights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cull</li> <li>- Increase heat</li> </ul>	- Mortality > 1% per week

**NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS**

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Inclusion Body Hepatitis	- Increased mortality at 2-4 weeks of age	- No treatment	- Mortality > 1% in 1 week
Gangrenous Dermatitis	-Feather loss with skin lesions -Mortality	-Good broiler house/litter management -House hygiene <b>-antimicrobials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sulphaquinoxaline</i></li> <li>• <i>Penicillin</i></li> <li>• <i>Lincomycin</i></li> </ul>	- Mortality > 1% in 1 week
Lameness	paralysis  sick bird (bird reluctant to walk but also showing clinical signs of illness – watery eyes, diarrhea etc)  angular leg deformities  infectious arthritis (joints feel warmer than rest of leg)  rickets (will affect a greater number of birds and present relatively quickly; birds walk gingerly and/or stand up take a few steps and sit down.)  birds laying on hocks (kinky back)	cull and further investigate cause (e.g. feed error, botulism, Marek’s Disease)  treatment with appropriate antibiotic under supervision of vet  prevent by good litter mgt and low ammonia which reduces chance of foot pad dermatitis and hock burns  Supplement with vitamin D or general vitamin supplement and observe for improvement for 3 days	- For all possible causes, contact vet if > 1% of flock affected

**NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS**

	<b>Animal Health Plan Standard Operating Procedures</b>	
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<p>General health/gut health maintenance</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Utilize healthy, bacteria resistant parent stock.</li> <li>•Include probiotic in chick starter ration</li> <li>•Feed lactic acid producing bacteria</li> <li>•Diatomaceous Earth</li> <li>•Oregano</li> <li>•Vitamins/minerals</li> <li>•Reuse litter</li> <li>•Increased inter-flock downtime</li> <li>•Decreased flock density</li> </ul>	
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\*\* ILT = Infectious laryngotracheitis; NDV = Newcastle Disease; IBV = Infectious Bronchitis; AI = Avial Influenza; C&D = Cleaning and Disinfection

BIOSECURITY & SANITATION PLANS		
	<b>Biosecurity</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 011</b>
	Ben Pitman	

### Ranch Visitor Biosecurity Protocol

(This protocol must be read by all visitors prior to entering the Pitman Family Farms- Production Ranch bio-secure zone.)

- A. **Clean Clothing and Footwear:** Everyone crossing the perimeter on foot or exiting their vehicle inside the perimeter arrives at the operation having showered and wearing clean clothing and footwear.
- B. **72 Hour Contact Restriction:** Visitors will not be allowed to access the facility or grounds if they have had contact with susceptible species or rendering facilities in the preceding 72 hours.
- C. **No Unaccompanied Visitors:** Visitors will be accompanied by an employee at all times.
- D. **Visitor Log:** When entering the premises, visitors will sign the Visitor Log, (a) acknowledging their understanding of the Pitman Family Farms- Ranch Visitor Biosecurity Protocol and (b) indicating their willingness to abide by these rules while on the premises.
- E. **Footbaths:** Footbaths will be used by all persons entering the premises and bio-secure areas.
- F. **Hand Sanitizing:** Visitors will use hand washing/sanitizing stations when entering/exiting the premises.
- G. **Personal Protective Equipment:**
  - Visitors shall obtain disposable PPE provided at the access point PPE dispensary or inside the employee changing area.
  - Visitors shall don complete PPE according to the recommended procedure at the facility.
  - PPE shall be worn at all times while on the premises, and not removed for any reason.
  - When exiting the bio-secure area, visitors will doff their PPE and ensure that all items are disposed of in the proper “used PPE” receptacles.

### Nothing In/Nothing Out:


Absolutely no objects shall be introduced to/removed from the premises by visitors. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Articles of clothing or PPE
- Food/drink
- Paper items (e.g., brochures, pamphlets, paper) or writing instruments
- Biological materials (e.g., live animals, animal products, discarded feathers)

### Operational Biosecurity plan:

- A. Maintenance of outdoor areas surrounding buildings: reduces pests, rodents and insects.
  - a. Vegetation should be kept short and tidy.
- B. Maintenance of pest control methods
  - a. Bait boxes should be checked and fresh bait replaced as needed
- C. Removal of feed sources



BIOSECURITY & SANITATION PLANS		
	<b>Biosecurity</b>	
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- a. Protection of bulk feed – feed lids closed
- b. Protection of water supply – prevents mold and water supply to pests
- c. Feed pans and hoppers cleaned and disinfected
- D. Facility/equipment cleaning protocols and schedule
  - a. Water System
    - i. Drain pipes and header tanks
    - ii. Flush lines with clean water
    - iii. Run sanitizer solution through drinker lines
      - 1. Allow to sit in pipes for 24-48 hours
      - 2. Flush with fresh water
    - iv. Refill with fresh water prior to chick arrival
  - b. Feed System
    - i. Empty all feeding equipment (feed bins, track, chain, hanging feeders)
    - ii. Empty bulk bins and connecting pipes and brush out where possible
      - 1. Clean and seal all openings
  - c. Ventilation
    - i. Fans cleaned and disinfected
    - ii. Vents cleaned and feathers removed
    - iii. Cool cell pads flushed
      - 1. Feathers removed
      - 2. Descaled
      - 3. Pads soaked in disinfectant and flushed with clean water


### Traffic Control

- A. Farm personnel will work from youngest birds to oldest to limit the exposure of pathogens to chicks
- B. Visitors will see birds youngest to oldest per day and youngest to old on farm.

### Waste Disposal Plan


which details protocols for the safe and proper disposal of medical waste, sharps, carcasses, and other waste that poses a potential threat to animal and human health and safety.

- A. Mortality
  - a. Carcasses will be incinerated
    - i. Incinerator must be maintained properly
    - ii. Incinerator should be run only if it is 50% full to get a proper burn

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	<b>Biosecurity</b>	
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C. Waste

- a. Waste and debris from packages etc will be disposed of in a dumpster and regularly removed from the farm

NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS		
	<b>Layout Period</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 012</b>
	Ben Pitman	

**Layout Period**

1. House downtime should average 10 days for the year
  - a. Flock to flock downtime can be less than 10 days as long as previous flock's performance and livability was within expected range
  - b. In the event of a diagnosed disease (exotic: HPAI or END) or highly transmissible erosive disease (LPAI, LT, MG) the downtime will be extended based on disease and veterinarian recommendation
2. If birds were sooner than 10 days an approval was obtained from management.

SPECIFIC SOPS FOR CHICKS		
	<b>Chick Placement</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 013</b>
	Ben Pitman	

### Pre-Placement Checklist

The key to successful broiler rearing starts with having a systematic and efficient management program in place. This program must start well before the chicks arrive on-site. Pre-placement house preparation, as part of a management program, provides a solid foundation for efficient and profitable broiler production. The following checks need to be made:

1. Equipment Check
2. Heater Checks
3. Thermostats or Temperature Probe Check
4. Bedding / Floor temperature Check
5. Minimum Ventilation Check
6. Drinker Check
7. Feeder Check

#### 1. Equipment Check

After confirming that the equipment capabilities meet the number of chicks to be placed, install the necessary brooding equipment and check that all equipment is functional. Ensure that all water, feed, heat and ventilation systems are properly adjusted for the needs of day-old chicks.

#### 2. Heater Checks


Verify that all heaters are installed at the recommended height and are operating at maximum output. Heaters should be checked and serviced BEFORE pre-heating commences.

#### 3. Thermostats or Temperature Probe Check

- Placed at bird height and in the center of the brooding area.
- Minimum/maximum thermometers should be placed adjacent to thermostat.

#### 4. Bedding / Floor temperature Check

- Houses should be preheated so that both the floor and ambient temperatures and humidity are stabilized at least 24 hours before placement.
- To achieve the above targets, pre-heating needs to commence at least 48 hours before chick placement.

SPECIFIC SOPs FOR CHICKS		
	<b>Chick Placement</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
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- Concrete temperature (below litter) should be 82.4 - 86°F.
- Pre-heating time is dependent on climate conditions, house insulation and heating capacity and will vary from farm to farm.
- At placement, litter temperatures should be 86 - 90°F with forced air heating. If radiant heaters / brooder stoves are used, floor temperatures should be 105°F under the heat source. Floor temperatures should be 86-90°F when checked at least 1m (3ft) away from the center of the radiant heater or brooder stove.
- As concrete temperature increases feed intake increases. The maximum concrete temperature should be 90°F. With any further increases in temperature, feed intake decreases, and at 95°F stops altogether.
- Often concrete/litter temperature is measured quickly at chick placement in a few random areas, which is not representative of the true uniformity of concrete/litter temperatures. The best way to measure is to take a reading (both concrete/litter) every six meters in length of the poultry house and in three rows across the width of the house.

#### 5. Minimum Ventilation Check

- Minimum ventilation should be activated as soon as the preheating begins, in order to remove waste gases and any excess moisture.
- Seal air leaks to eliminate drafts on chicks.
- Check carbon dioxide level before placing chicks. CO<sub>2</sub> levels should always be < 3000 ppm.
- If chemicals (ex: formaldehyde) are used during the cleaning and disinfection phase prior to preparing the house for chick placement, adequate ventilation must be used to clear the house of the residue and to provide clean air for the chicks.
- If litter is reused, the ammonia level should be < 20 ppm before chicks are placed.

#### 6. Drinker Check

- 14-16 drinkers/1,000 chicks (includes supplemental) should be provided within the brooding area of which 8-10 can be bell type drinkers.
- All drinkers should be flushed to remove any residual sanitizer.
- Water must be clean and fresh.
- Supplemental drinkers should be placed in such a way that the chicks will make the association between supplemental drinkers and the primary source.
- Adjust pressure to produce a droplet of water visible on each nipple, without dripping.
- Check for water leaks and air locks.

SPECIFIC SOPS FOR CHICKS		
	<b>Chick Placement</b>	
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	Ben Pitman	

- Ensure that nipple drinkers are at the chicks' eye level.

## 7. Feeder Check

### a. Paper Feeding

- When using paper, the paper should cover a minimum of 50% of the brooding area. The paper should be placed near the automatic drinking system so that the chicks have easy access to both feed and water. It is ideal to have a row of paper either side of each drinker line.
- Where full house brooding is practiced, 75 g of feed per chick should be placed on supplementary paper. The feed and paper need to last for at least 4 days post placement.
- If using supplemental feeders/trays, 50 g of feed per chick should be placed on the supplementary paper.
- Where partial house brooding is practiced, supplementary feed should also be provided for the first 7-10 days in the form of turbo feeders / trays and papers.

### b. Turbo Feeders


- Turbo feeders should be provided at a rate of at least one per 75 chicks.

### a. Tray Feeders

- Trays should be provided at a rate of one per 50 chicks.

## General Rules

- It is of utmost importance that the supplementary feeding system does not run empty as this will place great stress on the chick and reduce yolk sac absorption.
- The base of the supplementary feeders should never be exposed - keep full at all times!
- Supplemental feeders should be refreshed as needed daily until all the chicks are able to gain access to the main feeding system.
- Feed should be provided as a good quality crumble.
- Do not place feed or water directly under the heat source as this may reduce feed and water intake.
- The automatic feeder system should be flooded at all times to ensure easy chick access to feed.

SPECIFIC SOPs FOR CHICKS		
	<b>Chick Placement</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 013</b>
	Ben Pitman	

## Brooding SOP

### Post Placement of Chicks

#### a. Post Placement Checklist


1. Mini Drinker Check (Supplemental)
2. Bell Drinker Check
3. Nipple Drinker Check
4. Feeder Check
5. Crop Fill Evaluation
6. Seven-day Body Weight and Flock Performance Checks
7. Water consumption
8. Ammonia Level
9. Feed & Water
10. Lighting

#### 1. Mini Drinker Check (Supplemental)

- Should be provided at a rate of 6-8/1,000 chicks.
- Should never be allowed to run dry.
- Must be cleaned and refilled as necessary.
- Maintain maximum water levels until chicks are large enough to create spillage.
- Should be removed approximately 48 hours after placement.
- Should be placed slightly higher than the litter to maintain water quality yet not so high that access is impeded (ex: on top of a box lid or carton egg flat).
- Water spillage and waste should be kept to a minimum especially during cold seasons because of lower air exchange during these months.
- Place drinker lines at a height that the birds have to stretch slightly to reach.

#### 2. Bell Drinker Check


- Height should be maintained such that the lip of the drinker is at the level of the chicks back.
- Frequent assessment and adjustment is essential.
- Must be cleaned daily to prevent build up of contaminants.

SPECIFIC SOPS FOR CHICKS		
	<b>Chick Placement</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
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- If necessary, in hot climates, flush the water system at least two or three times daily to maintain a good water temperature.
  - All bell drinkers should be ballasted to reduce spillage.
3. Nipple Drinker Check
- Height should be at chick's eye level for the first 2-3 hours and then maintained slightly above chick's head.
  - Pressure should be such that there is a droplet of water suspended from the nipple.
  - The birds feet should always be flat on the litter and a bird should never have to stand on its toes to drink.
  - As a general guide, a nipple flow rate of 40 ml/minute is recommended in the first week. However, always refer to the manufacturer's instructions.
  - Flush the lines as necessary, for good hygiene and water temperature control.
4. Feeder Check
- Feed should be provided in crumb form and placed on trays or papers.
  - Automatic feed pans should be placed in a fashion that maximizes accessibility.
  - For brooding, automatic feed pans should be placed on the ground, down in the litter, and set on overflow (flooding of pans) where possible.
  - The feed level within the automatic feed pans should be set so that feed is readily available while spillage is minimized.
  - Automatic feeders need to be raised incrementally throughout the growing period so that the lip of the trough or pan is level with the birds back at all times.
  - Where full house brooding is practiced, 75 g of feed per chick should be placed on the papers. The feed and paper need to last for at least 96 hours post placement.
  - Where partial house brooding is practiced, supplementary feed should be provided for the first 7-10 days in the form of turbo feeders / trays and papers.
5. Crop Fill Evaluation

The main objective of management during the first hours after placement on the farm is to achieve as much intake of both feed and water in as many chicks as possible. Failure to



SPECIFIC SOPs FOR CHICKS	
	<b>Chick Placement</b>
	Revision No. 2
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achieve this objective will lead to irreversible problems with flock performance including poor growth, poor feed conversion and poor flock uniformity.

- If the crops of the chicks are checked eight hours after placement a minimum of 85% of examined chicks should have both feed and water present.
  - A minimum of 95% of the bird's crops should be filled upon examination the morning after placement.
6. Seven-day Body Weight and Flock Performance Checks
- Mortality percentage is a good indicator of chick quality, hatching process, house set up and early brooding management.
  - Cumulative 7 day mortality should not exceed 1%.
  - Measuring seven-day weights will give an indication of how successful the brooding management has been.
  - For every extra gram gained by day 7 the target should be an increase of 6 - 7 g at 35 days.
  - By 7 days of age, chicks should have a minimum weight gain of 4.6 times their day old weight.
  - Minimum water consumption of 1 ml/bird (3.4 oz/100 chicks) per hour for the first twenty four hours after placement.
  - Failure to achieve good seven-day weights will mean an inferior result at the end of the growing cycle.

7. Water consumption

Water consumption should equal approximately 1.6-2 times that of feed by mass, but will vary depending on environmental temperature, feed quality and bird health.

- Water consumption increases by 6% for every increase in 1 degree in temperature between 68-98.6°F.
- Water consumption increases by 5% for every increase in 1 degree in temperature between 89.6-100.4°F.
- Feed consumption decreases by 1.23% for every increase in 1 degree in temperature above 68°F.

SPECIFIC SOPs FOR CHICKS		
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#### 8. Ammonia Levels

- At the height of the chicks ideally less than 10 ppm but in no case exceed 25 ppm at bird height
- If any ammonia test result was in excess of 25 ppm, actions must be taken to improve air quality.

#### 9. Feed & Water

##### Feed

- Birds must be fed a wholesome diet which is fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and to satisfy their nutritional needs
- Birds must have unrestricted, daily access food.

##### Water


- Broilers must have continuous access to an adequate supply of clean, fresh drinking water at all times, except immediately prior to transport for processing

#### 10. Lighting

The lighting system in houses must be designed and maintained to regulate a daily cycle for all chickens 7 days or older through the course of the growout cycle

- The daytime light levels are at an average minimum 2 foot candles at the birds' head height throughout the house, excluding areas in the shade of equipment
- Supplemental lighting, where provided, is uniformly distributed throughout the house

Age (days)	Hours of Light	Light Intensity
0 – 3 days	24 hours of light	100% or 5 foot candles
4 – 16 days	8 hours off	80% or 4.25 foot candles

SPECIFIC SOPs FOR CHICKS		
	<b>Chick Brooding</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 014</b>
	Ben Pitman	

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EUTHANASIA POLICY		
	<b>Euthanasia &amp; Culling</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 015</b>
	Ben Pitman	

The Euthanasia Policy must include provisions for routine euthanasia (culls) and emergency euthanasia (including mass disposal during disease outbreaks such as highly pathogenic avian influenza). Euthanasia and disposal of carcasses must be consistent with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

A Euthanasia Policy must be available which includes provisions for humane and timely, routine and emergency, euthanasia. This policy must include:

- A. Only properly trained farm personnel or the flock veterinarian are permitted to perform euthanasia
- B. Procedures stating that:
  - a. If there is any doubt as to whether euthanasia is required: the veterinarian or properly trained personnel is to be called at an early stage to advise whether treatment is possible
  - b. If the veterinarian or properly trained personnel determine that an animal is in severe, uncontrollable pain, or is unable to move on its own accord, then the animal is to be promptly euthanized to prevent further suffering
- C. For euthanasia methods requiring equipment: records showing that equipment has been maintained per the manufacturer's recommendations and that it is required to be stored securely, protected, and kept clean
- D. The approved methods of euthanasia that are to be used for each age group of animals and under what circumstances, i.e. for routine culling or for emergency euthanasia for flocks. These methods must be performed promptly to prevent further suffering and must comply with the latest edition of the American Veterinary Medical Association's AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals. The farm performs one of the following approved methods of on-farm euthanasia:
  - a. Cervical dislocation, to be used for euthanizing a very small number of birds. Cervical dislocation involved stretching the neck to dislocate the first vertebrae in the neck from the skull and cause extensive damage to the major blood vessels. Use of equipment that crushes the neck rather than dislocates the spine, such as pliers, is never acceptable practice
  - b. Electrical stunning, immediately followed by neck cutting
  - c. Captive bolt euthanasia
  - d. Controlled atmosphere methods prescribed by the AVMA
  - e. Any other method approved by the AVMA
- E. Procedures stating that the persons performing euthanasia must verify that each animal has been properly euthanized. If necessary, the same method or an alternate method is performed immediately to ensure that the animal does not suffer
- F. For situations other than routine culls, logs stating the reason for euthanasia, numbers of animals euthanized, the date, and the procedure used

EUTHANASIA POLICY	
	<b>Euthanasia &amp; Culling</b>
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Ben Pitman	<b>PF 015</b>

- G. Procedures for the proper disposal of carcasses, and records of the name of the outlet through which all such carcasses are disposed, unless carcasses are disposed of on-farm, in which case records are kept of the disposal method. Disposal must meet all state, local, and/or federal regulations

#### Cull a Bird

1. Take the bird by the legs from the perch and pull it into your side by placing a hand around its body and cup its head in your hand. Walk out quietly and away from the coop up to the house so as not to cause any more disturbances to the rest of the birds and the household
2. Take your right hand and slide it under the birds butt and grasp its legs with the hand closed take the legs with the thumb pointing away from the body as this is a stronger grip
3. Place the fingers and thumb of the left hand over the chicken's neck just above the head. The first 2 fingers index and second fingers, close over the head with the neck in between like a V. The thumb then comes over the head closing it into the palm taking a half twist as it closes
4. Now bring the bird into your chest holding its legs tight into the body and taking a firm but gentle grip on its neck extend and put the weight of the top part of the body onto the neck forcing the head down in one clean movement
5. The head will part from the body as the neck is broken and your hand will follow on down and away from the bird. As the pressure you applied is released the bird will start to flap uncontrollably at this point the chicken is dead.
6. This action is only nervous reaction and it will stop in about 30 seconds. Allow the bird to flap as much as it wants as this action forces any blood to go down to the neck and coagulate there.

#### SACRIFICIO


Está prohibido el transporte de aves insalubres, no-girola o heridas. Esas aves deben ser eutanasiadas el mismo día que el ajuste de las aves de la colocación de la misma se envían a sacrificio.

Cojo de aves puntuación de 2 o 3 debe ser sacrificada.

En caso de un ave sufre lesiones o enferma en la granja, el ave inmediatamente debe ser tratado o sacrificado para minimizar el dolor y el sufrimiento

Cojera debe ser tratada inmediatamente tras la exposición de la lesión en el pie o pierna o de la irregularidad de caminar. Si el ave no puede ser devueltos en buen estado, el ave debe ser sacrificado. Esto incluye cojera congénita en la cría o aves de mercado.



EUTHANASIA POLICY	
	<b>Euthanasia &amp; Culling</b>
	Revision No. 2
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Euthanasia de pollos sacrificados o enfermos o de huevos de hatched de la mitad debe llevarse a cabo de manera que resulta en la muerte inmediata.


Sacrificio de las aves débiles o enfermas de la manada es una parte importante de su trabajo. Un pájaro débil o enfermo puede propagar enfermedades o la enfermedad a otras aves en la casa. Es nuestro trabajo consiste en enviar de buena calidad, pollos sanos a la planta. Un buen culler ha aprendido lo que es la diferencia entre un buen ave y un pájaro de sacrificio. Pasar tiempo con su manager y o supervisor le ayudará a desarrollar la comprensión de lo que las aves para seleccionar y cuándo les de reposición.

Cuando el sacrificio de las aves y o expedición muertos siempre usted debe pasear la casa en la misma dirección haciendo esto, las aves se convertirá en menos frívolo y que usted se ser abarca las pistas mismas día a día en caso de que pierda algo. Asegúrese de caminar en una dirección de zig-zag de la pared del centro y de nuevo todo el camino hacia abajo de la casa. Caminar todas las aves de los usuarios para que no acumularse y asegúrese de comprobar en virtud de cualquier equipo de la casa (como por ejemplo tuberías y tolvas de alimentación). Asegúrese de que usted caminar todas las aves de los usuarios al final del edificio antes de ir a la puerta.

Un pájaro de reposición

Tomar el ave por las piernas de la perca y tire de él en su lado colocando una mano alrededor de su cuerpo y su cabeza en la mano de la taza. Caminar tranquilamente y lejos de la coop hasta la casa para no causar cualquier disturbios más al resto de las aves y el hogar

Tomar su mano derecha y deslícelo bajo el tope de las aves y de alcance sus piernas con la mano cerrada toman las piernas con el pulgar apuntando lejos del cuerpo, como se trata de un agarre más fuerte

NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS		
	<b>Lighting Program</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 016</b>
	Ben Pitman	


The lighting system in houses must be designed and maintained to regulate a daily cycle for all chickens 7 days or older through the course of the growout cycle up to the last week of the growout period. The lighting program for each house is documented once per each flock with records on file. The lighting program must provide within each 24-hour period:

- A minimum continuous period of 8 hours of light
  - o The daytime light levels are at an average minimum 2 foot candles at the birds’ head height throughout the house, excluding areas in the shade of equipment
  - o Supplemental lighting, where provided, is uniformly distributed throughout the house
- A minimum period of 4 hours of continual darkness or the natural period of darkness, if less. (The ‘dark’ period is recommended to be no more than 0.1 ft candle in intensity)

Pitman Family Farms will have a minimum of 2 foot candles as per the GAP standards

- If lighting is too low, necessary adjustments will be made to obtain the proper intensity

<b>Age (days)</b>	<b>Hours of Light</b>	<b>Light Intensity</b>
0 – 3 days	24 hours of light	100% or 5 foot candles
4 – 16 days	8 hours off	80% or 4.25 foot candles
17 – 40 days	8 hours off	60% or 3.5 foot candles
41 days –	8 hours off	40% or 2.75 foot candles
GAP Standards: minimum requirement is no less than 2 foot candles		


NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS	
	<b>Flock Inspection</b>
	Revision No. 2      Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
	Ben Pitman
<b>PF 017</b>	

Records of any Action and Management Plans must be retained, including but not limited to:

A. General Health

- a. Birds at all stages should be handled in a humane manner according to guidelines specified in the most recent AW training
- b. Bird activity – monitored twice daily
  - i. Feed and water consumption – appropriate for age of birds
  - ii. Health conditions relating to environment including but not limited to:
    1. Eye lesions
    2. Foot pad burns
    3. Physical injuries
  - iii. As per the AW program, any bird unable to thrive (unable to reach feed and water), or unlikely to recover, should be humanely euthanize
  - iv. Culls should be noted on flock mortality records
- c. Ammonia levels should be less than 20ppm – at all stages
  - i. Increase in ammonia levels will result in immediate intervention
    1. Improved ventilation
    2. Litter management
  - ii. Eye lesions contributed to high ammonia should be less than 0.05%
    1. Corrective actions should be taken and recorded in flock record
- d. Mortality
  - i. Daily normal expected mortality – less than 1 bird per 1000 placed
    1. Mortality greater than 3 birds per 1000 will require Technician to be notified
    2. Mortality greater than 6 birds per 1000 – 3 consecutive days
    3. Mortality greater than 10 birds per 1000 – 1 day will require investigation by field technician and consultation with veterinary services
  - ii. Physical evaluation and submission to diagnostic lab when cause of mortality is not easily apparent or diagnose when mortality is greater than 6 birds per 1000
  - iii. Flock performance numbers for livability should meet or exceed yearly goals for season and specific farm
    1. Corrective action plan if: Overall mortality for the year is over 5%
    2. House downtime should average 10 days for the year
      - a. Flock to flock downtime can be less than 10 days as long as previous flock’s performance and livability was within expected range



NUTRITION, LIGHTING, & ANIMAL HEALTH PLANS	
	<b>Flock Inspection</b>
	Revision No. 2      Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
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<b>PF 017</b>	

iii. Emergency euthanasia will be performed under the authority and guidelines as per California Animal Disease Emergency Response Plan


C. Food safety concerns

a. In attempts to reduce and control *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, and other organisms causing food safety concerns, taking the following precautions:

i. Lowering pH

1. Pre-placement of chicks – litter treatment
2. Prior to harvest – water treatment for birds

ii. All products used in conjunction with certification (organic/non gmo)

INSPECTIONS OF BROILERS		
	<b>Gait Scoring</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 018</b>
	Ben Pitman	

### Gait Scoring

To monitor bird leg health and their ability to access feed and water.

Gait scoring must be performed once per flock no earlier than seven days prior to slaughter.


Walk approximately 100 feet of the house between the wall and the first line of drinkers and observe the birds' gait and evaluate 100 birds. Record the number of birds unable to walk or move after gentle encouragement (Score of 2) using the U.S. Gait Scoring System

Broilers may need to be gently encouraged to walk. If the broilers become stressed, especially in hot weather, discontinue scoring immediately.

Score 0 – Bird should walk at least 5 feet, and while the bird may appear ungainly, there are no visible signs of lameness.

Score 1 – Bird should walk at least 5 feet, but appears awkward, uneven in steps.

Score 2 – Bird will not walk 5 feet without sitting down or there is obvious lameness.

OFFICE RECORDS & DOCUMENTATION		
	<b>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 019</b>
	Ben Pitman	


SOPs must be available at the main office in regularly updated comprehensive written instructions, in worker's native language, relating to daily, weekly, and monthly activities and procedures including but not limited to:

- Inspections of equipment (feed and water systems)
- Daily monitoring of ventilation settings/rates
- Maintenance and management of litter
- Monitoring of lighting program
- Biosecurity protocols
- Maintenance and testing of Auxiliary Power Supply
- Maintenance and testing of Alarm Systems
- Maintenance and testing of Automatic Ventilation Systems

Pitman Farms housing will be inspected twice daily to ensure acceptable conditions are present at all times.

A) Feed

- a. Broilers will be fed ad libitum until 8 hours prior to processing
- b. Feed will be distributed evenly throughout system
- c. Broilers will not travel further than 25 feet to reach feed
- d. Track and chain feeding systems will have a continuous supply of feed and distribute evenly
- e. Pans will have an adequate supply of feed and will trigger the line to fill when the control pan is low
  - i. Broilers per feeders will be less than or equal to the maximum number as specified by the manufacturer
- f. Supplemental feed will be in houses until birds are at least 1 week of age. Pans will be topped off daily (either by hand feeding or chick mates)
  - i. Grower will closely monitor quality of feed and any contamination will be removed immediately
- g. Documentation of feed:
  - i. Grower will record feed deliveries and maintain feed tags with flock documents
  - ii. Feed tags will list concentrates and additives
- h. Feed Quality
  - i. Grower will maintain a feed inventory library of two samples per delivery

OFFICE RECORDS & DOCUMENTATION		
	<b>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)</b>	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 019</b>
	Ben Pitman	

1. In the event of contaminated or poor quality feed, a sample will be tested

B) Water

a. Water Supply

- i. Water will be made available to broilers at all times except immediately before being caught and transported for processing
- ii. Drinkers are available and distributed evenly throughout house
- iii. Broilers should not have to travel more than 25 feet to reach water
- iv. Broilers per nipple will be less than or equal to the maximum number as specified by the manufacturer
- v. Water tanks will be available to broilers sufficient for 24 hours in the event of a power failure
  1. If tanks are not adequate, contact a technician to schedule a water truck delivery

b. Water Meters

- i. Water will be measured in gallons and recorded daily per house

c. Water Pressure

- i. Water pressure will be adequate for the age and size of the birds in that house
- ii. Pressure will be evaluated daily to ensure that the water is evenly distributed from the front to back of the house, while not getting the litter wet

d. Water Sanitation

- i. Lines will be flushed at minimum once per flock

C) Equipment

a. Feeding equipment

- i. Chain and track feeders should run with time clock
- ii. Auger feeding systems dispersing feed evenly
  1. Feed pans and tubes not have any holes, leaks, or missing parts
  2. Sensors activate system to run feed when pans are low


b. Watering equipment

- i. Regulators have no leaks or air locks
- ii. Water lines are not leaking, broken, or bent
- iii. Drinkers are dispersing water evenly
- iv. Site tubes are cleaned with lids and pressure indicator ball
- v. Foggers are not leaking


c. Heaters

- i. Heaters are burning evenly
- ii. Pipes are not leaking, cracked, or bent




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- iii. Heaters are not throwing flames or excessive heat from cage
  - d. Fans
    - i. Fans have proper belts around pulleys and running smoothly
    - ii. Fans are running according to set times and temperatures on controllers and run clocks
  - e. Controllers and Timing Clocks
    - i. Controllers are synced with all equipment and controlling in accordance with the program
  - f. Temperature Sensors
    - i. Sensors are reading accurately
    - ii. Sensors are adjusted to bird height
- D) Minimum and maximum house temperatures
  - a. Temperatures will be checked to ensure that the low and high are appropriate and comfortable for the age of the birds
  - b. Fans, foggers, heaters, curtain machines are operating properly to remove moisture and heat
    - i. All sidewall, tunnel, and ceiling fans are working with house controllers and thermostats to maintain temperature and humidity
    - ii. Foggers are not plugged, not dripping, and are evenly dispersing water
    - iii. Heaters are at proper height and is distributing heat evenly
- E) Daily Ventilation Settings
  - a. Growers will evaluate ventilation and air quality daily to ensure optimal bird comfort and growth
    - i. Minimum Ventilation: fans run according to a timer appropriate to bird age and size
      - 1. Minimum ventilation is increased to accommodate the following conditions:
        - a. Increased humidity
        - b. Wet litter
        - c. Ammonia
    - b. Ventilation will never run less than the minimum ventilation settings in attempts to avoid an increase in humidity, wet litter, and poor air quality
    - c. Ventilation will be updated as needed to accommodate cooler/warmer weather, rain, bird size, etc.
    - d. Foggers and cool cells will be used in addition to tunnel fans

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- i. Foggers are used in extreme heat when fans and cool cells cannot cool house down
  - ii. Cool cells used with tunnel fans and programmed with controller
    - 1. Cool cells will be used in tunnel as house temperatures increase
  - e. Ceiling/Stir Fans used to circulate air in addition to tunnel/wall fans
- F) Maintenance and Management of Litter
  - a. Multiple runs on litter are acceptable as long as litter is in good condition
    - i. Litter evaluations done at 15-20 days and re-evaluated the week prior to slaughter if first evaluation exceeds standard
      - 1. Soiled feathers
      - 2. Litter quality
      - 3. Footpad dermatitis
    - ii. Growers should report any issues related to litter quality to Technician
      - 1. Burnt hocks, footpad lesions, breast blisters, etc.
      - 2. Excessive wet, caked litter
  - b. Empty Barn
    - i. Use Poultry Housekeeper to remove caked litter
    - ii. Completely remove wet spots
    - iii. Add new layer 2" of litter (rice hulls or wood shavings)
  - c. Full Cleanout
    - i. Remove all litter from barn and pile outside
    - ii. Use shovel to remove litter around center posts and corners
    - iii. Treat for pests and/or rodents
    - iv. Add new 4" layer of litter (rice hulls or wood shavings)
  - d. Use of Spray Products
    - i. Spread or spray litter treatment as per directions on label
    - ii. Wear proper PPE
  - e. During Flock: Litter should be kept dry
    - i. Maintain proper ventilation
    - ii. Inspect and repair water lines
    - iii. Fix water leaks immediately
    - iv. In the event of a large water leak, fence off wet spot until dry or litter is removed
    - v. Rototill litter as needed to aerate wet litter
  - f. Darkling Beetle Control
    - i. Treat litter with an approved product in accordance with the type of broilers on farm (ie. Organic approved)

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- ii. Spray product as per directions on label
- iii. Wear proper PPE

G) Biosecurity Protocols:

Biosecurity refers to management and physical measures used to reduce the risk of introducing pathogens and spreading diseases within a population. Biosecurity created hygienic conditions within the poultry house to minimize the adverse effects of disease, optimize bird performance and welfare, and provide assurance of food safety issues. Poor bird health has a negative impact on all aspects of flock management and performance. Pitman Family Farms practices the Danish Entry System by establishing a line of separation between the birds and the outside.

People are the most common source of the transferring of diseases.


Any person(s) entering a Pitman facility must certify they have not been in contact with live birds for a minimum of Seventy-two (72) hours.

Fortunately, people are capable of being aware of the potential contamination routes.

The contamination prevention protocol is listed below:


- a. Identify potential breaches in biosecurity
  - a. Pre-chick delivery
    - i. Remove old feed from feeders
    - ii. Remove caked litter and feathers
    - iii. Ammonia treatment
      - 1. Removal of these will reduce the pathogens in the facilities
  - b. Limit accessibility – ALL visitors must sign-in on designated sheet, must wear coveralls, plastic boots, and hair net. All clothing must be covered completely.
    - i. Essential personnel only
      - 1. Owner
      - 2. Designated helpers/chore crew
      - 3. Service technicians
      - 4. Access by visitors (equipment companies, insurance representatives, tax assessors, etc.) permitted only with prior approval from Pitman Family Farms
    - ii. Minimize transmission by essential personnel
      - 1. DO NOT SHARE PERSONNEL WITH OTHER FACILITIES

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2. Do not visit other poultry facilities
  3. Do not allow farm employees to visit other poultry facilities
  4. PERSONNEL ARE NOT PERMITTED TO OWN, HAVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH, OR ALLOW ON THEIR PROPERTY ANY DOMESTIC POULTRY OR WATERFOWL
- iii. Foot baths and disposable foot coverings
    1. Foot baths must be maintained with an approved product and placed at any entrance to a poultry house
    2. Wash boots with approved disinfectant prior to entering poultry house and after exiting
    3. Keep foot bath solution fresh and free of organic material
  - iv. Hand washing/sanitation
    1. Disinfect hands with approved disinfectant prior to entering and after exiting poultry house
  - v. Entry points are secured and locked
  - vi. Logbooks documenting entrance and departure to farm site
  - vii. Biosecurity signs clearly posted at ALL entry points and gates
  - viii. Pest control
    1. Rodents
      - a. Rodents carry disease, prey on chicks, scavenge feed, destroy facilities
      - b. Remove old buildings, lumber piles, wood piles, old equipment, old fencing, trash, weeds, forage from outside of building
      - c. Prevent feed waste
      - d. Fill and pack burrows around houses
      - e. Bait stations with rodenticide
        - i. 20-30 feed along inside walls during downtime
      - f. Use paraffin blocks where moisture is present
      - g. Place throw packs or blocks in ceiling where mice are destroying insulation
      - h. Avoid locating bait where children, pets, or chickens can reach
      - i. Do not contaminate feed with bait
    2. Darkling beetles
      - a. Use only one approved insecticide at a time

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- b. Rotate products every 4 months
- c. Apply product as per manufacturer
- 3. Flies
  - a. Environmental
    - i. Manage feed, litter, and facilities to prevent moisture build up
  - b. Biological
    - i. Dry conditions/environment encourage natural larva predators
    - ii. Commercially available predator insects
  - c. Chemical
    - i. Approved insecticides
- 4. Wild birds
  - a. Eliminate entry points
    - i. Cracks over doors
    - ii. Tears in screens
    - iii. Cracks in vents
    - iv. Junctions of rafters and side wall plates
    - v. End wall doors opened without screens
- ix. Livestock securely fences away from poultry facilities
- x. No other poultry kept or attended by employees
- xi. Carcass disposal
  - 1. Remove mortality at least twice daily
  - 2. Incinerate carcasses
- xii. Litter removal
  - 1. Litter is considered contaminated with pathogens
  - 2. Disinfect shared equipment/machinery before entering and before leaving farm
  - 3. Driver will wear plastic boots before exiting truck
  - 4. Drievr will not enter barns
  - 5. Trailers or containers should be solid and covered
  - 6. Disinfect tires of vehicles and equipment before exiting property
- xiii. Order of barn entry
  - 1. Enter youngest houses first
  - 2. Enter sick houses last
- xiv. Housekeeping


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1. Remove items not routinely used from inside and along the outside of houses
  2. Grass and weeds cut around house foundation and feed bins. 10 ft perimeter. Spray not permitted unless approved.
  3. All roads in and around the poultry farm must be in good condition and suitable for all Pitman Family Farm vehicles, including service trucks, feed and live haul trucks, chick trucks, and must be accessible in all weather conditions
  4. Grower must keep ditches clean and open so that there is no standing water and proper drainage is achieved
  5. Only chemicals and medication obtained through and approved by Pitman Family Farms are allowed on the premises. If medication or an oral supplement is needed, the Service Technician will provide product and determine the dosage and frequency of all products administered. One approved and working proportioner must be available per house or floor. A 5-gallon bucket, or larger clean, covered bucket must be available for mixing and administering medication.
- b. Vehicle Biosecurity Standard Operating Procedures
- a. No unauthorized visitors
    - i. Pitman Family Farms employees – allowed
    - ii. Pre-authorized visitors – allowed
      1. Hatchery
      2. Feed Delivery
      3. Catch Crew and Transport Drivers
  - b. Thoroughly disinfect tires, wheel wells, running boards, and mud flaps upon entering
    - i. Keep vehicle windows closed at all times
    - ii. Close doors immediately upon exiting and entering vehicles
    - iii. Stop at gate or when entire rig is on driveway entry
    - iv. Disinfect loading equipment
    - v. Proceed to appropriate poultry house entrance
  - c. Don personal protective gear if entering production area of house
    - i. Coveralls, hair nets, boots
    - ii. Reusable gear should only be used once
  - d. Step in disinfectant foot pan prior to entering production area

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- i. Upon completion of task, dispose of or bag non-disposable gear on-site
  - e. Reverse order when leaving production area
  - f. Non-entry deliveries (FEED & SUPPLIES)
    - i. Maintain minimal foot traffic on premises for deliveries
      - 1. Receipt drop-off
      - 2. Supplies drop-off
- c. State and Federally Reportable Disease Response
  - a. Diseases designated as threats to the industry and/or human health
    - i. Avian Influenza
    - ii. Newcastle
    - iii. See [www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahrs](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahrs) for complete and current list
  - b. State and Federal officials determine response
    - i. Monitor
    - ii. Depopulate
    - iii. Quarantine
- d. Training and Records
  - a. Personnel involved in live production must be thoroughly trained and competent to adhere to all biosecurity protocols
  - b. Records of training and evidence of biosecurity practice must be readily available for inspection
    - i. Visitor logs
    - ii. Mortality records

RECORDS OF STOCKPERSON TRAINING	
	<b>Training of Catch and Transport Crews</b>
	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
	<b>PF 020</b>
	Ben Pitman

The training of catch and transport crews must be documented and full, detailed, written instructions must be available and provided to all crew members. Training includes:

- Catching, Carrying, and Loading protocols;
- Bird Behaviors
- Bird Welfare
- Animal abuse and how it is not tolerated under any circumstances
- Specific training on the proper use of mechanical catchers (where used) and any other equipment such as forklifts and trucks that affect the broilers; and
- Transport protocols and SOPs.


Catching, Carrying, and Loading protocols;

- Birds must be caught individually.
- No more than five (5) birds may be carried in one hand at one time.
- Birds must be carried by one or both legs at all times, and never by the wings or the neck.
- Birds must be placed in the transport coop within 20 seconds of being caught. The transport coop must be advanced within a few steps of the catch crew as the chickens are loaded.

Mechanical catchers

- The machine is stationed inside the poultry shed and prepared by opening the two wings of the front collection head, which are formed of individual blocks of conveyor belts.
- The operator starts the machine: activates the conveyor belts and slowly moves towards the animals, allowing them to climb onto the collection belts in a natural way that requires no mechanical force. These belts deposit the birds, without subjecting them to any sudden or stressful movements, onto the two transverse belts that lead to the central channel.
- The animals then continue into central channel, where they are carefully transported to the upper part of the machine.
- Here, the caging belt directly deposits the birds into the container.
- With simple controls, the operator can raise or lower the belt, or move it nearer or further away.
- With the same controls, the operator can also move onto the next crate and start or stop the entire machine and all of its collection belts.
- The containers are positioned on a carousel, which, with the aid of automatic movement, allows for a continuous loading process.



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	<b>Training of Catch and Transport Crews</b>
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- Once a module is full, it is then ready for collection by the forklift, which places it on the lorry outside the poultry shed.

#### Transport protocols and SOPs

##### Animal Welfare Officer

- An Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) must be designated and present for each occurrence of flock depopulation. The AWO is responsible for supervising, monitoring, and maintaining high welfare standards throughout the depopulation process

##### Transport SOPs

- All personnel in charge of transportation and transport equipment, including non-employees must be trained in handling birds when loading and unloading them and while in transit. This must be verified through SOPs or a Certificate of Conformance (COC).

##### Hot Weather

- In periods of hot weather, broilers must be transported at night or in the coolest part of the day OR systems must be in place to provide cooling during load out of birds.
- Summer green drawer may contain a maximum of 85 lbs. of live chickens.
- Trailer front is open to allow air ventilation during hot weather


##### High ambient Temperatures

- The transport SOPs must describe appropriate actions to be taken during catching, loading, and unloading when high ambient temperatures and/or high humidity pose a threat of heat stress to the birds. Prior to depopulation, weather forecasts must be consulted to determine the expected weather conditions, and if necessary supplemental ventilation or other cooling systems must be provided to reduce the risk of heat stress to the birds. This is especially true of birds reared in houses with tunnel ventilation.

##### Protect birds during transfer

- The transport SOP must identify steps that are to be taken to shelter and protect the birds when they are transported during extreme weather

##### Transport Accident

RECORDS OF STOCKPERSON TRAINING	
	<b>Training of Catch and Transport Crews</b>
	Revision No. 2      Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
	Ben Pitman
<b>PF 020</b>	

- In the event of an accident involving a poultry transport truck or a roll-over of a poultry transport truck, the load should be pulled upright by a competent wrecker service as soon as it is safe to do so. If experienced handlers are available, rely upon their advice. Poultry shippers should usually provide catching crews to the accident site quickly. Birds should not be chased or caused to fly. It may be possible to gently, quietly and calmly herd or direct a small group of birds in a specific direction. Severely injured birds should be humanely killed after dealing with the uninjured birds.

#### Delays

- Every effort must be made to help ensure journeys are completed without unnecessary delays, i.e. drivers must be aware of any potential traffic problems and plan their journey accordingly.

#### Minimal time on waiting on vehicle


- The person supervising the catching and loading of birds must work closely and coordinate with the processing plant to minimize the time birds spend waiting on the vehicle.

#### Time in Transport

- Records must be kept on file for at least a year for each flock documenting that the time of arrival at the broiler farm to the time of unloading at the processing plant for each transport truck does not exceed 12 hours

#### Stationary Vehicle

- If it is necessary to keep birds on a stationary vehicle, the driver must take action to avoid thermal stress to the birds.

TRANSPORT		
	Transport SOPs	
	Revision No. 2	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:	<b>PF 021</b>
	Ben Pitman	

### Transport SOPs

- All personnel in charge of transportation and transport equipment, including non-employees must be trained in handling birds when loading and unloading them and while in transit. This must be verified through SOPs or a Certificate of Conformance (COC).

### Hot Weather

- In periods of hot weather, broilers must be transported at night or in the coolest part of the day OR systems must be in place to provide cooling during load out of birds.
- Summer green drawer may contain a maximum of 85 lbs. of live chickens.
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### High ambient Temperatures

- The transport SOPs must describe appropriate actions to be taken during catching, loading, and unloading when high ambient temperatures and/or high humidity pose a threat of heat stress to the birds. Prior to depopulation, weather forecasts must be consulted to determine the expected weather conditions, and if necessary supplemental ventilation or other cooling systems must be provided to reduce the risk of heat stress to the birds. This is especially true of birds reared in houses with tunnel ventilation.

### Protect birds during transfer

- The transport SOP must identify steps that are to be taken to shelter and protect the birds when they are transported during extreme weather


### Transport Accident

- In the event of an accident involving a poultry transport truck or a roll-over of a poultry transport truck, the load should be pulled upright by a competent wrecker service as soon as it is safe to do so. If experienced handlers are available, rely upon their advice. Poultry shippers should usually provide catching crews to the accident site quickly. Birds should not be chased or caused to fly. It may be possible to gently, quietly and calmly herd or direct a small group of birds in a specific direction. Severely injured birds should be humanely killed after dealing with the uninjured birds.

### Delays

- Every effort must be made to help ensure journeys are completed without unnecessary delays, i.e. drivers must be aware of any potential traffic problems and plan their journey accordingly.

### Minimal time on waiting on vehicle

TRANSPORT	
	<b>Transport SOPs</b>
	Revision No. 2
	Revision Date: 10/12/2022
	Prepared by:
Ben Pitman	<b>PF 021</b>

- The person supervising the catching and loading of birds must work closely and coordinate with the processing plant to minimize the time birds spend waiting on the vehicle.

#### Time in Transport

- Records must be kept on file for at least a year for each flock documenting that the time of arrival at the broiler farm to the time of unloading at the processing plant for each transport truck goal is not exceed 12 hours

#### Stationary Vehicle

- If it is necessary to keep birds on a stationary vehicle, the driver must take action to avoid thermal stress to the birds.

# Emergency Procedures

## Truck Drivers

### Call 911-For Major Emergency

- Fire
- Major Accident / Serious Injury
- Major Accident
- Truck Rolls Over
- Dramatic loss of Birds

### Order to Call

1. 911
2. Art Cervantes 209-617-0340
3. David Pitman 559-284-6222
4. Rick Pitman 559-250-0258

### Minor Emergency

- Traffic Stop / Traffic flow
- Flat Tire / Mechanical trouble
- Driver too tired / Unable to drive load safely

### Order to Call

1. Andrew Sanchez 559-246-6215
2. Art Cervantes 209-617-0340
3. Arturo Zaragoza 559-281-4258
4. Miguel Sains 559-317-7255
5. Rick Pitman 559-250-0258
6. David Pitman 559-284-6222

The transporters should have a contingency plan and drivers aware of its content. If a transport truck is involved in an accident, the transporters should contact the identified, specialized catching crew as soon as possible.

If crates (cages) have been spilled and birds are still inside, turn the crates upright as soon as possible, ensure no heads, wings or legs are protruding from the opening and stack them neatly by the side of the road away from the vehicle as quickly as possible.

Birds may be severely affected by extremes of cold or heat. In cold weather, there will be weather protection in place on poultry trucks. Birds in a disabled truck may suffocate if the weather protection is left in place on a stationary load. The birds must be closely monitored and weather protection should be adjusted if necessary to provide increased ventilation.

In the event of an accident involving a poultry transport truck or a roll-over of a poultry transport truck, the load should be pulled upright by a competent wrecker service as soon as it is safe to do so. If experienced handlers are available, rely upon their advice. Poultry shippers should usually provide catching crews to the accident site quickly. Birds should not be chased or caused to fly. It may be possible to gently, quietly and calmly herd or direct a small group of birds in a specific direction. Severely injured birds should be humanely killed after dealing with the uninjured birds.

# Procedimientos de emergencias

## Controladores de camión

### Llame al 911 - para mayor emergencia

- Fuego
- Principales accidentes / graves lesiones
- Principales accidentes
- Camión Rolls Over
- Pérdida dramática de las aves

### Fin de la llamada

1. 911
2. Art Cervantes 209-617-0340
3. David Pitman 559-284-6222
4. Rick Pitman 559-250-0258

### Emergencia de menor

- Tráfico Stop / flujo de tráfico
- Tire plana / Mechanical problemas
- Controlador demasiado cansado / unidad no se puede cargar de forma segura

### Fin de la llamada

1. Andrew Sanchez 559-246-6215
2. Art Cervantes 209-617-0340
3. Arturo Zaragoza 559-281-4258
4. Miguel Sains 559-317-7255
5. Rick Pitman 559-250-0258
6. David Pitman 559-284-6222

Los transportadores deben tener un plan de contingencia y controladores conscientes de su contenido. Si un camión de transporte está involucrado en un accidente, los transportadores de ponerse en contacto con la tripulación de captura identificada, especializada tan pronto como sea posible.

Si han sido derramados cajas (jaulas) y las aves son aún están dentro, activar las cajas vertical tan pronto como sea posible, asegúrese de no cabezas, alas o las piernas son que sobresalen de la apertura y la pila les claramente por el lado de la carretera lejos del vehículo lo más rápidamente posible.

Las aves pueden ser gravemente afectadas por extremos de frío o calor. En un clima frío, habrá protección de tiempo en lugar de camiones de las aves de corral. Las aves en un camión de discapacidad pueden sofocarse si la protección del clima se deja en el lugar de un parado de la carga. Las aves se vigilará estrechamente y protección del clima debe ser ajustado, si es necesario para proporcionar mayor ventilación.

En el caso de un accidente que implican un aves de corral transporte camión o un vuelco de un camión de transporte de aves de corral, la carga debe ser extraído vertical por un servicio competente wrecker tan pronto como sea seguro hacerlo. Si existen controladores experimentados, dependen de su asesoramiento. Cargadores de aves de corral generalmente deben proporcionar rápidamente captura tripulaciones para el sitio del accidente. Las aves no deben ser perseguidas o causadas a volar. Puede ser posible suavemente, tranquilamente y con calma los rebaños o dirigir a un pequeño grupo de aves en una dirección específica. Aves gravemente heridas deben ser compasiva después de tratar con las aves ileso.

