



## National Animal Welfare Standard for the Chicken Meat Industry

November 2020



**AgriFutures<sup>®</sup>**  
Chicken Meat

# **National Animal Welfare Standard for the Chicken Meat Industry**

NAWS 1001 v2.0

November 2020

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## Foreword

This National Animal Welfare Standard for the Chicken Meat Industry ('the Standard') has been developed in accordance with the NAWS001 Standards Development Procedure. The Standard reflects international expectations for standard development as described in:

- World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, *Annex 3 Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards*; and
- ISO/IEC 17007:2009, *Conformity assessment – Guidance for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment*.

The Standard was written by the AgriFutures Australia – Chicken Meat Standards Committee ('the Committee') to reflect legislation and customer expectations for animal welfare. The Committee represents a balanced set of stakeholder interests with no one interest predominating. The members of the Committee come from the following interest groups:

- meat chicken industry representatives;
- poultry scientists, researchers and technical experts;
- animal welfare experts;
- standards writing and conformity assessment experts;
- regulators with an interest in animal welfare;
- intergovernmental animal health and welfare organisations.

This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

The first edition of the Standard was developed in 2008, and contained requirements based on the 'Welfare Audit for the Chicken Meat Industry' (2001). Since that time there have been both improvements in industry practice and international standard development procedures.

The Standard is intended for incorporation into existing chicken meat industry quality assurance programs. There is a possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. AgriFutures Australia shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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## Introduction

The Standard sets out requirements for the welfare of meat chickens (including meat breeders) during production and processing. The requirements apply to all stages of production unless stated otherwise. The requirements are structured to address the topics of:

1. management requirements;
2. resource requirements;
3. egg management and hatching;
4. housing and husbandry;
5. bird health;
6. handling and transport; and
7. processing.

The requirements in this Standard are based on existing scientific knowledge in terms of meat chicken welfare and farming practices. Future editions will take into account new research and experience.

Wherever possible, the requirements in this Standard are written as performance-based outcomes for meat chicken production and processing and designed to encompass the differences in farming and processing practices. This means that the Standard can be fulfilled by any organisation undertaking the production and processing of meat chickens regardless of the size or complexity of its activities.

Performance-based requirements provide meat chicken production and processing organizations with a great deal of flexibility on how they may choose to demonstrate conformity with this Standard. To fulfil this Standard, organizations involved in chicken meat production and processing activities must also demonstrate that they have identified, understood and fulfilled any relevant regulatory, statutory and contractual requirements (Compliance Requirements).

In accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, this document uses the following verbal forms of expression:

- “shall” indicates a requirement;
- “should” indicates a recommendation;
- “may” indicates a permission;
- “can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

To help organizations and auditors apply the Standard, accompanying guidance on how conformity may be demonstrated has been developed. This is designed to assist in the implementation, audit and verification activities.

## 1 Scope

This document provides requirements for the management of meat breeders and meat chickens during production and processing in Australian farming and processing businesses. The Standard covers: housing and husbandry requirements related to meat breeders and meat chickens; incubation, hatching and chick management at the hatchery; handling and transport, and slaughter at the processing plant. The 'organization' can be an individual operation (for example, farm, hatchery, processing plant) or an integrated company undertaking several activities.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

- Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines – Land Transport of Livestock
- Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals – Domestic Poultry
- Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals – Livestock at Slaughtering Establishments
- Australian Standard for construction of premises and hygienic production of poultry meat for human consumption (AS 4465:2005)

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

Term	Definition
3.1 ACMF	Australian Chicken Meat Federation Inc.
3.2 Animal welfare	The physical and mental state of an animal in relation to the conditions in which it lives and dies. SOURCE OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code
3.3 Bird	Meat chicken or meat breeder, as appropriate.
3.4 Chick	Poultry less than 72 hours old. Commonly known as day-old chicks.
3.5 Competency	The demonstrated ability to apply knowledge and skills.
3.6 Compliance Requirements	Relevant regulatory, statutory and contractual requirements.
3.7 Correction	Action to eliminate an identified nonconformity. SOURCE ISO 9000:2015, 3.12.3
3.8 Corrective action	Action to eliminate the cause of a nonconformity and prevent recurrence. SOURCE ISO 9000:2015, 3.12.2
3.9 Documented information	Information required to be controlled and maintained by an organization.
3.10 Humane	Methods that afford the minimum amount of stress and pain.

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3.11 Killing	Any procedure which causes the death of an animal.
3.12 Lairage	A designated holding area of a processing plant where meat chickens or meat breeders are held before processing.
3.13 Living tissue	Containing nervous or vascular tissue; not horny or dead tissue or feathers.
3.14 Nonconformity	Nonfulfillment of a requirement or failure to demonstrate fulfilment of a requirement.
3.15 OIE Terrestrial Code	The general provisions of the World Organisation for Animal Health.
3.16 Organization	A person, cooperative, association or company that undertakes chicken meat production or processing activities (or both).
3.17 Pick-up crew	Personnel involved in catching meat chickens or meat breeders in preparation for transport to the processing plant.
3.18 Processing plant	Abattoir or premises used for the slaughter of meat chickens or meat breeders and production of chicken meat products.
3.19 Stocking density	The number or weight of animals per unit area, usually measured in kg/m <sup>2</sup> for meat chickens or meat breeders. Related to the space allowance provided to the bird.
3.20 Stunning	<p>The procedure for rendering an animal unconscious and insensible to pain</p> <p>Irreversible – where there is no possibility of the animal regaining consciousness</p> <p>Reversible – where the animal may regain consciousness unless effectively bled out to cause death</p>
3.21 The Standard	This Standard, that is the <i>National Animal Welfare Standard for the Chicken Meat Industry (NAWS 1001)</i> .
3.22 Training	Formal and informal vocational education and development.
3.23 Unconsciousness	State of unawareness (loss of consciousness) in which there is temporary or permanent disruption to brain function.

## 4 Management requirements

### 4.1 General operational requirements

4.1.1 The organization shall identify and understand its Compliance Requirements associated with its chicken meat production and processing activities.

4.1.2 The organization shall ensure that it, or any of its suppliers or service providers, fulfil Compliance Requirements that relate to chicken meat production and processing activities.

NOTE Examples of production and processing activities include catching, transport and feed supply.

4.1.3 The organization shall ensure that when it supplies fertile eggs, live meat chickens or meat breeders, the receiving entity acknowledges the relevant Compliance Requirements.

### 4.2 Management system

4.2.1 The organization shall establish, implement, and maintain a management system that enables the consistent fulfilment of the requirements in this Standard.

4.2.2 The management system shall include at least the following:

- a) identification of Compliance Requirements associated with activities as related to the welfare of meat chickens and meat breeders during production and processing;
- b) identification, monitoring and control of processes used to carry out production and processing activities as related to animal welfare (including those detailed in Annex A);
- c) resource management, including human resource management, allocation of responsibilities and competence;
- d) performance evaluation and improvement; and
- e) documented information that is necessary to demonstrate consistent fulfilment of the requirements in this Standard.

NOTE The extent of the documented information for a management system can differ between organizations based on the size of the organization and the type of activities being undertaken.

### 4.3 Document control

4.3.1 When documented information required by the management system and by this Standard is created and updated, the organization shall ensure appropriate:

- a) identification and description (e.g. a title, date, author, reference number);
- b) format and media (e.g. paper, electronic); and
- c) review and approval for suitability and adequacy.

4.3.2 Documented information required by the management system and by this Standard shall be controlled to ensure that:

- a) it is available and suitable for use; and
- b) it is adequately protected (e.g. from improper use, loss of confidentiality or loss of integrity).

4.3.3 For the control of documented information, the organization shall address:

- a) distribution, access, retrieval and use;
- b) storage and preservation;
- c) control of changes (e.g. version control); and
- d) retention and disposition.

## **4.4 Performance evaluation and improvement**

4.4.1 The organization shall identify, monitor and measure performance indicators as they relate to animal welfare.

4.4.2 The organization shall analyse its performance to identify and evaluate:

- a) the achievement of performance targets;
- b) conformity with the requirements of this Standard;
- c) areas of risk; and
- d) opportunities for animal welfare improvement.

4.4.3 The organization shall plan, establish and implement an internal audit program that:

- a) ensures all parts of the management system (4.2) are audited on at least an annual basis;
- b) takes into account the importance of the processes concerned, any changes that affect the organization, the results of previous internal audits and external evaluations;
- c) includes the frequency, methods, responsibilities, planning and reporting requirements for internal audits, including the audit criteria and scope for each internal audit;
- d) appoints competent internal auditors that conduct audits in a manner that ensures objectivity, consistency and impartiality;
- e) reports the results to relevant management;
- f) initiates any necessary corrective actions; and
- g) retains documented information as evidence of audit implementation.

NOTE Guidance for auditing management systems can be found in ISO 19011, *Guidelines for auditing management systems*.

4.4.4 When a nonconformity occurs, the organization shall:

- a) correct the nonconformity;
- b) determine the cause of the nonconformity and ways to prevent its reoccurrence;
- c) undertake and review the effectiveness of any corrective actions; and
- d) make any necessary changes to the management system.

NOTE Nonconformities can be identified through various activities, including internal audits, external evaluations, performance monitoring activities and in response to feedback and complaints.

4.4.5 Corrective actions shall be appropriate to the effects of the nonconformities encountered.

4.4.6 The organization shall retain documented information as evidence of:

- a) the nature of the nonconformity and the corrective action taken; and
- b) the results of any corrective action.

## 5 Resource requirements

### 5.1 Human resource management and competencies

5.1.1 The organization shall:

- a) identify and have access to enough personnel to enable the fulfilment of the requirements of the Standard;
- b) demonstrate that personnel involved in activities relating to husbandry, administration of treatment, taking samples from live birds, handling, stunning, bleeding, killing and animal welfare monitoring are competent;
- c) allocate and communicate to personnel their responsibilities; and
- d) ensure that trainers and assessors have vocational competencies at least to the level being delivered and assessed.

5.1.2 The organization shall identify and allocate responsibilities for fulfilling animal welfare requirements, including specific personnel at each site with responsibility for:

- a) animal welfare, including killing;
- b) the day-to-day application of the Standard; and
- c) animal welfare monitoring activities, including the effectiveness of stunning, bleeding and killing.

5.1.3 The organization shall provide training to personnel that:

- a) is appropriate to their assigned responsibilities; and
- b) includes emergency preparedness.

NOTE Examples of emergencies include fire, injury to livestock, truck breakdowns or accidents, acts of nature, power failures and environmental conditions (e.g. extreme heat or cold, flooding, high winds), disease outbreak, disruptions to feed and water.

### 5.2 Physical resources

5.2.1 Infrastructure and equipment shall:

- a) not cause harm to birds;
- b) enable management of environmental conditions, to provide for effective thermoregulation; and

NOTE Environmental conditions can include temperature, humidity, air quality which can be modified and managed by provision of shade, ventilation or climate control and air conditioning.

- c) be in good repair and effective working order.

- 5.2.2 If defective infrastructure and equipment could cause or result in harm to birds, the organization shall ensure:
- a) birds be protected from harm; or
  - b) the infrastructure and equipment are not used until repaired.
- 5.2.3 The organization shall ensure that any equipment used for the humane killing of birds is readily available.

## **6 Egg management and hatching**

### **6.1 Egg collection, storage and transport**

- 6.1.1 The organization shall ensure egg management procedures fulfil Compliance Requirements.
- 6.1.2 The organization shall determine and apply optimal egg collection, storage and transport conditions with consideration of:
- a) timing and frequency of egg collection;
  - b) egg hygiene; and
  - c) storage temperature and humidity.
- 6.1.3 The organization shall ensure that eggs are maintained in a sanitary condition during collection, storage and transportation.

NOTE Maintaining eggs in a sanitary condition may involve egg disinfection.

### **6.2 Incubation and hatching**

- 6.2.1 The organization shall ensure hatchery processes fulfil Compliance Requirements.
- 6.2.2 The organization shall:
- a) determine and apply optimal incubation conditions, taking action when deviations occur; and
  - b) use hatchers and setters that provide optimal temperatures and humidity to satisfy the biological needs of the embryos.
- 6.2.3 The organization shall maintain records of incubation and hatching:
- a) in accordance with any Compliance Requirements; and
  - b) to identify any significant deviations to enable corrective action to be taken.
- 6.2.4 The organization shall monitor incubation times to allow for timely removal of chicks.
- 6.2.5 The organization shall assess the viability of chicks after hatching.
- 6.2.6 The organization shall determine and implement a regular schedule for killing unhatched embryos and non-viable chicks, to ensure that animal welfare is not compromised.
- 6.2.7 The organization shall ensure that chicks in holding areas:
- a) are held in conditions that do not cause heat or cold stress; and
  - b) are inspected at regular intervals throughout the holding period.

- 6.2.8 The organization shall handle and transport chicks in accordance with the requirements outlined in Section 9.

### **6.3 Vaccination and health procedures**

- 6.3.1 The organization shall implement a chick health protocol to cover all treatment at the hatchery and monitoring of treatment outcomes, including reference to at least the following:
- a) vaccinations; and
  - b) procedures that involve the removal or treatment of living tissue (as described in Annex B).
- 6.3.2 The organization shall ensure that any procedure that involves the removal or treatment of living tissue is carried out in accordance with Annex B.

## 7 Housing and husbandry

### 7.1 Housing conditions

7.1.1 The organization shall provide and manage housing facilities that:

- a) are of sufficient size, in accordance with Compliance Requirements;

NOTE Minimum space allowances also include adequate nesting space (for breeding birds) and perching (where perches are provided).

- b) allow birds to adopt their preferred postural position;
- c) allow access to food and water;
- d) enable management of environmental conditions, to provide for effective thermoregulation;
- e) provide birds with ventilation that ensures an adequate supply of oxygen and prevents the build-up of ammonia and humidity;
- f) allow for the effective control of disease;
- g) allow for expressions of behavioural needs;
- h) prevent escape;
- i) prevent the entry of predators; and
- j) deter wild birds and other pests.

7.1.2 The organization shall ensure that litter material is provided and is managed to avoid predisposing birds to health and welfare issues.

7.1.3 The organization shall ensure that free-range birds are given access to a range during daylight hours:

- a) when conditions are appropriate; and

NOTE Access to an outdoor range may need to be restricted during adverse weather, disease outbreak, or when birds are insufficiently feathered for the conditions.

- b) that provides vegetation and shelter to encourage ranging.

7.1.4 The organization shall provide birds with light for a period and at an intensity that:

- a) meets Compliance Requirements;
- b) allows normal behaviour; and
- c) allows birds to be inspected.

## **7.2 Feed and water**

7.2.1 The organization shall ensure birds have access to drinking water and feed, in accordance with Compliance Requirements.

7.2.2 The organization shall ensure birds have access to a quantity and quality of drinking water that:

a) satisfies their daily requirements;

b) is not harmful; and

c) meets Compliance Requirements for acceptable levels of pathogens.

7.2.3 The organization shall ensure birds have access to a quantity and quality of feed that:

a) meets their nutritional requirements for health and well-being; and

b) is not harmful.

NOTE Harmful feed could include poisonous vegetation (or that which has been contaminated with chemicals) on ranges or feed that has been inappropriately stored, has become spoiled or is in a poor physical state.

## **8 Bird health**

### **8.1 Biosecurity**

- 8.1.1 The organization shall ensure disease control measures, including biosecurity arrangements and reporting, are in accordance with Compliance Requirements.
- 8.1.2 The organization shall ensure that possible disease and biosecurity risks are identified, and mitigation measures are developed and documented.

### **8.2 Inspection and treatment**

- 8.2.1 The organization shall:
- a) inspect birds to enable the early detection of disease, abnormal behaviour or conditions that may cause suffering;
  - b) determine the inspection frequency based on the specific production system and needs of the birds; and
  - c) remove and dispose of any dead birds identified during the inspection, in accordance with Compliance Requirements.
- 8.2.2 The organization shall ensure sick or injured birds receive treatment appropriate for the condition and severity.

NOTE Treatment can include adjustment to management, veterinary treatment, humane killing and sending for processing (where the birds meet fitness to transport criteria outlined in Annex C).

- 8.2.3 The organization shall ensure that treatment, including the use of veterinary medicines, fulfils Compliance Requirements.
- 8.2.4 The organization shall only administer antibiotics under the direction of a veterinarian.
- 8.2.5 The organization shall ensure veterinary medicines are stored, used and disposed in accordance with:
- a) label instructions for use in meat chickens or meat breeders; or
  - b) as directed by a veterinarian.
- 8.2.6 During production, the organization shall maintain records of:
- a) mortalities;
  - b) birds humanely killed; and
  - c) main reasons for humane killing.

### **8.3 Humane killing**

8.3.1 The organization shall ensure methods for killing and subsequent disposal of dead birds fulfil Compliance Requirements.

8.3.2 The organization shall ensure:

- a) that killing of birds is in accordance with the killing methods described in Annex D; and
- b) birds are checked at an appropriate time after the application of the killing method to confirm death.

## 9 Handling and transport

### 9.1 Catching and handling

9.1.1 The organization shall ensure that handling is in accordance with Compliance Requirements.

9.1.2 The organization shall ensure that the handling of birds is undertaken in a manner that:

- a) does not cause harm to the bird;
- b) uses low-stress techniques taking into account the bird's natural behaviour;

NOTE For example, reducing stress by adjusting lighting.

- c) does not subject birds to noise that creates stress or panic; and
- d) involves the appropriate use of handling equipment.

NOTE Handling equipment may include barriers, catching equipment, scales, chick handling equipment in hatcheries.

### 9.2 Loading and transportation

9.2.1 The organization shall ensure that loading and transportation is in accordance with Compliance Requirements.

9.2.2 The organization responsible for arranging the transport shall plan the transport having consideration of:

- a) the condition of the containers used to hold the birds and minimum space allowances;
- b) the duration of transportation (loading, unloading and journey);
- c) the expected climatic and environmental conditions;
- d) ventilation required to maintain birds in their appropriate thermal range;
- e) the road conditions and any driver rest stops; and
- f) emergency events, such as accidents, extreme weather, breakdowns and acts of nature.

9.2.3 The organization shall ensure that birds are fit for the intended journey in accordance with Annex C.

9.2.4 Prior to departure, the organization shall ensure that the load is checked to ensure that it is effectively secured and birds are comfortable.

9.2.5 During the transportation of day-old chicks, the organization shall ensure that the temperature and airflow in fully enclosed vehicles are monitored and action taken as necessary.

9.2.6 The organization shall ensure documented information is maintained, including:

- a) the number and identification of the birds;
- b) time of feed and water withdrawal;
- c) place, date and time of departure;
- d) intended place of destination;
- e) place, date and time of arrival;
- f) expected and actual duration of the journey; and
- g) any mortalities, injuries or significant delays or incidents.

## **10 Processing**

### **10.1 Receival and lairage**

- 10.1.1 The organization shall ensure that the receival and lairage of live birds at the processing plant fulfils Compliance Requirements.
- 10.1.2 The organization shall ensure that birds are protected from exposure to adverse weather conditions.
- 10.1.3 The organization shall ensure that during holding in the lairage, the welfare of birds is monitored; with action taken if welfare is compromised.
- 10.1.4 The organization shall ensure that records of birds dead on arrival, rejects and details of other welfare issues are documented and used to provide feedback to producers, pick-up crew and transport operators.

### **10.2 Stunning and bleeding**

- 10.2.1 The organization shall ensure that the stunning and bleeding of birds at the processing plant fulfils Compliance Requirements.
- 10.2.2 The organization shall ensure that birds are stunned prior to bleeding, using a permitted method as described in Annex D (Table 3).
- 10.2.3 The organization shall ensure that:
  - a) stunning is effective; and
  - b) monitoring of stunning effectiveness and management of failures associated with the stunning system are performed in accordance with the procedures developed under Annex A.
- 10.2.4 The organization shall ensure that:
  - a) birds remain unconscious during the period between stunning and death; and
  - b) dressing procedures are not performed before the bird is dead.

## **11 Traceability**

The organization shall ensure that the identification and movement of fertile eggs and live birds fulfils compliance requirements for traceability.

**ANNEX A**  
**Documented procedures**  
**(Normative)**

Organizations shall develop documented procedures for the following activities:

- Scheduling and management of transport
- Catching and handling
- Humane killing
- Stunning and bleeding
  - Including action to be taken in the event of ineffective stunning
- Contingency planning for emergency responses
- Animal welfare monitoring
  - Including targets for effective stunning and bleeding
  - Including targets for animal welfare outcome measures, for example, broken wings, footpad dermatitis

## ANNEX B

### Procedures that involve the removal or treatment of living tissue from the bird (Normative)

With the exception of chicks in the hatchery, these procedures shall not be undertaken at any other stage of the bird's life. Any deviation from the procedures (and conditions) described in the table shall only be undertaken in accordance with veterinary direction.

Description of procedure	Conditions of use
Beak treatment using infrared method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Only day-old chicks selected as potential breeders or long-lived strains.</li><li>- Equipment used in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.</li><li>- Equipment setting appropriate for chick size.</li><li>- Competent personnel.</li></ul>
Toe treatment – Trimming of the nail or removal of the terminal segment of the two inward-pointing toes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Only day-old male chicks identified as potential breeders.</li><li>- Equipment used in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.</li><li>- Equipment settings appropriate for chick size.</li><li>- Competent personnel.</li></ul>
De-spurring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Only day-old male chicks selected as potential breeders.</li><li>- Equipment used in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.</li><li>- Competent personnel.</li></ul>
Dubbing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Only day-old male chicks selected as potential breeders.</li><li>- Limited to one-quarter of the comb removed.</li><li>- Competent personnel.</li></ul>

**ANNEX C**  
**Fitness for transport**  
**(Normative)**

Livestock must be assessed as fit for the intended journey at every loading by a person in charge. A bird is not fit for a journey if it is:

- i) severely emaciated;
- ii) visibly dehydrated;
- iii) showing visible signs of severe injury or distress;
- iv) suffering from conditions that are likely to cause increased pain or distress during transport; or
- v) has a broken leg/s or is unable to walk.

## ANNEX D

### Permitted stunning and killing methods (Normative)

Other methods may be acceptable under certain circumstances (for example, during an exotic disease outbreak) when directed by Government agencies or a veterinarian.

**Table 1: In the hatchery**

Method	Application	Conditions
<b>Controlled atmosphere killing system</b>	Day-old chicks	- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations (where available) in relation to dwell time and gas concentration.
<b>Neck dislocation (killing method)</b>	Day-old chicks	- Manual neck dislocation involving stretching of the neck to break the spinal cord. - Crushing the neck is not permitted.
<b>Maceration (killing method)</b>	Day-old chicks Embryos in shell	- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations - Immediate physical destruction.

**Table 2: On-farm**

Method	Application	Conditions
<b>Electrical killing system (whole body using a waterbath)</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations where available. - Both feet placed in the correct position on the shackle. - Birds not shackled on top of severed feet. - Birds head in contact with the electrode/electrified water for the full length of the waterbath. - Electrical current and frequency to result in immediate unconsciousness and subsequent death of the bird.
<b>Electrical stunning system (head-only application of electrodes)</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations where available. - Using electrodes that span the brain. - To be followed by a killing method or bleeding.
<b>Controlled atmosphere killing system</b>	Meat chickens (including chicks) Meat breeders (including chicks)	- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations (where available) in relation to dwell time and gas concentration. - Concentration and dwell time sufficient to result in the death of the bird.
<b>Neck dislocation (killing method)</b>	Meat chickens (including chicks) Meat breeders (including chicks)	- Manual neck dislocation involving stretching of the neck to break the spinal cord. - Crushing the neck is not permitted.
<b>Mechanical killing methods</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations. - Using a mechanical device that applies a controlled blow to the head.

**Table 3: In the processing plant**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
<b>Electrical stunning system (whole body using a waterbath)</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations where available.</li><li>- Both feet placed in the correct position on the shackle.</li><li>- Birds not shackled on top of severed feet.</li><li>- Birds head in contact with the electrode/electrified water for the full length of the waterbath.</li><li>- To be followed by bleeding.</li></ul>
<b>Electrical stunning (head-only application of electrodes)</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations where available.</li><li>- Using electrodes that span the brain.</li><li>- To be followed by bleeding.</li></ul>
<b>Controlled atmosphere stunning methods</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations (where available) in relation to dwell time and gas concentration.</li><li>- To be followed by bleeding.</li></ul>
<b>Neck dislocation (killing method)</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Manual neck dislocation involving stretching of the neck to break the spinal cord.</li><li>- Crushing the neck is not permitted.</li></ul>
<b>Mechanical killing methods</b>	Meat chickens Meat breeders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment to be used according to manufacturer's recommendations.</li><li>- Using a mechanical device that applies a controlled blow to the head.</li></ul>

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