



HFAC INSPECTION CHECKLIST – Meat Chickens

TO BE COMPLETED IN FULL

PREMISES/FARM NAME & ADDRESS	
	Inspector Name:
	Inspection Date:
	Personnel Present:

DETAILS OF BIRDS INSPECTED				
Current Number of Birds:	Number of Birds Produced Annually:	Current Age of Birds:		
Breed/Strain:		Current Average Weight:	Target Average Finished Weight:	Planned Date of Catching:

****Using HFAC Animal Care Standards for Chickens as a reference, verify the operation’s compliance with the numbered standards and record findings. Address all topics noted in the “Guidance & Evidence” column. Complete the Meat Chicken calculations chart and submit to HFAC office with this checklist.****

****During the inspection, inspectors should also verify accuracy of information supplied on application form, correct it where necessary, and return the application with the inspection report.****

NOTE: Lack of compliance with shaded items marked with an asterisk (*) indicates Major Noncompliance. Where applicable, the specific part of the standard which constitutes a major n/c is noted (where not specified, all elements must be met).

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
Appl.	Review of Application	Did you review application for completion and accuracy? Return complete, corrected, verified application with insp. report.		
M4	Producers must keep a Complaints Log	Is there a complaints Log? Did you review the complaints log? Any complaints from the public regarding producer not being in compliance with HFAC standards or program?		
Documentation - Food				
FW 4	FW 4: Feed records a. Producers must have a written record of the feed ingredients and nutrient content of each feed used, as declared by the feed mill/manufacturer/supplier. b. Producers must make feed records available to <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> during inspection and at other times, upon request.	Review feed tags & feed records; are there any unacceptable substances in the feed? Identify any uncertain or prohibited ingredients. Enclose label if available. Check for statements such as “no antibiotics,” “free from contamination,” or “meat and bone-meal free.” If antibiotics are found, there must be a prescription by a licensed veterinarian explaining the purpose of the antibiotic and how long it is to be used for. Identify feed supplier(s) and what was purchased from them. Copies of invoices / delivery records are acceptable. Examine any home mixing facilities for hygiene, pest control, storage etc. Record any problems in this area.		
Documentation - Environment				
E1	E 1: Records of features of facilities that promote animal welfare For all accommodations, a notice containing a checklist of the key points relating to welfare must be prominently displayed at, or near, the entrance to each and be amended accordingly. This must include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Total floor area available to the birds; Total number of birds placed in house; Total number of drinkers and total number of feeders or total linear feeder space; Feeding program; Target air quality and temperature parameters; Lighting levels and regimes; and Emergency procedures, i.e. actions in the case of fire, flood, failure of automatic equipment, and when temperatures move outside acceptable ranges. 	This information does not have to be at the barn as long as it is available at the inspection for each house and given to the inspector. Does the information comply with the standards in respect of key points ? Is the information accurate as to the number of birds, drinkers, feeders, floor space, etc.? List key points on plan. Record where it is found & whether staff aware of it & what it says.		
E15	E 15: Light period The lighting system in the chicken house must provide in each period of 24 hours: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum period of 8 hours of light, by the provision of either artificial light or access to daylight; and A minimum period of 6 continuous hours of darkness in every 24-hour cycle, except when the natural period of darkness is shorter. This requirement need not apply during the first few days of rearing and the last three days prior to slaughter. 	Review and verify lighting schedule records meet the standards. Record what lighting schedule is used during the first few days of rearing and the last few days prior to slaughter.		

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E16 E17	<p>E 16: Prior approval for other lighting programs Producers wishing to use other lighting programs to decrease leg problems must submit their plan to the <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> office and obtain written permission to do so prior to using the proposed lighting program.</p> <p>E 17: Recording light periods Lighting patterns in all houses must be recorded and records must be made available to <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> during the inspection and at other times, upon request.</p>	<p>If an alternate lighting program is being used, verify that permission was obtained from HFAC prior to use. Review lighting records and verify that they match with the lighting schedule.</p>		
E21	<p>E 21: Records of space allowances To ensure that the maximum housing density is not exceeded:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A plan of every house must be available to the assessor that indicates: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The total floor area available to the chickens; b) The space allowance per bird (taking weight at market age into account), and c) The maximum number of birds permitted within the house. 2. Records must be kept that enable the stocking density to be verified easily by the producer/Assessor at any time. These must include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Records of the current number of birds in each house; b) The daily mortality; c) The number culled (including reason for culling); and d) Average weight of birds at market age. 	<p>Review facilities information and verify that records provide adequate information to determine whether the stocking density has been exceeded. Visually verify records of daily bird numbers, daily mortality, daily culling (with reason for culling included) and average weight of market birds. Record any concerns with record keeping.</p>		
E22.b	<p>E 22: Air quality b. Ammonia concentration at bird height must be recorded in each house at least once every 2 weeks, and records made available to <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> during inspection and at other times, upon request.</p>	<p>Review and verify ammonia levels are measured and recorded at least once every two weeks, and any instances of more than 25ppm have explanations. Inquire and record the procedure for measuring ammonia levels. If records indicate average ammonia levels above 10ppm, <u>note whether severe inclement weather has been a contributing factor and if so how often, or if it appears to be a ventilation and management issue.</u></p>		
E26.b	<p>E 26: Managing the thermal environment b. The maximum and minimum temperatures must be recorded daily.</p>	<p>Review and verify daily temp. records are kept.</p>		
Documentation – Management				
M1	<p>M 1: Understanding the standards Managers must ensure that all caretakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a copy of the current <i>Humane Farm Animal Care, Animal Care Standards for Broiler Chickens</i>; 2. They are familiar with the standards, and 3. They understand their contents. 	<p>Verify access to current copy of HFAC Standards for Chickens. Have they read and reviewed the standards? Do they understand the standards? Discuss various requirements of the standards to confirm that they have knowledge of the standards. Record any concerns about caretaker knowledge of the standards.</p>		
M2.1	<p>M 2: Management and record keeping activities Managers must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement a suitable training program for caretakers, with regular updates and opportunities for continuing professional development. a) Managers must be able to demonstrate that staff with responsibilities for chicken care have the relevant and necessary skills to perform their duties; and b) That staff participate in appropriate form of training as needed; 	<p>Verify claims made on application – review any additional training logs or documents.</p> <p>Compare training log to current employees. Ask employees if they have been trained, and what they have been trained on. Inquire and record how employees are assessed.</p>		

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M2.2	<p>Managers must:</p> <p>2. Develop and implement plans and precautions to prevent/cope with emergencies such as fire, flood, breakdown of environmental control or interruption of supplies (e.g. food, water, electricity);</p> <p>a) Provide an Emergency Action Notice Plan next to a telephone, highlighting the procedures to be followed by those discovering an emergency (e.g. fire, flood, power failure);</p> <p>b) Post emergency contact numbers by phones and entrances to buildings.</p>	<p>What are the steps they would take in the event of an Emergency? Is this information written down, such as fire, flood, who do they call, how would they handle?</p> <p>Submit information with report.</p>		
M2.3	<p>Managers must:</p> <p>3. Ensure that the Animal Health Plan (see H1) is:</p> <p>a) Implemented;</p> <p>b) Regularly updated; and</p> <p>c) That the required data are recorded appropriately.</p>	<p>The application contains their Animal Health Plan. Review application and ask what else they are doing regarding bird health. Record any discrepancies between what is written in the plan and what is actually done on the farm.</p>		
M2.4	<p>Managers must:</p> <p>4. Maintain and make available to <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i>, records of production data. These records must be dated and include documentation on:</p> <p>a) Incoming and outgoing birds;</p> <p>b) Mortality (reasons must be stated; _</p> <p>c) Culling (reasons must be stated), and recorded separately from mortality;</p> <p>d) Feed provided;</p> <p>e) Water consumption;</p> <p>f) Maximum and minimum temperatures at bird level;</p> <p>g) Ventilation (including settings and any necessary changes); and</p> <p>h) Ammonia levels.</p>	<p>Review all required records. Record any concerns identified in the records that have not been addressed by the producer (e.g., a spike in mortality without an explanation, or ammonia levels consistently higher than 10ppm).</p> <p>Production records can form the basis of some parts of the health plan.</p>		
M2.5	<p>Managers must:</p> <p>5. Develop and implement a plan for transporting birds to the processing plant that minimizes waiting time for the birds; and</p>	<p>Review transportation plan and any records associated with transporting birds.</p>		
M2.6	<p>Managers must:</p> <p>6. Comply with all local, state and federal regulations.</p>	<p>Inquire and record whether managers are aware of the local, state and federal regulations surrounding their operation.</p>		
M7	<p>M 7: Training</p> <p>a. Prior to being given responsibility for the welfare of chickens, caretakers must be properly trained and be competent to:</p> <p>1. Recognize signs of common diseases and know when a veterinarian should be contacted for assistance;</p> <p>2. Recognize signs of normal behavior, abnormal behavior and fear;</p> <p>3. Understand the environmental requirements for chickens; and</p> <p>4. Handle chickens in a positive and compassionate manner.</p> <p>b. This training must be documented and the competence of the</p>	<p>Review employee training logs in application, and other training logs if kept. Interview caretakers on their responsibilities.</p>		

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	caretakers must be verified.			
M10	<p>M 10: Records of ill, injured, and dead birds</p> <p>a. On completion of inspection, records must be kept of ill, injured and dead birds.</p> <p>b. The records must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be available to <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> during the inspection and at other times, upon request; 2. Be dated; 3. Be signed by the caretaker making the animal inspection; 4. Contain the time of inspection; 5. Note the causes of illness and injury, when known; and 6. Record the reasons for culling. 	<p>Review mortality and culling records. Culls must be identified separately from mortality. Reasons for mortality/culling must be recorded, if known.</p>		
Documentation – Health				
H1	<p>H1: Selecting birds for good health</p> <p>During selection of birds, care must be taken to select birds for high welfare traits and avoid genetic strains with undesirable traits.</p>	<p>note species of chicken, what was the criteria for that species.</p>		
H2	<p>H 2: Animal Health Plan</p> <p>a. An Animal Health Plan (AHP) must be drawn up and regularly updated in consultation with a veterinarian.</p> <p>b. The AHP must include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Details of any vaccinations; 2. Information on treatments and other aspects of flock health; 3. Causes of morbidity and mortality, when known; 4. Tolerance limits on overall flock performance; 5. Bio-security provisions. 6. Cleaning and disinfection policy 	<p>Application contains Animal Health Plan. Verify vaccination schedule. What are their cleaning and disinfection routines? Record any concerns recorded. Verify biosecurity measures listed on application. If there are additions or changes, record those. What measures are taken to prevent disease transfer on/off the farm? Detail carcass disposal. Identify and record which individuals are in charge of animal health procedures. Verify what vet is used, is it the same vet listed on application?</p>		
H16	<p>H 16: Carcass disposal</p> <p>a. Following a euthanasia procedure, birds must be carefully examined to ensure that they are dead.</p> <p>b. All carcasses must be disposed of through outlets or in accordance with state and local laws.</p> <p>c. Off-farm carcass disposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carcasses must be disposed of through approved outlets. 2. A record must be kept of the name of the outlet through which all such carcasses are disposed of. <p>d. On farm carcass disposal: if carcasses are disposed of on farm, a record of the method of disposal must be maintained.</p>	<p>Review and verify carcass disposal information on application.</p>		

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FEED				
FW1	FW 1: Wholesome, nutritious feed Chickens must be fed a wholesome diet which is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appropriate to their age and species; 2. Fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health; and 3. Formulated to satisfy their nutritional needs as established by the National Research Council (NRC) and as recommended for their geographic area. 	Review feed records, and record whether feed ration is appropriate for birds' stage of production.		
FW2*	FW 2: Free access to feed Chickens must have free access to nutritious feed each day, except: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When required by a flock veterinarian. 2. Prior to processing (see T 8) 	Observe and record whether feed is available at time of inspection, and ask about the protocol for providing feed each day. Inquire and record the average time of feed deprivation from catching through transport to processing.		
FW3	FW 3: Feeding systems that prevent health problems Nutrient content and feeding regimes must be carefully controlled to prevent leg abnormalities and other welfare problems associated with rapid growth.	Inquire and record how feeding regimes are controlled to prevent leg abnormalities and other welfare problems with rapid growth.		
*FW 5	FW 5: Substances prohibited in feed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. No feedstuffs containing mammalian- or avian-derived protein are permitted with the exception of eggs and egg products. b. The use of growth promoters is prohibited. c. Antibiotics may only be given for therapeutic reasons and only under direction of a veterinarian. 	Review feed tags & feed records; are there any unacceptable substances in the feed? Identify any uncertain or prohibited ingredients. Enclose label. Check for statements such as “no antibiotics,” “free from contamination,” or “meat and bone-meal free.” Animal by-products are prohibited, list if any are on label. If antibiotics are found, there must be a prescription by a licensed veterinarian explaining the purpose of the antibiotic and how long it is to be used for. Identify feed supplier(s) and what was purchased from them. Copies of invoices / delivery records are acceptable. Examine any home mixing facilities for hygiene, pest control, storage etc. Record any problems in this area.		
FW6	FW 6: Fresh feed Feed must not be allowed to remain in a contaminated or stale condition. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Feed storage bins must be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean; 2. Dry; 3. Vermin proof; and 4. Well maintained. b. Old feed from previous flocks must be removed from bins and disposed of properly. 	Observe and record condition of feed – is it fresh and clean? Record any concerns about contamination. Observe feeder system and record whether feed is being evenly distributed throughout the system.		
FW7	FW 7: Easy availability of feed In all cases, there must be sufficient feeder space distributed throughout the house or enclosure to allow all chickens to eat without			

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	undue competition, Feed distribution must ensure uniform feed availability throughout the entire feeder system.			
FW8	FW 8: Positioning feed and water stations Chickens must not have to travel more than 13 feet anywhere in the house to reach feed or water.	Observe and note any concerns with birds accessing the feeders or drinkers, including subordinate birds.		
WATER				
FW9.a*	FW 9: Water supply a. Chickens must have continuous access to an adequate supply of clean, fresh drinking water at all times, except when required by a veterinarian.	Review application information and visually verify that hens have continuous access to water and the back-up plan for providing water during a freeze is in place.		
FW9.b	b. Provisions must be made for supplying water when temperatures are below freezing.			
FW10	FW 10: Number of drinkers The minimum number of drinkers that must be provided is as follows: 1. Bell: 1 per 100 chickens 2. Nipple: 1 per 10 chickens 3. Cup: 1 per 28 chickens	Measure the number of drinkers and record whether they meet the standard for that type of drinker.		
FW11	FW 11: Placement and design of drinkers In order to reduce water spillage and prevent consequent problems with litter management, drinkers must: 1. Be placed at optimum height for the size and age of the birds; and 2. Be of an appropriate design, and 3. Be checked and maintained regularly.	Inquire and record how often drinkers are checked, and what procedure is used. Observe and record any concerns that drinkers are not at correct height or appropriately designed for bird use.		
FW12	FW 12: Preventing water spills When a new drinking system is being installed, bell drinkers or other open water trough systems that allow water spillage and soaking of litter should not be used.	Inquire if there are plans to install a new drinker system, and if so, what type of system will be used. If new system has been installed since previous inspection, is it an enclosed system that prevents water spillage?		
FW13	FW 13: Emergency water supply A method for providing clean, fresh water for a period of at least 24 hours during a shut off of the main water supply must be available on-site.	Review and verify information on application for back-up water supply.		

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BUILDINGS				
E2	<p>E 2: Facility design To ensure that there are no sharp edges or protrusions likely to cause injury or distress to the birds, the interior of any building to which the chickens have access, including the floor, must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully designed and constructed and Well maintained and inspected. Housing and equipment must be designed so that all chickens can be clearly seen by caretakers 	<p>Thoroughly observe chicken housing and record any areas that could cause injury to the birds anywhere in the barn. Record those areas and take photos if possible.</p>		
E3	<p>E 3: Internal walls Internal walls must be smooth, unobstructed, and constructed of a durable material capable of withstanding clean-out procedures.</p>	<p>Observe and verify that internal walls meet the requirements.</p>		
E4	<p>E 4: Preventing contact with toxic substances in buildings Chickens must not come into contact with fumes, paints, wood preservatives, disinfectants, or other substances that are toxic to them.</p>	<p>Inquire and visually verify what substances are used in the chicken house, and record any concerns regarding their toxicity</p>		
E5	<p>E 5: Electrical installations All electrical installations at main voltage must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccessible to the chickens; Well insulated; Safeguarded from rodents; Properly grounded; and Tested regularly for stray voltage. 	<p>Observe and record whether electrical installations meet the requirements. Record any signs of stray voltage, such as singed feathers.</p>		
E6	<p>E 6: Nearby environs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The area immediately surrounding the outside of the house must be kept clean and tidy and must not offer shelter to wild birds or rodents. If the area immediately surrounding the house is covered with vegetation, the plants must be kept short and well managed. 	<p>Walk the perimeter of the house and verify that the area is tidy and does not provide harborage to wild birds or rodents, and that any vegetation is kept tidy.</p>		
FLOOR AND LITTER				
E7	<p>E 7: Design of floors Chicken house flooring must allow for effective cleansing and disinfection, preventing a significant build-up of parasites and other pathogens. Concrete floors are preferable to earthen floors because they can be more effectively cleaned and disinfected.</p>	<p>What type of flooring is in the barn? How do they clean and disinfect the floor when they repopulate? Record any concerns about their cleaning and disinfection policy. If floors are concrete, observe and verify there are no significant cracks in the floor. What measures are in place to keep the floor dry throughout the year, e.g., concrete floors should have a damp proof membrane.</p>		
E8	<p>E 8: Concrete floors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When internal house floors are concrete they must be of a solid, smooth, hard construction. There must be no significant cracks in the floor (any cracks must be adequately repaired). 			
E9*	<p>E 9: Litter The floor of all houses must be completely covered in litter. Chickens must have access to the litter area at all times.</p>		<p>Is the floor completely covered in litter? Is litter of suitable material, good quality, and dry and friable? Record score using litter scoring system: (It is a non-conformance if any area of litter is 4 or higher)</p>	

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E9.1-6	The litter must: 1. Be of a suitable material and particle size; 2. Be of good quality (clean, dry, dust-free, and absorbent); 3. Be managed to maintain it in a dry, friable condition; 4. Be of a sufficient depth for dilution of feces; 5. Allow birds to dust bathe; and 6. Be skimmed and topped up as necessary with fresh litter.	1. Breaks easily apart when pressed in the hand 2. Small moist/capped areas only by drinkers/popholes, 3. Large capped areas but dry and still areas to dust bathe, capped areas being replenished/rejuvenated; 4. Largely capped and dry with few friable areas 5. Capped and wet areas 6. Wet/soggy areas		
E10*	E 10: Prohibited Housing Housing in cages, or on wire or slatted floors, is not permitted.	Observe and record if any prohibited housing methods are used – if so this is a major non-conformance .		
E11	E 11: Litter storage Fresh litter must be stored indoors in a clean vermin proof area.	Verify litter storage is in a clean, vermin proof area.		
E12	E 12: Contaminated litter a. Litter that is wet, infested with mites, or otherwise contaminated must not be introduced into chicken housing. b. Wet or otherwise contaminated litter, or caked litter must be replaced promptly. c. Wet letter from accidental flooding must be replaced	Observe and record any issues with contaminated litter. Inquire and record how accidental litter contamination (e.g. from a leak) is managed.		
E13	E 13: Understanding the importance of litter a. Growers must be aware of the welfare problems associated with poor litter management. b. Growers must understand the factors that affect litter condition e.g. moisture, nitrogen content, ventilation and stocking density, and caking or slipperiness.	Interview caretakers – ask what they think the welfare issues are with poor litter quality, what they consider to be the causes of poor litter quality, and how they would correct any issues, and record any concerns with caretaker knowledge or attitudes.		
LIGHTING				
E14	E 14: Designing a lighting program The lighting program used in the chicken house must be designed to decrease leg problems and provide adequate rest time.	Review light and dark records and verify that lighting schedule meets the HFAC requirements. Interview staff as to when the lights are on and off and record responses.		
E18	E 18: Light intensity a. Daytime lighting levels must allow birds to see and be inspected without difficulty. b. The lighting system in chicken houses must be designed and maintained in order to give an average minimum illumination of 2 foot candles (20 lux) throughout the house (except in shaded areas.)	Record any concerns with light intensity during the inspection – is it difficult to see birds without additional light? Are lights evenly dispersed throughout the house to avoid bright spots? Is the house darker than 20 lux? If so why and for how long?		
E19	E 19: Sufficient light for inspection Adequate lighting, whether fixed or portable, must be available to enable the chickens to be thoroughly inspected at any time.	Record whether birds can be easily seen at all times so that they can be inspected throughout the day by the caretakers.		
SPACE ALLOWANCE				
E20	E 20: Stocking density Sufficient freedom of movement – all chickens must have sufficient movement to be able to without difficulty, to stand normally, turn around and stretch their wings. a. The maximum stocking density must be calculated on the weight of birds per available floor space. b. This density allowance must not exceed 6 lbs/ft ² (30 kg/m ²).	Measure and verify that the stocking density with current bird numbers and average weight meets the requirements of the standard. Record data on calculations chart.		

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THERMAL ENVIRONMENT AND VENTILATION				
E22.a*	E 22: Air quality a. Provisions must be made to ensure that aerial contaminants do not reach a level at which they are noticeably unpleasant to a human observer	<p>Review ammonia level records and note any periods where levels are higher than 25 ppm, what time of the year and for how long. Do the ammonia levels generally average 10 ppm? Record whether air quality at time of inspection is compromised by noticeably unpleasant smells (such as from high ammonia), high dust levels, or other contaminants. Measure ammonia level at bird height in several different areas of the barn and record the average measurement on the calculations chart. If the ammonia level is over 10ppm, note whether severe inclement weather is a contributing factor and what the specific conditions are, or whether it appears to be a ventilation and management issue.</p> <p>Inspect ventilation system and record any concerns about its functionality. Verify an alarm system is in place and functional for any automatic ventilations systems.</p>		
E22.c	c. The ammonia concentration at bird height should be less than 10 ppm and must not exceed 25 ppm except during brief periods of severe inclement weather when ventilation is affected.			
E23	E 23: Ventilation Ventilation systems, whether natural or mechanical, must be designed to maintain air quality parameters under all foreseeable climatic conditions.			
E24	E 24: Maintenance of ventilation equipment a. Ventilation equipment must be regularly maintained. b. Alarm systems must be installed to provide managers and caretakers with notification of failure of ventilation equipment resulting in a thermal environment outside the acceptable range.			
E25.a*	E 25: Thermal conditions a. Provisions must be made to ensure that chickens have access to a thermally comfortable environment at all times so that heat/cold stress does not occur.	<p>Observe and record whether the temperature at time of inspection is in the comfortable range for birds, and observe birds for signs of heat or cold stress. Inquire and record how caretakers identify birds with heat or cold stress, and what action is taken to mitigate the effects. Review maximum and minimum temperature records.</p>		
E25.b	b. The ventilation system and rate must be such that it maintains the birds in a comfortable effective environmental temperature appropriate to their age and stage of growth.			
E25.c	c. In climates where possible, relative humidity should be kept between 40 and 80%. The recommended range is 50-75%.			
E26	E 26: Managing the thermal environment a. The design of buildings must be such that risks of overheating are minimized. b. The maximum and minimum temperatures must be recorded daily. c. Records must be made available to <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> during inspection and at other times, upon request d. Efforts must be made to avoid extremes of temperature within the house.			
E27	E 27: Cooling systems Buildings constructed after 2006, must be fitted with a cooling system (e.g., evaporative cooling pads, high pressure fogging, etc.)	Inquire, observe and record what type of cooling systems are fitted in the house, if built after 2006.		

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ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT

E28	<p>E 28: Stimulating environment Provisions must be made to keep indoor chickens active by enriching their environment.</p> <p>a. Environmental enrichment should be used to stimulate exploratory, foraging and locomotive behavior and minimize injurious pecking. This requirement need not be applied during the first 10 days of brooding.</p> <p>b. Managers must be able to demonstrate to the Humane Farm Animal Care Inspector that they are using safe and effective methods of environmental enrichment throughout the rearing period.</p> <p>c. The inclusion of environmental enrichment has been shown scientifically to improve the bird health and welfare by encouraging birds to be more active, thereby promoting improved leg health.</p> <p>d. The following is a list of approved enrichments: ramps, low perches, pecking blocks, straw bales, scattering of whole grains, cabbages, cauliflowers, sprouts, broccoli, rounded tubes, hanging wooden blocks.</p> <p>e. If chickens are provided with edible material contained in their litter, they will be actively engaged in foraging behavior for extended periods. Pecking and scratching against a rough textured surface will help to prevent beak and claw over-growth. Young chickens appear to enjoy the opportunity to engage in “worm running” when given twisted strips of paper.</p> <p>f. Guidance for the placement of enrichment objects throughout the house: for every 1000 birds There should be: 1.5 standard sized long chopped straw bales, 2m of perch space and one pecking object (peck a blocks, cabbage, cauliflower, sprouts, broccoli and wooden blocks.)</p>	<p>Possible environmental enrichment includes straw or hay bales, the scattering of whole grains or cabbages throughout the house, or additional methods. Inquire, observe and record what type of enrichment is used, and record whether birds are actively using it. Environmental enrichment must be placed throughout the facility, for all chickens to have access. If there are no environmental enrichments, record this as a non-conformance.</p>		
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FREE-RANGE SYSTEMS

E29	<p>E 29: Outdoor area</p> <p>a. Must consist mainly of living vegetation. Coarse grit must be available to aid digestion of vegetation.</p> <p>b. The pasture must be designed and actively managed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage birds outside, away from the popholes, and to use the area fully; 2. Prevent and/or minimize heavily degraded, muddy/sodden, or worn areas; 3. Minimize any build-up of agents (e.g., parasites, bacteria, viruses) that may cause disease; 4. Prevent chickens from coming into contact with any toxic substances. <p>c. The minimum outdoor space requirement is 2.5 acres (1 hectare)/1000 birds. Land used for cropping (except grass or hay) is not accepted as part of the Pasture Raised space allowance and must be excluded from space calculations.</p>	<p>If outdoor access is provided to birds (regardless of how they are marketed), inspect for E26-E33. Record if chicken are being marketed as free-range, pastured, or neither.</p> <p>Observe and record the size of outdoor area and the condition of the area. Inquire and record how outdoor area is managed to prevent damage and provide vegetation. Record any concerns with drainage.</p>		
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Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
E30	E 30: Well-drained resting area Chickens with access to range must have access to a well-drained area for resting while outside the building.			
E31	E 31: Exits a. When chickens are kept in free-range systems the house must have sufficient exit areas appropriately distributed to ensure that all birds have ready access to the range. b. Each exit area must be no smaller than 1 ½ feet high and 1 yd wide to allow the passage of more than one chicken at any one time. c. There must be a sufficient number of exit areas to allow the birds to enter and leave the building freely.	Observe and record the number, size and distance between the exits (should be approximately one every 50 feet). Can more than one bird pass through an exit at one time?		
E32	E 32: Access to range a. Chickens kept in free-range systems must have access to the range by 4 weeks of age and for a minimum of 8 hours each day except when the natural daylight period is less. b. All exit areas must normally be open during this time, except when this is precluded by inclement weather conditions, disease outbreak or veterinary emergency.	Inquire and record by what age birds have access to the outdoors. Inquire and record the parameters (temperature, weather conditions) for letting birds outdoors.		
E33	E 33: Shade In warm months a shaded area must be accessible that has sufficient space that the chickens do not have to crowd together (thereby risking further heat stress.)	Outdoor area must provide cover for the birds (beyond the provision of their house) in order to provide shade for the birds and encourage them to use the outdoor area – observe and record what type of cover is available, and how much cover is available to the birds.		
E34	E 34: Protection from predators Protection must be provided from predators and birds should be closed in the house at night.	Inquire and record what predators are in the area, and how the birds are protected from them.		
SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR CHICKS				
E35	E 35: Day old chicks a. Day old chicks must be handled carefully and placed in an appropriate environment. b. Care must be taken to avoid thermal stress, particularly during transport from the hatchery and when chicks are at maximum stocking density.	Observe day-old chicks and verify their environment is appropriate. Ask managers to explain how day-old chicks are handled at placement, and record any concerns.		
E36	E 36: Brooder surrounds Brooder surrounds and feeding and watering equipment within the surround must be designed and constructed such that chicks can move freely toward or away from the brooder.	Observe brooder set-up in the house (otherwise, ask caretakers to describe and record responses) and verify that it provides chicks with enough space to freely move.		
E37	E 37: Brooder heaters Particular care must be taken in the placement and maintenance of brooder heaters to ensure against:	Observe brooders in the house; ask caretakers to describe how they ensure the brooders are well maintained and not a fire hazard or carbon monoxide contaminant, and record responses.		

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
	1. Risk of fire; and 2. Emission of carbon monoxide.			
E38	E 38: Feeders and drinkers in brooders a. Care must be taken to ensure that feeders and drinkers inside the brooder surround do not become hot, especially when metal or plastic containers are used. b. Supplementary feed trays and small water containers must be provided in addition to the automatic feeders and drinkers at the start of brooding.	Observe feeders and drinkers in the brooders; ask caretakers to describe how they prevent feeders and drinkers from becoming hot, and how they provide smaller feeders/waterers for very young birds, and record responses.		
E39	E 39: Thermal requirements a. The brooder must be suspended above the center of the surround. b. The temperature under the brooder must be adjustable to ensure that the chicks are maintained at a comfortable temperature.	Observe brooders in the house; ask caretakers how brooder temperature is monitored and adjusted, and record responses.		
E40	E 40: Adjusting the brooder as chicks grow The behavior of the chicks must be closely monitored throughout the brooding period and the brooders adjusted accordingly.	Ask caretakers what behavioral cues they look for during brooding to know when to adjust the brooders, and record responses.		
E41	E 41: Keeping feeders and drinkers clear Feeders and drinkers must be kept clear and free from litter.	Observe feeders/drinkers during brooding in house; ask caretakers how often feeders/drinkers are cleaned during brooding.		
E42	E 42: Breeder's management guidelines For brooding and rearing of chicks, the breeder's management guidelines for placement and number of feeders and drinkers, space allowances, air quality, ventilation, and lighting should be followed.	Inquire and record what breeder management guidelines are used for brooder management.		
MANAGERS				
M3	Abilities of caretakers Managers must take into account the abilities of the caretakers when deciding space allowances on present systems or when considering expanding the unit or installing more complex equipment.	Discuss with manager how caretaker competence is taken into account when adding new equipment or altering facilities. What additional training is provided?		
CARETAKERS				
M5	M 5: Mitigating problems a. Caretakers must know the normal behavior of chickens and understand the signs that indicate good health and welfare. b. They should be able to recognize an impending problem in its earliest stages, as this may enable them to identify the cause and correct the problem promptly. c. When an outbreak of abnormal animal behavior occurs, it must be addressed promptly by appropriate changes in the system of management.	Interview caretakers and record their responses. What do caretakers look for when doing their routine inspections? What signs of illness or injury do they look for? What is the procedure they follow if they observe abnormal behavior?		
M6	M 6: Awareness of welfare problems Caretakers must be aware of welfare problems such as those associated with poor litter management, e.g. burnt hocks, footpad lesions, breast blisters, respiratory and eye problems.	Interview caretakers and record their responses. What are some of the welfare issues associated with poor litter management, and how do they actively address any litter management issues that arise?		
M8*	Compassionate treatment a. Caretakers must be able to demonstrate competence in handling animals in a positive and compassionate manner.	Observe animal caretakers handling birds and performing routine procedures, and note any concerns about compassion and humane handling.		

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
	b. Caretakers must also be able to demonstrate their proficiency in procedures that have the potential to cause suffering (e.g., euthanasia).			
INSPECTION				
M9	M 9: Monitoring a. Birds, and the facilities on which birds depend, must be inspected a minimum of two times daily. b. At least one of these inspections must be sufficiently thorough to identify a bird that is showing signs of sickness or injury. c. Records must be kept of these inspections. d. Any welfare problems seen during an inspection by the caretakers must be dealt with appropriately and without delay.	Ask caretakers about their normal daily routine and how often birds are checked. Ask them how they identify birds that might be sick or injured, and what they do when they find them, and note responses.		
M11	Quiet handling Work routines and practices must be developed, and when necessary modified, to ensure that hens do not become fearful and are not frightened in avoidable ways. For example, all movement throughout the unit must be slow and deliberate both to alleviate fear and reduce possible injury to the birds.	Observe animal caretakers handling birds and performing routine procedures, and note any concerns about compassion and humane handling.		
Equipment				
M12	M12: Automatic Equipment a. Caretakers must inspect the equipment, including the automatic equipment, upon which chickens depend, at least once daily to check that there is no defect. b. When a defect is found (whether on inspection or at any other time): 1. The defect must be fixed promptly. 2. If this is impractical, such measures as are required to safeguard the hens from suffering unnecessary pain or distress as a result of the defect, must promptly be taken and maintained until the defect is fixed.	Inquire what safety/maintenance checks are undertaken daily; verify any written procedures. Note who is responsible for daily maintenance checks. Ask how any issues that are found are handled, and record responses.		
M13	M 13: Alarms for critical systems a. All automatic systems that are critical for the welfare of the birds, i.e. drinkers and ventilation, must have an alarm to indicate failure, unless there are automatic back-up systems in place. b. It must not be possible to switch the alarms off c. The alarms must be checked daily to ensure they are in correct working order.	Verify that alarms are active, and checked regularly. Inquire and note the function and response by employees to alarms – who is immediately notified? What is the back-up system if the automatic ventilation fails?		
M14	M 14: Backup ventilation systems Additional equipment or means of ventilation must be available which, in the event of a failure of the ventilation system, will provide adequate ventilation so as to prevent the birds from suffering unnecessary distress as a result of the failure.	Inquire and verify what type of back-up ventilation system is in place, and record whether it will come on manually or automatically. If manual, who is responsible for switching systems?		

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M15	Auxiliary power supply a. For houses with electrical equipment critical for maintaining bird welfare, an auxiliary power supply, capable of providing instant start and power supply to critical electrical equipment within the house for a 24-hour period, must be located on site. b. The power supply must be checked at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer, and these checks must be documented.	Inquire and record what type of back-up power supply is available. Verify that it is tested regularly and documented.		
M16	Using equipment Caretakers must be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate their ability to operate the equipment competently (e.g. heaters, lighting, ventilation, flaps/fans); 2. Demonstrate their ability to carry out routine maintenance; 3. Recognize common signs of malfunction; and 4. Demonstrate knowledge of action to be carried out in event of failures. 	Inquire and record which caretakers operate the equipment, and what the procedure is when equipment malfunctions.		
PESTS AND PREDATORS				
M17	M 17: Protection from pests and predators Humane precautions must be taken to protect chickens from predators/ pests. Specifically: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The intrusion of wild birds into houses for chickens without access to free range must be prevented with netting or similar material over roof ventilation ducts, windows, curtain openings, etc.; 2. Predators, including dogs and cats, must not be permitted in the chicken house. 3. Monitoring for Rodent and Fly Activity <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monitoring for rodents must be conducted, and when monitoring indicates unacceptable rodent activity within a chicken house, appropriate methods of rodent control must be used. b) Monitoring of flies must be conducted, and when monitoring indicates unacceptable fly activity within a chicken house, an appropriate method of fly control must be used. 	Verify predator and pest prevention plan listed on application. Observe and record any signs of pest or predator activity. Inquire and record how employees actively manage pest and predator problems.		
HEALTH CARE PRACTICES				
H3	H 3: Quality Assurance Program for Food Safety A recognized Quality Assurance Program for the control of Salmonella, Campylobacter, and other organisms that cause Feed safety concerns should be adopted and followed.	Inquire and record what QA program is in place for food safety.		

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H4	<p>H 4: Preventing recurring injuries</p> <p>a. There must be no recurring injuries seen on the birds attributable to physical features of their environment or to handling procedures.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recurring injuries are those seen on a number of birds, with sufficient similarity to suggest that they have a common cause. 2. Injury is described as damage severe enough for the formation of granular scar tissue or defective bones or joints, and to an extent significantly greater than would be caused by accidental bumps or scratches. <p>b. Attention must be paid to foot lesions.</p> <p>c. If such injuries are found, a program of preventive action must be specified.</p>	<p>Observe the birds and the facility, and record any injured animals, or any environmental hazard that might cause injury. Observe and record the condition of foot pads and claws. Inquire and note if any recurring injuries have been noted in the past, and if so, what was done to prevent them.</p>		
H5	<p>H 5: Flock performance data</p> <p>a. Flock performance data must be continuously monitored for indicators of disease or production disorders.</p> <p>b. If any flock performance parameters fall outside tolerance limits identified in the AHP, the veterinarian must be informed and the AHP revised to include a program of action that will remedy the problem.</p>	<p>Inquire and record how the producer deals with a trend in the flock performance data that indicates a problem. What specific things do they look for when reviewing the data that might indicate an issue?</p>		
H6*	<p>H 6: Care of sick and injured animals</p> <p>Sick chickens and any chickens suffering from injury such as open wounds or fractures must be</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Segregated; and 2. Treated without delay; or 3. If necessary, humanely killed. 	<p>Observe and verify that any sick birds have been segregated from the rest of the flock, or humanely euthanized.</p>		
H7*	<p>H7: Preventing leg problems</p> <p>a. Management plans must be implemented to prevent chickens from suffering from chronic joint disease or leg deformation.</p> <p>b. Leg weakness and deformity are serious welfare problems in growing chickens, whether caused by infectious agents or growth abnormalities. The presence of more than a few overtly lame birds will be taken as noncompliance with the Animal Care Standards.</p> <p>c. Any overtly lame bird must be treated promptly or, if necessary, humanely killed.</p>	<p>Inquire of caretakers and managers what is done to prevent leg problems, and record answers. Observe birds and record how many obviously lame birds are noted. If more than a few are observed, it is a non-conformance.</p>		
H8	<p>H 8: Lameness</p> <p>Any chicken, which due to leg problems or other physical conditions, has difficulty in reaching feed and water must be promptly removed from the flock and, if necessary, humanely killed.</p>	<p>Inquire how lame birds are identified and treated, and record responses. Record any concerns with protocols</p>		
H9	<p>H 9: Monitoring records of leg problems</p> <p>a. Records of culls due to leg abnormalities and/or deformities must be assessed weekly to ensure that the problem is not increasing.</p> <p>b. When an increasing problem is identified, veterinary guidance must be sought to alleviate the problem and prevent further</p>	<p>Inquire of caretakers/managers whether they review cull records for signs of increased leg problems, and record responses. If a problem is identified, do they work with their vet?</p>		

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
	deaths.			
H10	H 10: Segregation of sick or injured birds for treatment If sick or injured birds are to be treated, facilities must be available to segregate them from the rest of the flock.	Observe and record what facilities are available for segregating sick birds.		
H11*	H 11: Physical alterations The Humane Farm Animal Care, <i>Standards for Chickens</i> do not allow: 1. Beak trimming; 2. Toe clipping; 3. Caponizing; 4. Dubbing; or 5. Other surgical alterations.	Observe and verify that no physical alterations have been performed on the birds.		
H12	H 12: Veterinary investigations of mortality a. If the mortality level within a house is in excess of ½% in 24 hours, a veterinary investigation must be conducted. b. Investigation of lower mortality levels is at the discretion of the attending veterinarian. c. As soon as the investigation is complete, the producer must report the results to the <i>Humane Farm Animal Care</i> office.	Inquire how unexpected mortality is dealt with – what is the protocol? Is the vet called in to investigate?		
H13	H 13: Cleaning and disinfection Following depopulation, all houses must be thoroughly cleansed, disinfected and tested free from infectious agents as specified in the <i>Animal Health Plan</i> .	Verify the information on the application (<i>Animal Health Plan</i>) is accurate and matches what is performed on farm.		
H14	H14: Genetically Modified Chickens The use of genetically modified and/or cloned chickens and their offspring are prohibited	Verify that there are no genetically modified chickens at this time.		
EMERGENCY EUTHANASIA				
H15*	Euthanasia a. Each farm must have provisions for prompt humane emergency euthanasia for sick or injured hens, using on-farm methods carried out by a named, trained, competent member of the staff, or a veterinarian. b. If there is any doubt as to how to proceed, the veterinarian must be called at an early stage to advise whether treatment is possible or whether euthanasia is required to prevent suffering. If a bird is in severe pain that is uncontrollable, then the bird must be promptly euthanized. c. The following methods of emergency euthanasia are permitted: • Hand held electrical stunning, immediately followed by neck cutting; • Cervical dislocation; to be used in an emergency or for killing a very small number of birds. Cervical dislocation must involve stretching the neck to sever the spinal cord and cause extensive damage to the major blood vessels. Equipment that crushes the	Verify information provided on application. Review training records (may be on application) for all employees authorized to perform euthanasia. Ask caretakers to describe when they would perform euthanasia, and how they would do it, and record responses. If equipment is used (such as a CO ₂ chamber), observe and record whether it will effectively euthanize birds without any welfare concerns.		

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
	<p>neck including killing pliers or burdizzos is neither quick nor humane and must not be used;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon dioxide or a mixture of carbon dioxide or argon, delivered in an appropriate container at acceptable concentrations. 			
CATCHING				
T1	<p>T1: Culling unfit birds prior to loading a. Caretakers must inspect the flock shortly before loading and cull any unfit birds. b. Birds that are visibly unfit before loading must not be transported; they must be euthanized promptly.</p>	See chicken slaughter checklist		
T2	<p>T 2: Preparing for depopulation a. All feeders, drinkers, and other obstacles must be raised or removed from the house prior to catching birds to minimize risk of bruising. b. Access routes to the chicken house must be adequately designed and maintained to permit safe passage of transport vehicles. c. House doors and passages must be large enough to allow safe removal of birds. d. Vehicles must be parked as near as practically possible to the house being de-populated.</p>	See chicken slaughter checklist		
T3	<p>T 3: Training Managers must ensure that all personnel involved in catching and transportation of birds are properly trained and competent.</p>	Inquire of managers how catching personnel is trained and record responses. Is training performed by farm workers or contract crew?		
T4	<p>T 4: Providing instructions for the operation a. Managers must communicate with the processor, transporter and catching crew to identify the number of birds to be transported and the birds' weight. b. Managers must establish the stocking density to be used during transport. c. Managers must prepare full and detailed written instructions for the catching staff 1. All catching staff must have a copy of these instructions; and 2. The catchers must be aware of their duties.</p>	Review written instructions for catching crew. If crew is on-site, verify training records.		
T5	<p>T5: Monitoring welfare during depopulation A nominated member of the catching crew must be made responsible for supervising, monitoring, and maintaining high Animal Care Standards throughout the depopulation of the house and loading of birds onto the transport vehicle.</p>	Inquire who is responsible for supervising bird welfare during catching, and record responses.		
T6	<p>T 6: Ensuring sufficient time for compassionate care Catching crews must never put speed of operation before bird welfare. Sufficient time must be made available to ensure birds are handled with care.</p>	Observe how fast the catching crew catches and loads the birds. Is sufficient time made available and are birds handled with care?		
T7	<p>T 7: Adequate ventilation a. Adequate draft free ventilation at bird height must be provided for uncaught birds up to the time of loading. b. During loading, steps must be taken to protect birds from: 1. Adverse weather conditions;</p>	During catching record any concerns with ventilation.		

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
	2. Sources of heat; and 3. Condensation.			
T8a*	T 8: Mitigating unnecessary suffering a. During the catching process, chickens must not suffer prolonged: 1. Hunger, 2. Thirst, or 3. Deprivation of rest.	Observe chickens during catching and record any concerns with birds suffering from hunger, thirst, or showing exhaustion. Inquire and record how long birds are without feed and water prior to processing.		
T8b	b. Specifically, birds must have access to water up to the time of catching. Water must be given regularly to uncaught birds by periodically lowering the drinkers			
T8c	c. Birds must not be deprived of feed for more than 12 hours total, including the period up to the time of processing.			
T8d	d. All feeders, drinkers and other obstacles must be raised or removed from the house prior to catching to minimize the risk of bruising.	Observe catching and record how feeders, drinkers, etc. are moved to minimize injury risk to birds, and verify that doors and passages allow for safe removal of birds. Record responses.		
T8e	e. House doors and passages must be large enough to allow safe removal of birds.			
T9	T 9: Catching birds a. Catching must take place in low lighting to minimize fear reactions of the birds. b. Chickens must be caught individually and carried by both legs. c. No more than three birds should be carried in one hand.	Observe catching crew and verify the environment they catch birds in, and how they catch the birds. How many birds are they carrying at a time? How are they holding them? Are they being caught individually? Are they being carried by both legs? Are there no more than 3 birds per one hand? What concerns did you have when observing catching?		
T10	T 10: Preventing crowding a. During depopulation, actions must be taken to prevent chickens from crowding together. b. When crowding occurs, catching must be stopped, and the birds spread out calmly and quietly, then allowed to settle before catching is resumed.	During catching observe catching crews and how they prevent chickens from crowding together. If they crowd together, observe what they do. Do they stop catching and spread the birds out calmly and quietly and allow them to settle before catching is resumed? If not, please record this as a non-conformance.		
T11	T 11: Access for transport vehicles used during depopulation a. Access routes to the chicken house must be adequately designed and maintained to permit the safe passage of transport vehicles. b. Vehicles must be parked as near as practically possible to the house being de-populated.	Record whether the house and parking areas are designed to make safe parking and loading as close to the barn as possible?		
MODULAR TRANSPORT SYSTEMS				
T12a	T 12: Using modular transport systems a. Before depopulation begins, the person appointed to supervise depopulation and loading must verify that modular crate transport trays: 1. Have completely open tops with a depth of not less than 8.5" (26 cm) 2. Permit adequate ventilation and protect birds from adverse climatic conditions; 3. Are thoroughly clean; 4. Are well maintained; and	Observe and verify		

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	5. Have no sharp edges or protrusions that could cause injury to birds.			
T12b-e	b. Chickens must be put in transport modules in the house. c. A catcher must place one bird at a time into the transport tray. d. Birds must be placed carefully into the module drawer—birds must not be dropped or thrown into the drawer. e. When loading, one hand must lift the bird by the legs, and the other hand must support the breast; birds must not be lifted by just the wing or the neck.	Observe and verify		
T12f-h	f. Stocking density must be reduced when birds are being transported during hot weather (in excess of 77 F or 25 C). g. As each drawer is filled, it must be closed carefully to ensure that the birds' heads, wings, or legs are not trapped. h. Modules must be taken from the shed slowly and care must be taken to ensure no damage is caused to the birds.	Observe and verify		
FIXED CRATE TRANSPORT SYSTEM				
T13a T13b	T 13: Using fixed crate transport systems a. The person appointed to supervise depopulation and loading must verify that fixed crate vehicles: 1. Have adequate ventilation and protect birds from adverse climatic conditions; 2. Are thoroughly clean; 3. Are well maintained; 4. Have doors that close securely; and 5. Have no sharp protrusions on the vehicle or crates that could cause injury to the birds. b. Facilities must be provided for catchers that ensure they are able to load birds onto the vehicle from a position that gives them easy access to all crates (e.g., loading platform or steps).	Observe and verify		
T13c-e	c. Catchers must not lift birds above the catcher's head height when loading them onto the vehicle. d. Birds must be loaded into the fixed crate carefully; birds must not be thrown into the crate. e. When loading, one hand must lift the bird by the legs, and the other hand must support the breast; birds must not be lifted by just the wing or the neck. Birds should be loaded one at a time.	Observe and verify		
T13f	f. Stocking density must be reduced when birds are transported during hot weather (in excess of 77 F [25 C]).	Observe and verify		
T13g	g. The floor of each fixed crate must prevent feces falling on birds beneath but must not hinder ventilation inside the crate.	Observe and verify		
T13h	h. The person responsible for supervising depopulation and loading must ensure that the door of each crate is securely fastened, and the wings, head, or legs of any bird are not trapped in the door or any part	Observe and verify		

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
	of the fixed crate.			
TRANSPORT				
T14	T 14: Competent staff Personnel in charge of chicken transporters must demonstrate their competence in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Handling chickens; 2. Securing the load; 3. Maintaining an appropriate thermal environment for the birds while in transit; 4. Driving and parking safely; and 5. Following emergency procedures. 	Observe and interview transport personnel verify competence at handling chickens. Record observations.		
T15	T 15: Investigating mortality during transport <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Levels of transportation mortality (in chickens from any single source) in excess of 0.3% in any three-month period must be promptly investigated by the producer. b. When causes of mortality have been identified, prompt action must be taken to prevent further deaths, injury or suffering from occurring. c. These records must be made available to the Humane Farm Animal Care inspector during the inspection. 	Review transportation mortality records and determine if mortality in excess over a 0.3% in any 3 month period has occurred. Has this been investigated by producers. What was the outcome? What corrective actions did the producer enact to prevent these from happening. Record instances, causes and corrective actions by producer. If no corrective actions by producer, that must be recorded as well.		
T16	T 16: Limiting the period of transport <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The time between the start of loading and the completion of unloading of transport trays must be less than 10 hours. b. Every effort must be made to ensure journeys are completed without unnecessary delays: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drivers must make an effort to be aware of any potential traffic problems; and 2. Drivers must plan their journey to minimize its duration. c. The person supervising the catching and loading of birds must communicate clearly and work closely with the processing plant to minimize the time birds spend on the vehicle after transport to the processing plant. 	Observe and record the time between loading and unloading transport trays, and review records. Interview drivers and ask how they minimize drive time. Record who is responsible for communicating with the processing plant to minimize waiting time once the truck has arrived at the plant.		
T17	T 17: Minimizing noise Noise levels, from all sources, must be minimized during loading, unloading and transport.	Observe loading and unloading, and record any concerns about noise levels.		
T18	T 18: Avoiding thermal stress <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If it is necessary to keep birds on a stationary vehicle, the driver must take action to avoid thermal stress to the birds. In hot weather, one of the most effective methods of providing a cooling draft is to keep the vehicle moving. b. At times of high ambient temperature or when high humidity 	Observe the transport vehicle and record any provisions for preventing thermal stress (curtains, misters/foggers, etc) to birds on the truck. Inquire and record how the time for catching and transport is chosen, and what factors play a role in the decision (weather, etc).		

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	<p>poses a threat to the birds, catching, loading and transportation create particular risks of heat stress. In such cases, producers must make advance plans and take appropriate action to reduce the risk to the birds. Plans must include the daily receipt of meteorological forecasts of predicted temperatures.</p> <p>c. In periods of hot weather, chickens must be transported at night or in the coolest parts of the day.</p> <p>d. Chickens reared in houses with tunnel ventilation may need to be pre-adapted to warmer temperatures if they are to be transported during hot weather. Pre-adaptation programs must be submitted to the <i>HFAC</i> office for approval prior to implementation.</p>	<p>If a pre-adaptation program is used for birds in tunnel-ventilated houses, get a copy of the program and submit it with report.</p>		
<p>T19</p>	<p>T 19: Ventilation</p> <p>a. The transport vehicle must be equipped with suitable curtains that can be opened/closed by a single operator.</p> <p>b. When the weather is hot, a central passageway must be left free of birds/trays to allow increased ventilation.</p> <p>c. Vehicles must be equipped with fan-operated ventilation.</p>	<p>Observe and verify that the vehicle has curtains/panels and fans, and note whether a central passageway is left open, or how other ventilation is provided. Record observations.</p>		
<p>T20</p>	<p>T 20: Shelter from extreme weather</p> <p>When necessary, shelter from extremes of weather, including cold and rain during transport must be provided, such as curtains or panels.</p>			

Please address any additional findings not previously covered in this report:

Std. Ref.	HFAC Standard	Guidance & Evidence	Being Met? Y/N/ N/A	Findings
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Signature _____
(inspector)

Date _____

Transfer any items marked as “NO” to the non-conformance section of the Exit Meeting report form with the standard number and description of violation.