
POULTRY HATCHERY
Process day-old poultry chicks

level:	3
credit:	10
final date for comment:	December 2008
expiry date:	December 2009
sub-field:	Poultry Production
purpose:	People credited with this unit standard are able for day-old poultry chicks, to: take off chicks; grade chicks; vaccinate chicks; carry out chick operations; maintain processing-room environment and hygiene; pack chicks for transport; and clean and maintain processing-room equipment and facility.
entry information:	Open.
accreditation option:	Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.
moderation option:	A centrally established and directed moderation system has been set up by the Agriculture Industry Training Organisation.
special notes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Performance of all aspects of this unit standard must comply with: <i>Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Layer Hens;</i> <i>Animal Welfare (Broiler Chickens: Fully Housed) Code of Welfare 2003;</i> Welfare codes are available from Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, C/- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington, or at www.maf.govt.nz/biosecurity/animal-welfare/codes.2 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to: Animal Products Act 1999, Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and Resource Management Act 1991.

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- 3 *Hatchery procedures* refer to the oral or written instructions to staff on workplace procedures and safety, and includes, where relevant, the Risk Management Programme (RMP).
- 4 *Chicks* refer to day-old poultry chicks of any avian species.

Elements and Performance Criteria

element 1

Take off chicks.

performance criteria

- 1.1 Hatcher dollies are removed from the hatcher at the specified time in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 1.2 Chicks are removed from their debris and transferred to the processing room causing minimal stress, and without causing injury to the chicks.
- 1.3 Hatch debris and unhatched eggs are disposed of in accordance with the relevant Animal Welfare codes.

element 2

Grade chicks.

performance criteria

- 2.1 Chicks are graded and cull chicks are identified and removed for disposal in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 2.2 Saleable chicks are counted into trays or boxes, and numbers are recorded, in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 2.3 Samples of each flock are weighed, and average chick weight is calculated and recorded, in accordance with hatchery procedures.

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2.4 Chicks are handled in accordance with the relevant Animal Welfare codes.

element 3

Vaccinate chicks.

performance criteria

3.1 Vaccinations are administered in accordance with veterinary guidelines, manufacturer's specifications, and hatchery procedures.

Range: oral dosing, spray, injection, eye drop.

3.2 Chicks are handled and treated in accordance with the relevant Animal Welfare codes.

3.3 Vaccines are stored, and administering equipment is cleaned, sterilised, and stored, in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

3.4 Vaccines used are recorded in accordance with hatchery procedures.

Range: may include but is not limited to – batch number, expiry date, dosage, vaccination date.

element 4

Carry out chick operations.

performance criteria

4.1 Chick operations are carried out in accordance with the relevant Animal Welfare codes and hatchery procedures.

Range: may include but is not limited to – beak trimming, toe trimming, despurring, colour sexing, feather sexing, vent sexing.

4.2 Chicks are handled and treated in accordance with the relevant Animal Welfare codes.

4.3 Chick operations equipment is checked for function, and faults are identified and repaired or reported, in accordance with hatchery procedures.

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- 4.4 Routine servicing, maintenance, and calibration of chick operations equipment are carried out in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.
- 4.5 Chick operations equipment and machinery are cleaned and sanitised in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

element 5

Maintain processing-room environment and hygiene.

performance criteria

- 5.1 Processing-room temperature and humidity levels are set at specified levels in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 5.2 Processing-room temperature and humidity levels are monitored, problems are identified and reported, and adjustments are carried out, in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 5.3 Processing-room hygiene is maintained in accordance with hatchery procedures.

element 6

Pack chicks for transport.

performance criteria

- 6.1 Chicks are placed in boxes ready for transport in accordance with the relevant Animal Welfare codes and hatchery procedures.
- 6.2 Boxes are labelled for dispatch in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 6.3 Information is recorded in accordance with hatchery procedures.

Range: sex, number, date of hatch, average chick weight, breeder farm source.

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element 7

Clean and maintain processing-room equipment and facility.

performance criteria

- 7.1 Processing-room and associated equipment are cleaned and sanitised in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 7.2 Samples for microbiological testing are collected, recorded, labelled, and dispatched in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 7.3 Processing-room equipment and machinery are checked for function, and faults are identified and repaired or reported, in accordance with hatchery procedures.
- 7.4 Routine servicing, maintenance, and calibration of processing-room equipment and machinery are carried out, in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Agriculture Industry Training Organisation standards@agricultureito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.

Please Note

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority or a delegated inter-institutional body before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

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Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for providers wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

This unit standard is covered by AMAP 0052 which can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/site/framework/search.html>.