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EUWeNet  
Coordinated European Animal Welfare Network

HOMEWELFARE INDICATORSENFORCEMENTSTRAININGCONTACT



### Welcome to EUWeNet

The overall aim of the EU WeNet project is to evaluate the feasibility and usefulness of a network that could assist the competent authorities and stakeholders in implementing EU legislation on animal welfare. The concept is of a network of institutions with recognised knowledge on animal welfare, and independent from specific private interests, that could supply technical assistance, promote innovation, disseminate scientific and applied research, and take a lead in education and vocational training.

This project is divided into four Work Packages, each of which addresses a different objective of the project. Details of the whole project can be found on the [EUWeNet main site](#).

This website has been set up in the course of Work Package 3, which aims to develop and evaluate knowledge strategies to overcome difficulties in implementing specific examples of EU legislation on animal welfare. Specifically, Task 3.1 within this Work Package addresses the implementation of the [Broiler Directive](#) (laying down the minimum rules for the protection of chickens kept for meat 2007/43/EC).

Broiler chickens are a key farmed species in Europe, and this legislation may affect the health and welfare

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[Foot Pad Dermatitis Case Study for Country HB](#)☐

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Animal measures collected at slaughter | Slaughter House - Animal | Welfare Indicators | EUWeNet Project

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Animal measures collected at slaughterAnimal measures collected at farmHouse measures collected at farm

### Animal measures collected at slaughter

Listed below are thirteen welfare indicators which are commonly recorded at slaughter. Data from thirteen Member States (MS) were collected, and the proportion of those MS that record each indicator is represented by the length of the bars below.

Click on a bar to find out more information about the ways in which each indicator is measured and recorded.

Some MS measured indicators not found on this list; details can be found by clicking on the 'Other Indicator' bar.

0%Welfare Indicator Country Uptake %100%

Foot Pad Dermatitis	
Ascites	
Cellulitis	
Emaciation	
Breast Lesions	

MENU

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Number of Birds DOA Case Study for Country LQ

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HOME WELFARE INDICATORS ENFORCEMENTS TRAINING CONTACT

Animal measures collected at slaughter Animal measures collected at farm House measures collected at farm

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Number of Birds DOA Case Study for Country LQ

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- Foot Pad Dermatitis
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MY FAVOURITES

Number of Birds DOA Case Study for Country LQ

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With the kind permission of country LQ we have reproduced the operational card for measuring number of birds dead on arrival.

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- Number of Birds DOA Case Study for Country LQ
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**Conditions for rejection of poultry at Post Mortem**

Broilers dead on Arrival/Dead in Lairage (DOA/DIL)

Post mortem disposition

1. Graphic showing total percentage of DOAs over a three year period compared against the month of the year. Note the increase of DOAs during the hotter months of the year.

2. Bird with head trapped between crate and module. Culling team should be investigated.

3. Picture to the right: high level of DOAs caused by heat stress during the hot summer period. Such instances should always be carefully investigated.

4. Picture to the right: A DOA bird, note the good carcass conformation.

Post mortem disposition

Total rejection or hanging on point

Current average level of rejection

UK 0.11% with significant increases during the traditional summer periods

Czech Republic, Italy and Canada: 1.25%, 1.35% and 2.35% respectively

Recording of condition on CIR 121

This condition must be recorded under in the DOAs entry on CIR 121 form

Version 2 02/04/2008

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**Further Information**

**Description**

Poultry that are found dead at the hanging-on point or in the lairage.

**Remarks**

By far, the major stress which broilers are subjected to during transport and lairage is Thermal Stress.

6. Data showing total percentage of DOAs over a three year period in one well managed processing plant that processed over 80 million chickens in that time.

The above figure does not include the result for 26 °C (1.78% DOAs).

**Comments from inspection team**

There are a number of actions that can be taken by the FBO to alleviate the effects of high temperatures on the broilers, such as:

**Causes**

It is usually caused by stress, or injuries caused by the catching process on the farm, transport to the abattoir, or lairaging conditions and times.

A number of published papers have shown a positive link between level of DOAs and:

- Maximum daily temperatures over 17 °C
- Humidity
- Longer travelling times to the abattoir
- Longer marketing times (Total time from farm to slaughter)
- Fast growing breeds/ genetic lines
- Genetic disease status of flocks

Whenever the level of DOAs is higher than normal the OV should consider whether to carry out a post-mortem examination on a proportion of carcasses, and recording the results, with, if possible, photographs.

Previous assessments have highlighted congestive heart failure (47%) and trauma (35%) as the main causes of death, when there is an average prevalence of DOAs.

When assessing the situation special attention should be paid to acute diseases such as Avian influenza.


The OV should always verify the accuracy of the DOA information gathered by the FBO at home on point.

Foot Pad Dermatitis Case Study for Country HB

gsdhost-dev3.co.uk/welfare-indicators-measured-at-slaughter/food-pad-dermatitis-case-studies/foot-pad-dermatitis-case-study-for-country-hb.html?catid=3










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(1 Vote)



With the kind permission of country HB we have reproduced the operational card for measuring foot pad dermatitis.

Scorekaart voetzoollesies vleeskuikens (versie 1.2)

		
Klasse 0 - goed, open lesie Class 0 - smooth, no lesion	Klasse 1 - klein verkleuring Class 1 - small discoloration	Klasse 2 - donker plekkies, open ontsteking Class 2 - dark patches, no infection
		
Klasse 3 - oppervlakkige lesie, verkleuring Class 3 - superficial lesion, discoloration	Klasse 4 - donker plekkies, open ontsteking Class 4 - dark patches, no infection	Klasse 5 - oppervlakkige verkleuring Class 5 - superficial discoloration
		
Klasse 6 - donker plekkies en ontsteking Class 6 - dark patches and ulcer	Klasse 7 - ontsteking heelde net terug Class 7 - ulcer covered by crust	Klasse 8 - ontsteking/heelde voet, gewonden Class 8 - abscess/ulcer foot, swollen

ASCITIS  
Cellulitis  
Emaciation  
Breast Lesions  
Joint Lesions  
Hock Burns  
Scratches  
Wing Fractures  
Respiratory Disease  
Total Rejections  
Cumulative Daily Mortality  
Number of Birds Dead on Arrival  
Other Indicators

MY FAVOURITES

Foot Pad Dermatitis Case Study for Country HB ☐

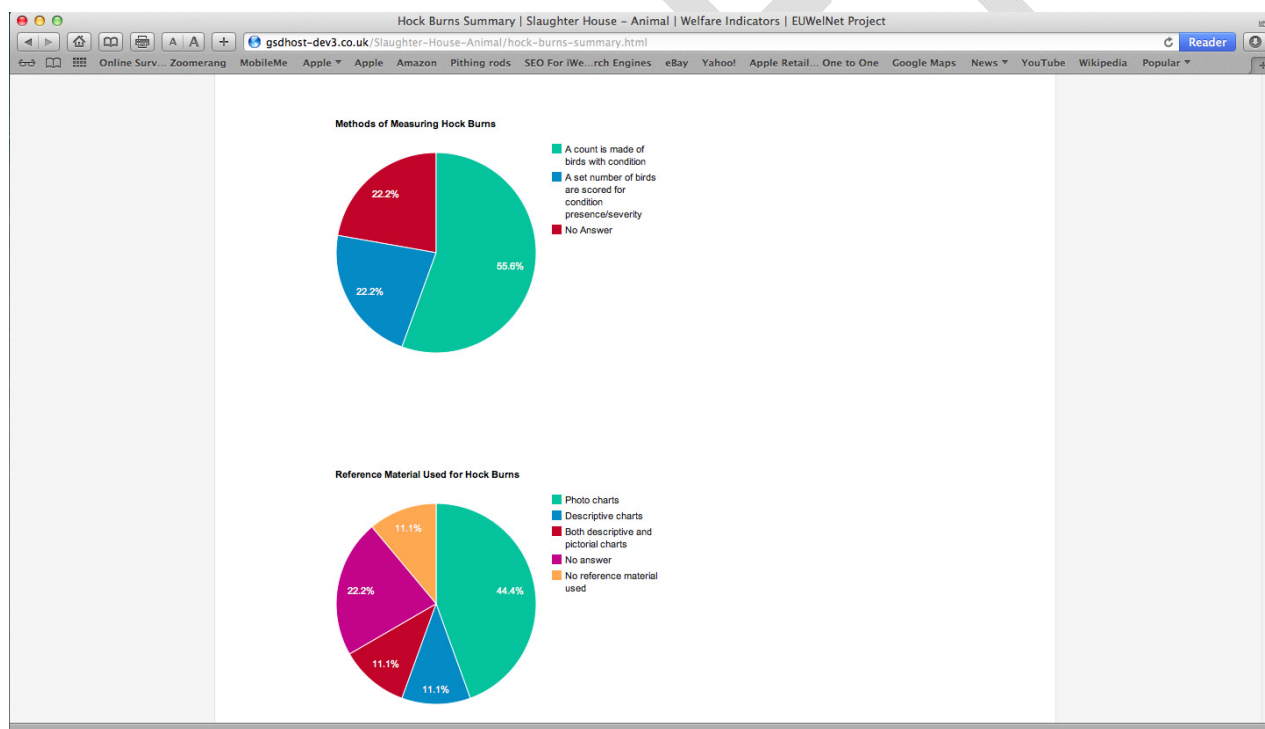
Number of Birds DOA Case Study for Country LQ ☐

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## Examples of MCQ Quiz questions for MS and enforcement personnel

'Self test' quizzes have been created to allow the MS personnel, slaughterhouse staff and producers to 'self test' themselves in recognition of key indicators used by MS in the Directive. Some examples of the type of self test multi choice questions;

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### Environmental

16. Litter quality should be examined at;
- a. 1 position
  - b. About 5 different random locations
  - c. About 10 different random locations
  - d. In the corners of the house
  - e. Several locations, always under drinkers
- 

10. Please place the following measures for litter quality in the correct order from best (0) to worst (4)
- a. Leaves imprint of foot and will form a ball if compacted, but ball does not stay together well
  - b. Sticks to boots once the cap or compacted crust is broken.
  - c. Completely dry and flaky, i.e. moves easily with the foot.
  - d. Sticks to boots and sticks readily in a ball if compacted.
  - e. Dry but not easy to move with foot.
- 

### Animal based measures

20. In which footpad category would you place the following example;



- a. 0 b. 4 c. 3 d. 1 e. 2
- 

28. For Foot Pad Dermatitis – how many birds should be assessed.

- a. 25 b. 50 c. 75 d. 100 e. 125
- 

21. In which hockmark category would you place the following example;



a. 1 b. 0 c. 3 d. 4 e. 2

---

23. When calculating the percent mortality of broilers during the production cycle – you will need which of the following pieces of information?

- a. Number of animals placed in house from the hatchery
- b. Space available in the house
- c. Total number of animals found dead in the last flock cycle
- d. Number of animal arriving at the slaughterhouse
- e. Whether the birds have been vaccinated

---

25. When calculating the percentage of culling of broilers during the production cycle – you will need which of the following pieces of information?

- a. Number of animals placed in house from the hatchery
- b. Space available in the house
- c. Number of animal arriving at the slaughterhouse
- d. Total number of birds which were actively culled during the flock cycle
- e. Whether the birds have been vaccinated