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| Soil Association Certification – Livestock management plan template for poultry(laying chickens, table chickens, turkeys and waterfowl) | | |
| Before any livestock enterprises can be added to your licence, it is a requirement that you produce a livestock management plan as per standard 1.4.1 and 3.4.1 which must be approved by your certification officer. This plan must be made available to, and preferably drawn up in conjunction with your stock person and vet.  It is a requirement for this plan to be available at your inspection, so you should keep an up to date copy on file. The plan must be dynamic and always reflective of the current management of your flock, as such your plan should be reviewed and updated as your management changes, in addition Soil Association may request revisions to address specific issues.  You may complete this template or produce your own document covering the points below. For farms certified under additional assurance/ certification schemes you may submit your animal health plan or equivalent as a supporting document.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Plan completed by |  | | Date reviewed |  | | Farm name |  | | License Number |  | | Veterinary practice and contact details |  | | | |
| Introduction | | |
| Farm size |  | |
| Enterprises for example: layers, table birds, breeder flock, pullets, brooding, hatchery, etc. |  | |
| Current livestock numbers (for each different poultry enterprise) | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Chickens | Quantity | Turkeys | Quantity | Waterfowl | Quantity | | Table birds |  | Table birds |  | Table birds |  | | Layers |  | Breeding stock |  | Layers |  | | Breeding stock |  |  |  | Breeding stock |  | | |
| Planned future livestock numbers | I intend to maintain current livestock numbers  Or  Date of achieving planned future livestock numbers below:   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Chickens | Quantity | Turkeys | Quantity | Waterfowl | Quantity | | Table birds |  | Table birds |  | Table birds |  | | Layers |  | Breeding stock |  | Layers |  | | Breeding stock |  |  |  | Breeding stock |  | | |
| Stockperson responsible for poultry |  | |
| Daily stockperson routines |  | |
| Where will you source your birds, at what age and what will their organic status be at purchase. |  | |
| *Prior approval must be obtained before bringing in non-organic animals, and this will only be granted if all organic options are unsuitable. You will be asked to provide evidence of this when requesting permission. There is a list of organic poultry suppliers on our website* [*here*](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/22597/poultry-supplier-list.pdf)*. If you are unable to source organic replacements and are required to buy in point of lay pullets from a non-organic source you must ensure that they are no older than 18 weeks, will* ***not*** *be debeaked/beak tipped and comply with the veterinary standards 3.4 and 3.10. If organic chicks for meat production are unavailable, chicks kept to organic standards from three days of age may be approved.* [*Standard 3.2.6.*](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf) | | |
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| Before you market or sell any products as organic you must have an organic certificate and accompanying trading schedule which lists the enterprise as organic. New enterprises must be inspected before they can be added to your licence. For more information, please contact your certification officer. | | |
| If land does not yet have organic status answer the four questions below: | | |
| When will the land utilised by your flock reach 2nd year in-conversion and organic status?  Do you intend to make use of the provision outlined under 3.1.7 which allows use of converting land for organic poultry/ egg production? |  | |
| If layers when do you plan to start the conversion of the flock? |  | |
| Indicate the date you intend to start selling each product produced by your flock; breeding stock, table birds, eggs, or any other products. |  | |
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| Housing | | |
| *Please be aware that the maximum numbers of birds that may be kept on an organic holding is likely to be restricted by the EU rules on nitrogen (*[*standards 2.5.6*](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf)*), as well as the stocking rate* [*standards 3.12.12*](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf)*.* | | |
| Detail the dimensions of all buildings that will be used for housing your flocks, detail the groups that will be housed within them and the maximum number of animals in each building. This could be done with a diagram of the buildings which should also show feeding and water facilities; and nesting and perching provision within each building.  State if the housing is mobile or static. | I have submitted a diagram of housing: | |
| *Guidance on the minimum space requirements for different categories of livestock can be found in* [*section 3.8.7.*](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf) *of the Soil Association Standards* | | |
| Details of internal floor; scratch area, litter material, type of bedding material in next boxes and proportion of slats and solid flooring.  How is litter maintained as dry and friable? |  | |
| Details of insulation against extreme temperatures, and ventilation. |  | |
| Details of artificial lighting used and the duration it is used for per day.  How is artificial light extinguished at the end of a day (e.g. fading or use of natural dusk) |  | |
| Details of aerial perch length, feeder and drinker facilities (quantified as number or length per bird [standard 3.12.10](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf)), nest-boxes and pop-hole length |  | |
| Details of inhouse enrichment, type, number of items and strategy to replace and retain novelty |  | |
| Details of brooding facilities if relevant. |  | |
| How has access to water been provided for waterfowl. *Refer to standard 3.12.21.*  How does the water provision meet species specific needs?  Describe how the water is maintained and managed to prevent the build-up of disease. |  | |
| *You may only use the products listed in 1.12.2 for the cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and equipment.* | | |
| List all products you use to clean livestock housing, including the brand name and active ingredient of each product. | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Brand Name** | **Active Ingredient** | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | | |
| What is your routine for cleaning housing and equipment used by your flock? Include detail on the frequency, timing and method. |  | |
| **Pasture** | | |
| Age at which bird are given access to the range. |  | |
| Ranging distances from the houses.  Describe how extensive ranging is encouraged? |  | |
| How long is the land rested between batches of poultry. |  | |
| Provision of shade and shelter in the range. (please note that from November 2020 natural cover must be available to an area equal to at least 5% of the area available to your poultry and at least one area of natural cover or shelter must be available within 20m of the pop holes. This will apply to all fowl except geese and ducks. [Standards 3.12.16.](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf)).  Describe how you meet this requirement, including what provision there is at different times of year to provide all year round cover.  You will also need to ensure you have provided us with maps which show the areas with natural cover |  | |
| How is vegetation cover maintainer for the life of the flock and between batches? Please include details of how the area outside the popholes is managed to ensure it remains dry and provides easy access to the range. |  | |
| Area of pasture available to each flock and resulting stocking rate. Please submit a map of the range showing positioning of the house, shelter and shade provision and any other facilities available on the range. The map must also clearly show the areas of natural cover which must make up at least 5% of each range. *Refer to standard 3.12.16* |  | |
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| **Biosecurity** | | |
| Detail biosecurity measures that you have in place when bringing in new birds from other units. E.g. testing or a purchase strategy. |  | |
| Detail all additional biosecurity measures in place on your farm. Including measures such boot dips, availability of PPE, controlled access by external personal, double fencing and controlling movement. |  | |
| For more information on suitable biosecurity measures refer to the [government website](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/controlling-disease-in-farm-animals). | | |
| **Breed Selection** | | |
| State the breed(s) and strains you have on farm. |  | |
| Describe how the breed(s)/strains that you have selected are appropriate for management within an organic system and meet the following criteria:   * Suitable to local conditions. * Avoids the requirement for mutilations. * Have vitality and resistance to disease. * Sustainable production/growth rate on organic diet |  | |
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| **Feeding** | | |
| *Answer below with details of the proposed rations that you will feed for each group of livestock that is fed differently. If applicable, distinguish between feed fed during the conversion period and once the stock are being fed to full organic standards.* | | |
| Type of feed (include types of forage, straights or bought in complete rations) and whether organic/in-conversion or non-organic |  | |
| If you are feeding a commercially compounded ration, please give details of this feed, and who it is organically registered with (always keep the current specification label on file). |  | |
| If you are feeding a home mixed ration or straight grains, please give full details of their source and certification. |  | |
| How do you monitor and maintain a diet appropriate to your flock needs throughout the year? |  | |
| Detail in the table below any mineral/trace element supplements that you intend to use. Please note that once the livestock are being fed to full organic standards the use of these supplements must be justified (e.g. by forage or soil analysis showing that your home-grown feeds are deficient, or with blood or tissue analysis, or details of previously identified deficiencies in your stock.) You may only use the products and substances listed in 3.10.14.  For products containing non-organic herbs, spices or molasses please state the quantity in the product, number of days they it will be utilised and the estimated daily intake per animal.  If you are unsure if a feed supplement is permissible for use in organics, please contact your Certification Officer. | | |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Product Name** | **Ingredients and their organic status.** | **Livestock group** | **Justification for use** | | *(Example) Calcareous marine shells* | *Oyster shell (non-organic)* | *Laying hens* | *To ensure adequate calcium for layers and maintain quality of eggshell.* | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | | |
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| **Bird Health Plan** | | |
| *The animal health plan is fundamental to your organic management. It must identify all risks and potential problems and put in place a framework to ensure that flock health is maintained/improved, and the use of veterinary medicines is minimised. It is strongly advised to develop this plan in consultation with your vet. This plan should be reviewed on an annual basis to assess where any improvements can be made.* | | |
| Identify any preventative husbandry techniques that will be employed to reduce the incidence of the common health problems listed below. Preventative methods may include the following, stocking rates, hygiene, optimising nutrition… etc. | | |
| Mites and other ectoparasites |  | |
| Predation |  | |
| Foot problems such as pododermatitis (broiler chickens) |  | |
| Coccidiosis |  | |
| Detail any other persistent health problems or causes of mortality which occur on your farm.  \*Featherloss will be addressed in a later section of this template |  | |
| Identify all veterinary treatments that you are likely to use on a routine/regular basis. Please include details of any vaccination, phytotherapeutic and homeopathic products. Please note any chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics must be used under the responsibility of your vet [standard 3.4.3.](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf)  **You must not use chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicines or antibiotics for preventative treatment in the absence of illness or surgical intervention.** | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Veterinary Medicine Product** | **Livestock Group** | **Disease** | **How incidence disease is monitored** | **Threshold for use** | | *(Example) Exzolt* | *Laying Hens* | *Red Mite* | *Trapping system supplied by our vet. Vet will weigh the quantities of mites trapped to assess the level of infestation.* | *To be surface spread within housing if a red warning is issued by out vet which indicates an infestation of > 20m mites/ bird and where mite strains have become resistant to other treatments.* | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | | |
| Detail how welfare of the flock is assessed and how often stock are visually checked. | |  |
| **Featherloss Prevention and Action Plan (section for layers only)\*please note that if as part of your welfare outcome assessment, your featherloss scores are high, we may ask you to complete a more comprehensive featherloss management plan** | | |
| Detail the measures you have in place to reduce feather pecking including any measures you put in place for pullet rearing, transporting pullets and introducing them into the laying environment that will minimise stress. | |  |
| Please detail any enrichment which you have on site. | |  |
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| How do you monitor feather loss on your site? | |  |
| More information can be found on the [FeatherWel Website](http://assurewel.org/index.html). | | |
| **Restrictions imposed due to Community Legislation e.g. housing orders to combat Avian Influenza**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | What additional management and enrichment do you provide when poultry are under restrictions? |  | | If housing waterfowl, how do you ensure access to water and maintain litter quality? |  | | How do you monitor welfare during these restrictions? |  | | | |
| **Transport and slaughter** | | |
| Please detail the maximum duration you will transport livestock when entering and leaving your site. | |  |
| Detail the site of slaughter of your poultry. | |  |
| For table poultry what is the minimum age they will be slaughtered | |  |
| Detail the method of euthanasia and name the person(s) who will carry this out. | |  |
| **Record Keeping**  Record keeping is essential to effective management and forms a critical part of your organic registration.    You will be expected to keep the records detailed in [section 1.7](https://www.soilassociation.org/media/15931/farming-and-growing-standards.pdf) of the standards. This includes records of bought in feeds, livestock movements, mortality records and veterinary treatments (including withdrawal periods) along with your field and crop records. The relevant invoices must also be kept.  You will also need to demonstrate through your records that individual livestock rations have complied with the standards both on a daily and annual basis.  Records can be kept in your own format (either computerised or on paper) as long as all the information required is provided. Example record keeping sheets are available on the [Soil Association website.](https://www.soilassociation.org/certification/farming/licensee-resources/producer-record-keeping-sheets/) | | |
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| **Useful Resources**   * Featherwel: [www.featherwel.org](http://www.featherwel.org) * Farm Health Online: <https://www.farmhealthonline.com/> * AssureWel: <http://www.assurewel.org/index.html> * Government Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/controlling-disease-in-farm-animals> * Soil Association technical guides: <https://www.soilassociation.org/farmers-growers/technicalinformation/> * Noah Compendium: <http://www.noahcompendium.co.uk/> * Withdrawal factsheet: <https://www.soilassociation.org/media/18493/organic-withdrawal-factsheet-2019.pdf>   Thank you for taking the time to complete this plan, please return this to the producer certification team at [cert@soilassociation.org](mailto:cert@soilassociation.org) or post it to Soil Association Certification Limited, Spear house, 51 Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6AD. | | |

**Additional Notes:**