



British Egg Industry Council

3rd November 2017

To: Lion Technical Committee, BEIC Subscribers

Lion Code of Practice – amendments/updates

Date of response (in writing) required no later than Friday 10th November 2017.

Please see below the draft amendments to Sections 1 – 11 of the Lion Code of Practice (version 7), plus some of the annexes.

Please note, these have been previously discussed by both the Lion Technical Committee and Subscribers. Following this further consultation, they will be consolidated into the Lion Code.

In terms of logistics, BEIC will forward, via the Subscriber, breeder subscriber, pullet rearer subscriber and feed mill subscriber, the relevant replacement pages to the Lion Code.

Please note that **blue** text is the draft amendment to the Code requirement (normal text) and guidance (*italic text*).

This consultation runs from Friday 3rd November and **closes on 10th November**. If you have any comments/suggestions etc, these must be sent to mark.williams@britisheggindustrycouncil.com no later than **10th November 2017**.

General

The Code will be changed throughout to remove reference to AHVLA, DARD, or any other govt acronym. To try and future-proof the Code, as much as possible, we will refer to '**appropriate government body**'. However, there will remain places where reference to Defra will be kept, e.g. Defra approved laboratory

Introduction by Chairman

(See 1st paragraph right hand side)

The Lion Code of Practice is monitored by an independent agency in accordance with the ~~EN45011~~ **ISO17065** standard (or amendment thereof).

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Section 2 – Breeder Pullet Rearing Farms

A4 CRITICAL Copies of the last 2 self-audits shall be available. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial Subscriber accompanied self-audit carried out.

One of the twice yearly self-audits is to be completed in conjunction with a representative of the breeder subscriber.

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

If this is a new site, or a breeder subscriber transferred site, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the breeder subscriber prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

If the self-audit is due during turnaround, the self-audit must take place either prior to depletion or following housing of the replacement flock.

A5 CRITICAL Breeder pullet rearing farms will at all times comply with:

The [current version of the](#) DEFRA Code of Practice for the Prevention and Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (ref. PB1564).

The Control of Salmonella in Poultry (England) Order 2007, the Control of Salmonella in Poultry (Breeders, Layers and Broiler Flocks) (Scotland) Order 2009, the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Order (Wales) 2008 and the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2008, or any amendment thereof.

The [current version of the](#) Code of Practice for the Prevention of Rodent Infestations in Poultry Flocks and Section 2 of the Code of Practice.

This requirement is very broad. Auditors need to be familiar with the respective orders and isolate those aspects not covered by the remaining requirements. (The main purpose of this point is obtaining management assurance that Breeder Pullet Rearing Flocks meet the required standard as the opportunity to inspect breeder rearing flocks will be restricted due to biosecurity concerns). (Verbal/Visual/Written)

A site registered outside of the UK must comply to equivalent Lion Code standards

B12 CRITICAL There must be a documented, effective control programme against wild birds, vermin, rodents and pests in poultry houses and feed stores. Effective measures must be taken by suitably trained personnel to control vermin, rodents, flies and other arthropods including the elimination of potential breeding areas. Such control measures must be carried out using licensed products in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, and must be logged to enable Senior Management to determine that the necessary operations have been carried out.

Conduct visual assessment of a clear bait plan and notes of actions taken and baits used. If undertaken by a contractor nothing else required. If 'in house', records on purchase and use should be available. (Written Assessment)

The importance of an effective rodent control programme in controlling Salmonella on farms cannot be stressed strongly enough.

(‘Vermin’ is defined in these guidance notes as a collective name for wild animals that spread disease and generally cause a nuisance e.g. rats and

other rodents. A 'Pest' is defined in these guidance notes as an insect or animal harmful to food or livestock).

B13 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled, in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. Bait points shall be inspected.

The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used, an appropriate bait plan shall be followed.

Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

B14 A copy of the current version of the DEFRA 'Code of Practice for the Prevention of Rodent Infestations on Poultry Farms' must be available.

Visit: <http://www.DEFRA.gov.uk/> or a direct link to the booklet is:

<http://archive.DEFRA.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/atoz/zoonoses/documents/reports/salrodent.pdf>

B20 Birds must not be allowed access to pesticides at any time. Any red mite treatment product must be listed on the BEIC list of approved list (see Annex N.1).

Such red mite treatment products shall be used according to the datasheet and at the manufacturer's recommended dilutions.

D10 CRITICAL If Salmonella Enteritidis, S. Typhimurium, monophasic S. Typhimurium, S. Hadar, S. Virchow, or S. Infantis, is isolated from the breeder pullet rearing flock, or its environment, BEIC must be notified immediately. (*'Immediately' is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier*).

Auditor to ask and check paperwork. BEIC requires notification in order to ensure that site takes appropriate action to eliminate infection in conjunction with breeder pullet rearer's own vet and appropriate government body.

D11 CRITICAL If an exotic Salmonella serovar other than SE, ST, monophasic ST, SI, SH, SV is isolated from the pullet rearing flock or its environment, veterinary advice must be sought and advice acted upon. BEIC must be informed.

Auditor to ask for evidence of the veterinary advice and check paperwork.

F4 There shall be a written veterinary health and welfare plan in place, which shall be reviewed each year.

The written veterinary health and welfare plan shall be reviewed each year. It must be available at the time of the audit and be appropriate to the operation being carried out.

G5 All use of antibiotics must be reported to the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber immediately.

There is a prohibition on the use of the following; Fluoroquinolones at day-old; all 3rd and 4th generation Cephalosporins; and Colistin.

Fluoroquinolone products may not be used at 1 day of age. At any other age they should be reserved for use in situations of significant welfare issues for the birds, and in which a specific pathogen has been identified and its in-vitro

sensitivity, and/or the nature of the lesions, confirm that no other medications are appropriate. If used, this shall be reported to BEIC.

Quarterly data must be communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

H1 All medicated feed shall be clearly labelled.

*If a medicated feed is present on a breeder pullet rearing site, it must be stored in bulk and the delivery note must record the additive and the level of inclusion. A notice must be placed on a feed bin if it contains medication **that requires a withdrawal period** (Verbal/Written)*

I1 All staff shall have access to a **current** copy of the DEFRA 'Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock - Domestic Fowls', and have received instruction on it.

A copy of the Code must be available for inspection. Staff to be asked where it is kept and questioned on its contents. The exception to this is staff who hold welfare training certificates

I6 CRITICAL Disposal of dead and culled birds must comply with the Animal By-Products Regulations (2003).

*If by Incineration, the equipment shall be registered with the **appropriate government body**.*

Incinerators or bagging for 'off site' disposal are permissible. (View the system). Indicate method used.

I7 Carcasses stored for **on site** or off-site disposal must be kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

Check if carcass storage facilities are kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

Section L deleted and replaced by:

L1 Visitors must be kept to a minimum and those allowed access to poultry houses, (including service staff) must wear clean protective clothing that is kept on the farm.

Clean overalls or coat, plus feet and head covering, must be available on site.

L2 During periods of increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease, only essential visitors are to be allowed access to poultry houses (including service staff). All visitors must be provided with clean protective clothing, that is kept on the site/farm.

Increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease would include e.g. when an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is declared.

Clean overalls, plus feet and head covering, must be available on the site/farm.

L3 A visitors' book (including full name, business address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to the 'Specific' biosecure area (poultry house/birds) shall be available and maintained on the site/farm.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. The 'Specific' biosecure area is defined in L5 below. The anteroom shall be considered to be part of the poultry house (See Annex M as an example).

L4 Control measures must be in place to minimise the spread of disease within the site/farm and between other sites/farms.

It is the responsibility of senior management of the site to ensure that effective control measures are in place and enforced at all times.

L5 There must be a minimum of two levels of biosecurity; a defined 'General' biosecure area and defined 'Specific' biosecure area on each site/farm.

Two levels of biosecurity shall be defined;

A 'General' area of biosecurity which may refer to the site/farm at large (e.g. inside the perimeter), depending on the individual site. This may exclude any property not associated with the poultry enterprise, e.g. car park, dwelling house, other farm buildings and other farm areas.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the 'General' biosecure area.

All personnel and visitors entering a 'General' biosecure must comply with the biosecurity requirements of the site. Vehicles entering a 'General' biosecure area should be disinfected.

A 'Specific' area of biosecurity refers to each poultry house where birds are housed on the site/farm.

Entry to a 'Specific' biosecure area requires further measures (noting that a poultry house may have more than one entrance/exit) including a change of footwear (to 'indoor' footwear) over a barrier arrangement, and the wearing of protective clothing.

A 'Specific' biosecure area therefore requires a higher level of biosecurity.

Clear signage showing the 'General' and 'Specific' biosecure areas shall be in place.

A site plan shall clearly show all biosecure areas and their perimeters, with an identifiable key.

*(See **Annex ?** as an example)*

L6 The site must have an area of clean concrete, metalled surface or rolled stone which is large enough for a delivery/collection vehicle, or feed lorry, to stand.

For concrete, a wash with a hose to remove debris would demonstrate 'clean'.

L7 Consideration should be given to any vehicles and/or equipment which enters the 'General' biosecure area. Is it visually clean?

Consideration should be given to where vehicles and equipment has come from. Is it visually clean? If not, more thorough disinfection of the vehicles and equipment to be undertaken.

Possible means of vehicle disinfection include disinfectant mats, vehicle washers and wheel troughs. Attention should also be paid to the potential transmission of material from 'cab to ground'.

L8 Foot-dip/bath facilities must be provided at the entrance to the 'General' biosecure area and must be used by all who enter (and exit/leave) it.

Footwear must be able to be fully dipped in the foot dip/bath.

L9 The foot-dip/bath facility shall be replenished with fresh disinfectant at a minimum frequency of once weekly. Only disinfectants on the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants shall be used. Records of disinfectants in use, including dilution, and when changed, are to be kept.

Only Defra approved disinfectants (on the BEIC list) must be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Disinfectant solutions must also be replaced on a regular basis (a minimum weekly, or earlier if contaminated by debris/dirt, or if affected by the weather) and this recorded. The foot-dip/bath must have a cover in place to prevent dilution by rain or sunlight. An additional

foot-scrub is to be provided so that organic matter can be removed prior to dipping, as it is always good practice to remove debris before dipping footwear. Check disinfectants against the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants (Annex N).

L10 A physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, must be provided at the entrance to each 'Specific' biosecure bird area. Hand sanitisers are to be provided at the entrance to the 'Specific' biosecure area.

A barrier system is to be established at the entry to the 'Specific' biosecure area. All staff and visitors must change into colour coded house dedicated footwear (or use new robust disposable overshoes) upon each entry / exit.

As poultry houses can have more than one entrance, each entry point must provide for a physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, at the entrance to each 'specific' biosecure bird area.

Such a barrier to be: no less than 30cm high; the area inside the barrier is considered to be the 'Specific' biosecure area; staff remove outdoor footwear on the external side of the barrier; staff then put on dedicated biosecure footwear in the internal area of the barrier; provision to be seated, or supported, when changing footwear.

The auditor will look to see that debris from the 'General' biosecure area is not getting into the 'Specific' area and vice versa. Both areas should be maintained in a tidy state, e.g. cleaned daily.

The use of farm dedicated protective clothing is required to be worn when in the 'Specific' biosecure area. This shall be changed and laundered regularly. 'Regularly' is defined as a minimum of twice weekly. Ideally, protective clothing should not be taken home to be laundered. However, where it is, cross-contamination must be avoided. The use of disposable protective clothing is allowed.

L11 (If applicable). On a free range and organic unit, the range area shall be considered to be an intermediate biosecure area which shall require the use of foot-dips/baths and protective clothing.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the range area. Personnel and vehicles entering the range area must use foot-dips/baths and disinfect vehicles respectively. This will require the use of protective clothing.

L12 Birds must be effectively contained within the defined 'Specific' biosecure area and in the 'General' biosecure area for where ranges are present. Remedial action must be taken to prevent hens leaving these areas.

Birds must be prevented from having access to service areas and aprons. Suitable fencing must be in place.

L13 There should not be a pond or areas of standing water on the premises. Poultry must not have access to a pond or 'open' water. There shall be no areas of standing water on the premises.

If ponds are present, steps must be taken to prevent access to the pond by the birds.

Where possible, ponds should be filled in. Where this is not possible, fencing-off and netting is required. Steps should be taken to discourage waterfowl from the premises (i.e. not encourage them onto the premises).

Whilst it is accepted that during periods of heavy rain, puddles may appear, there must be no persistent standing water on the site/farm.

Ask what action senior management has taken (to assess the risk) to minimise contact between wild birds / waterfowl and poultry.

L14 A written biosecurity plan, including at least the minimum measures provided for in the appropriate government body's biosecurity guidance for protection against Avian Influenza is to be available.

Useful information can be obtained from: <https://www.gov.uk/poultry-health>

Also: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare> or: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/?lang=en> or: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

L15 A policy notice shall be displayed stating 'no unauthorised recording equipment/camera/mobile phones'.

The use of photographic equipment by the accredited Monitoring Agency is authorised to record non-conformances

L16 Before any new site/farm is planned and built, the senior management of the site/farm must conduct a written assessment.

The senior management of the site/farm must undertake a full written risk assessment which considers the proximity of (as a minimum): ponds, lakes, open water, or other watercourses and the associated risks from migratory wildfowl.

M6 Staff are to receive training commensurate with all aspects of their duties

The Lion Training Passport is to be adopted as the formal route for industry training and training recognition (see Annex W).

Section 3 – Breeder Laying Bird Farms

A4 CRITICAL Copies of the last 2 self-audits shall be available. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial Subscriber accompanied self-audit carried out.

One of the twice yearly self-audits is to be completed in conjunction with a representative of the breeder subscriber.

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitoring Agency

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

If this is a new site, or a breeder subscriber transferred site, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the breeder subscriber prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

If the self-audit is due during turnaround, the self-audit must take place either prior to depletion or following housing of the replacement flock.

A5 CRITICAL Breeder Laying bird farms will at all times comply with:

The [current version of the](#) DEFRA Code of Practice for the Prevention and Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (ref. PB1564)

The Control of Salmonella in Poultry (England) Order 2007, the Control of Salmonella in Poultry (Breeders, Layers and Broiler Flocks) (Scotland) Order 2009, the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Order (Wales) 2008 and the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2008, or any amendment thereof.

The [current version of the](#) Code of Practice for the Prevention of Rodent Infestations in Poultry Flocks; and Section 3 of the Code of Practice.

A site registered outside of the UK must comply to equivalent Lion Code standards.

B13 CRITICAL There must be a documented, effective control programme against wild birds, vermin, rodents and pests in poultry houses and feed stores. Effective measures must be taken by suitably trained personnel to control vermin, rodents, flies and other arthropods including the elimination of potential breeding areas. Such control measures must be carried out using licensed products in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, and must be logged to enable Senior Management to determine that the necessary operations have been carried out.

Conduct visual assessment of a clear bait plan and notes of actions taken and baits used. If undertaken by a contractor nothing else required. If 'in house', records on purchase and use should be available. (Written Assessment)

The importance of an effective rodent control programme in controlling Salmonella on farms cannot be stressed strongly enough.

('Vermin' is defined in these guidance notes as a collective name for wild animals that spread disease and generally cause a nuisance e.g. rats and other rodents. A 'Pest' is defined in these guidance notes as an insect or animal harmful to food or livestock).

B14 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled, in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. Bait points shall be inspected.

The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used an appropriate bait plan shall be followed. Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

B15 A copy of the current version of the DEFRA 'Code of Practice for the Prevention of Rodent Infestations on Poultry Farms' must be available.

Visit: <http://www.DEFRA.gov.uk/> or a direct link to the booklet is:

<http://archive.DEFRA.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/atoz/zoonoses/documents/reports/salrodent.pdf>

B21 Birds must not be allowed access to pesticides at any time. Any red mite treatment product must be listed on the BEIC list of approved list (see Annex N.1).

Such red mite treatment products shall be used according to the datasheet and at the manufacturer's recommended dilutions.

D9 CRITICAL If Salmonella Enteritidis, S. Typhimurium, monophasic S. Typhimurium, S. Hadar, S. Virchow, or S. Infantis, are isolated from the breeder laying bird flock, or its environment, BEIC must be notified immediately.

('Immediately' is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier).

Auditor to ask and check paperwork. BEIC requires notification in order to ensure that site takes appropriate action to eliminate infection in conjunction with layer breeder's own vet and appropriate government body.

D10 CRITICAL If an exotic *Salmonella* serovar, other than SE, ST, monophasic ST, SI, SH, SV is isolated from the breeder laying bird flock or its environment, veterinary advice must be sought and advice acted upon. BEIC must be informed.

Auditor to ask for evidence of the veterinary advice and check paperwork.

F4 There shall be a written veterinary health and welfare plan in place, which shall be reviewed annually or at the end of every flock.

The written veterinary health and welfare plan shall be reviewed annually or at the end of every flock. It must be available at the time of the audit and be appropriate to the operation being carried out.

G5 All use of antibiotics must be reported to the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber immediately.

There is a prohibition on the use of the following; Fluoroquinolones at day-old; all 3rd and 4th generation Cephalosporins; and Colistin.

Fluoroquinolone products may not be used at 1 day of age. At any other age they should be reserved for use in situations of significant welfare issues for the birds, and in which a specific pathogen has been identified and its in-vitro sensitivity, and/or the nature of the lesions, confirm that no other medications are appropriate. If used, this shall be reported to BEIC.

Quarterly data must be communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

H1 All medicated feed shall be clearly labelled.

It will be rare for medicated feed to be present on a Breeder Layer Farm. It will be stored in bulk and the delivery note will record the additive and the level of inclusion. A notice must be placed on the feed bin if it contains medication that requires a withdrawal period. (Verbal/Written).

I1 All staff shall have access to a current copy of the DEFRA 'Laying Hens - Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock' and shall have received instruction on it.

Stocking density is NOT governed by legislative requirements, but breeders are to be considered in a similar way to Laying Hens. (Assessment is visual measurement)

I7 CRITICAL Disposal of dead and culled birds must comply with the Animal By-Products Regulations (2003).

If by incineration, the equipment shall be registered with the appropriate government body.

Incinerators or bagging for 'off-site' disposal are permissible. (View the system). Indicate method used.

I8 Carcasses stored for on site or off-site disposal must be kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

Check if carcass storage facilities are kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

L5 CRITICAL The store temperature shall be controlled, meeting the BEIC Lion Code requirement of 12-17°C dependent on egg age fluctuations.

Daily records must be available. Hatching eggs must be kept at an even temperature of 12-17°C, R.H. 70-80% (Written/Visual Assessment)

Section M deleted and replaced by:

M1 Visitors must be kept to a minimum and those allowed access to poultry houses, (including service staff) must wear clean protective clothing that is kept on the farm.

Clean overalls or coat, plus feet and head covering, must be available on site.

M2 During periods of increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease, only essential visitors are to be allowed access to poultry houses (including service staff). All visitors must be provided with clean protective clothing, that is kept on the site/farm.

Increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease would include e.g. when an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is declared.

Clean overalls, plus feet and head covering, must be available on the site/farm.

M3 A visitors' book (including full name, business address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to the 'Specific' biosecure area (poultry house/birds) shall be available and maintained on the site/farm.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. The 'Specific' biosecure area is defined in M5 below. The anteroom shall be considered to be part of the poultry house (See Annex M as an example).

M4 Control measures must be in place to minimise the spread of disease within the site/farm and between other sites/farms.

It is the responsibility of senior management of the site to ensure that effective control measures are in place and enforced at all times.

M5 There must be a minimum of two levels of biosecurity; a defined 'General' biosecure area and defined 'Specific' biosecure area on each site/farm.

Two levels of biosecurity shall be defined;

A 'General' area of biosecurity which may refer to the site/farm at large (e.g. inside the perimeter), depending on the individual site. This may exclude any property not associated with the poultry enterprise, e.g. car park, dwelling house, other farm buildings and other farm areas.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the 'General' biosecure area.

All personnel and visitors entering a 'General' biosecure must comply with the biosecurity requirements of the site. Vehicles entering a 'General' biosecure area should be disinfected.

A 'Specific' area of biosecurity refers to each poultry house where birds are housed on the site/farm.

Entry to a 'Specific' biosecure area requires further measures (noting that a poultry house may have more than one entrance/exit) including a change of footwear (to 'indoor' footwear) over a barrier arrangement, and the wearing of protective clothing.

A 'Specific' biosecure area therefore requires a higher level of biosecurity.

Clear signage showing the 'General' and 'Specific' biosecure areas shall be in place.

A site plan shall clearly show all biosecure areas and their perimeters, with an identifiable key.

(See Annex ? as an example)

M6 The site must have an area of clean concrete, metalled surface or rolled stone which is large enough for a delivery/collection vehicle, or feed lorry, to stand.

For concrete, a wash with a hose to remove debris would demonstrate 'clean'.

M7 Consideration should be given to any vehicles and/or equipment which enters the 'General' biosecure area. Is it visually clean?

Consideration should be given to where vehicles and equipment has come from. Is it visually clean? If not, more thorough disinfection of the vehicles and equipment to be undertaken.

Possible means of vehicle disinfection include disinfectant mats, vehicle washers and wheel troughs. Attention should also be paid to the potential transmission of material from 'cab to ground'

M8 Foot-dip/bath facilities must be provided at the entrance to the 'General' biosecure area and must be used by all who enter (and exit/leave) it.

Footwear must be able to be fully dipped in the foot dip/bath.

M9 The foot-dip/bath facility shall be replenished with fresh disinfectant at a minimum frequency of once weekly. Only disinfectants on the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants shall be used. Records of disinfectants in use, including dilution, and when changed, are to be kept.

Only Defra approved disinfectants (on the BEIC list) must be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Disinfectant solutions must also be replaced on a regular basis (a minimum weekly, or earlier if contaminated by debris/dirt, or if affected by the weather) and this recorded. The foot-dip/bath must have a cover in place to prevent dilution by rain or sunlight. An additional foot-scrub is to be provided so that organic matter can be removed prior to dipping, as it is always good practice to remove debris before dipping footwear. Check disinfectants against the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants (Annex N).

M10 A physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, must be provided at the entrance to each 'Specific' biosecure bird area. Hand sanitisers are to be provided at the entrance to the 'Specific' biosecure area.

A barrier system is to be established at the entry to the 'Specific' biosecure area. All staff and visitors must change into colour coded house dedicated footwear (or use new robust disposable overshoes) upon each entry / exit.

As poultry houses can have more than one entrance, each entry point must provide for a physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, at the entrance to each 'specific' biosecure bird area.

Such a barrier to be: no less than 30cm high; the area inside the barrier is considered to be the 'Specific' biosecure area; staff remove outdoor footwear on the external side of the barrier; staff then put on dedicated biosecure footwear in the internal area of the barrier; provision to be seated, or supported, when changing footwear.

The auditor will look to see that debris from the 'General' biosecure area is not getting into the 'Specific' area and vice versa. Both areas should be maintained in a tidy state, e.g. cleaned daily.

The use of farm dedicated protective clothing is required to be worn when in the 'Specific' biosecure area. This shall be changed and laundered regularly. 'Regularly' is defined as a minimum of twice weekly. Ideally, protective clothing should not be taken home to be laundered. However, where it is, cross-contamination must be avoided. The use of disposable protective clothing is allowed.

M11 (If applicable). On a free range and organic unit, the range area shall be

considered to be an intermediate biosecure area which shall require the use of foot-dips/baths and protective clothing.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the range area. Personnel and vehicles entering the range area must use foot-dips/baths and disinfect vehicles respectively. This will require the use of protective clothing.

M12 Birds must be effectively contained within the defined 'Specific' biosecure area and in the 'General' biosecure area for where ranges are present. Remedial action must be taken to prevent hens leaving these areas.

Birds must be prevented from having access to service areas and aprons. Suitable fencing must be in place.

M13 There should not be a pond or areas of standing water on the premises. Poultry must not have access to a pond or 'open' water. There shall be no areas of standing water on the premises.

If ponds are present, steps must be taken to prevent access to the pond by the birds.

Where possible, ponds should be filled in. Where this is not possible, fencing-off and netting is required. Steps should be taken to discourage waterfowl from the premises (i.e. not encourage them onto the premises).

Whilst it is accepted that during periods of heavy rain, puddles may appear, there must be no persistent standing water on the site/farm.

Ask what action senior management has taken (to assess the risk) to minimise contact between wild birds / waterfowl and poultry.

M14 A written biosecurity plan, including at least the minimum measures provided for in the appropriate government body's biosecurity guidance for protection against Avian Influenza is to be available.

Useful information can be obtained from: <https://www.gov.uk/poultry-health>

Also: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare> or: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/?lang=en> or: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

M15 A policy notice shall be displayed stating 'no unauthorised recording equipment/camera/mobile phones'

The use of photographic equipment by the accredited Monitoring Agency is authorised to record non-conformances

M16 Before any new site/farm is planned and built, the senior management of the site/farm must conduct a written assessment.

The senior management of the site/farm must undertake a full written risk assessment which considers the proximity of (as a minimum): ponds, lakes, open water, or other watercourses and the associated risks from migratory wildfowl.

N6 Staff are to receive training commensurate with all aspects of their duties

The Lion Training Passport is to be adopted as the formal route for industry training and training recognition (see Annex W).

Section 4 – Pullet Hatcheries

A4 CRITICAL Copies of the last 2 self-audits shall be available. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial Subscriber accompanied self-audit carried out.

One of the twice yearly self-audits is to be completed in conjunction with a representative of the breeder subscriber.

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitoring Agency

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

If this is a new site, or a breeder subscriber transferred site, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the breeder subscriber prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

NEW

A16 CRITICAL The site shall only be used for the storage of eggs, incubation and hatching of chicks of the species *Gallus gallus* (egg laying) from Lion registered breeder flocks which hold a current Certificate of Registration.

The Lion Code of Practice requires that no non-Lion eggs can enter a BEIC registered site. Any variation to be authorised by BEIC.

E6 Vaccination needles shall be changed between breeding flocks, and/or a maximum of 1,000 chicks. However, where a sterilizing module is in use, the manufacturer's recommended programme should be followed.

Vaccination needles are normally changed when a new vaccine bottle is attached to the vaccination gun. Can be as frequently as every 500 chicks, but must not exceed 1,000 chicks. Always change between different breeder flocks, unless the sterilizing module is in use. (Nova-Tech recommend that the sterilizing module should sterilize the needle every 10 chicks).

E11 All use of antibiotics must be reported to the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber immediately.

There is a prohibition on the use of the following; Fluoroquinolones at day-old; all 3rd and 4th generation Cephalosporins; and Colistin.

Fluoroquinolone products may not be used at 1 day of age.

Quarterly data must be communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

Check against Lion Passport section D.

H8 Staff are to receive training commensurate with all aspects of their duties

The Lion Training Passport is to be adopted as the formal route for industry training and training recognition (see Annex W).

Section I to be deleted and replaced by:

I1 Visitors must be kept to a minimum and those allowed access to chick areas, (including service staff) must wear clean protective clothing that is kept on the site.

Clean overalls or coat, plus feet and head covering, must be available on site.

I2 During periods of increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease, only essential visitors are to be allowed access to poultry houses (including service staff). All visitors must be provided with clean protective clothing, that is kept on the site/farm.

Increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease would include e.g. when an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is declared.

Clean overalls, plus feet and head covering, must be available on the site/farm.

13 A visitors' book (including full name, business address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to the 'Specific' biosecure area (egg/chicks) shall be available and maintained on the site.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. The 'Specific' biosecure area is defined in 15 below. The egg store, incubators, hatchers and chick take-off area shall be considered to be part of the 'Specific' biosecure area.

14 Control measures must be in place to minimise the spread of disease within the site and between other sites.

It is the responsibility of senior management of the site to ensure that effective control measures are in place and enforced at all times.

15 There must be a minimum of two levels of biosecurity; a defined 'General' biosecure area and defined 'Specific' biosecure area on each site.

Two levels of biosecurity shall be defined;

A 'General' area of biosecurity which may refer to the site at large (e.g. inside the perimeter), depending on the individual site. This may exclude any property not associated with the hatchery enterprise, e.g. car park, dwelling house, other buildings and other areas.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the 'General' biosecure area.

All personnel and visitors must comply with the biosecurity requirements of the site. Vehicles entering a 'General' biosecure area must be disinfected.

A 'Specific' area of biosecurity refers to the egg store, incubators, hatchers, chick take-off area, and dispatch, on the site.

Entry to a 'Specific' biosecure area requires further measures (noting that the site may have more than one entrance/exit).

A 'Specific' biosecure area therefore requires a higher level of biosecurity.

Clear signage showing the 'General' and 'Specific' biosecure areas shall be in place.

A site plan shall clearly show all biosecure areas and their perimeters, with an identifiable key.

16 The site must have an area of clean concrete or metalled surface which is large enough for a delivery/collection vehicle to stand.

For concrete, a wash with a hose to remove debris would demonstrate 'clean'.

17 Consideration should be given to any vehicles and/or equipment which enters the 'General' biosecure area. Is it visually clean?

Consideration should be given to where vehicles and equipment has come from. Is it visually clean? If not, more thorough disinfection of the vehicles and equipment to be undertaken.

Possible means of vehicle disinfection include disinfectant mats, vehicle washers and wheel troughs. Attention should also be paid to the potential transmission of material from 'cab to ground'

18 Foot-dip/bath facilities must be provided at the entrance to the 'General' biosecure area and must be used by all who enter (and exit/leave) it J&H do not.

Footwear must be able to be fully dipped in the foot dip/bath.

19 The foot-dip/bath facility shall be replenished with fresh disinfectant at a minimum frequency of once weekly. Only disinfectants on the BEIC list of Defra

approved disinfectants shall be used. Records of disinfectants in use, including dilution, and when changed, are to be kept.

Only Defra approved disinfectants (on the BEIC list) must be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Disinfectant solutions must also be replaced on a regular basis (a minimum weekly, or earlier if contaminated by debris/dirt, or if affected by the weather) and this recorded. The foot-dip/bath must have a cover in place to prevent dilution by rain or sunlight. An additional foot-scrub is to be provided so that organic matter can be removed prior to dipping, as it is always good practice to remove debris before dipping footwear. Check disinfectants against the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants (Annex N).

I10 A physical barrier shower or footwear system, with dedicated footwear, must be provided at the entrance to each 'Specific' biosecure bird area. Hand sanitisers are to be provided at the entrance to the 'Specific' biosecure area.

A barrier system is to be established at the entry to the 'Specific' biosecure area. All staff and visitors must change into colour coded house dedicated footwear (or use new robust disposable overshoes) upon each entry / exit.

As the hatchery can have more than one entrance, each entry point must provide for a physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, at the entrance to each 'specific' biosecure bird area.

The auditor will look to see that debris from the 'General' biosecure area is not getting into the 'Specific' area and vice versa. Both areas should be maintained in a tidy state, e.g. cleaned daily.

The use of farm dedicated protective clothing is required to be worn when in the 'Specific' biosecure area. This shall be changed and laundered regularly. 'Regularly' is defined as a minimum of twice weekly. Protective clothing shall not be taken home to be laundered. The use of disposable protective clothing is allowed.

I11 There should not be a pond or areas of standing water on the premises. There shall be no areas of standing water on the premises.

If ponds are present, steps must be taken to prevent access to the pond by the wild birds.

Where possible, ponds should be filled in. Where this is not possible, fencing-off and netting is required. Steps should be taken to discourage waterfowl from the premises (i.e. not encourage them onto the premises).

Whilst it is accepted that during periods of heavy rain, puddles may appear, there must be no persistent standing water on the site.

Ask what action senior management has taken (to assess the risk) to minimise contact between wild birds / waterfowl and the site.

I12 A written biosecurity plan, including at least the minimum measures provided for in the appropriate government body's biosecurity guidance for protection against Avian Influenza is to be available.

Useful information can be obtained from: <https://www.gov.uk/poultry-health>

Also: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare> or: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/?lang=en> or: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

I13 A policy notice shall be displayed stating 'no unauthorised recording equipment/camera/mobile phones'

The use of photographic equipment by the accredited Monitoring Agency is authorised to record non-conformances.

I14 Before any new site/farm is planned and built, the senior management of the site/farm must conduct a written assessment.

The senior management of the site/farm must undertake a full written risk assessment which considers the proximity of (as a minimum): ponds, lakes, open water, or other watercourses and the associated risks from migratory wildfowl.

J5 CRITICAL If *Salmonella* Enteritidis, *Salmonella* Typhimurium, *monophasic Salmonella* Typhimurium, *S. Hadar*, *S. Virchow*, and *S. Infantis* is isolated from the hatchery environment, *eggs or chicks*, the hatchery must notify the BEIC immediately.

(‘Immediately’ is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier).

This effectively requires the approved laboratory, by the appropriate government body, to ensure that results are notified to the hatchery as soon as possible.

Auditor to ask and check paperwork. BEIC requires notification in order to ensure that site takes appropriate action to eliminate infection in conjunction with hatchery’s own vet and appropriate government body.

J6 CRITICAL If an exotic *Salmonella* serovar, other than SE, ST, *monophasic ST*, SI, SH, SV is isolated from the hatchery environment, *eggs or chicks*, veterinary advice must be sought and advice acted upon. BEIC must be informed.

Auditor to ask for evidence of the veterinary advice and check paperwork.

K1 CRITICAL There must be a documented, effective control programme against wild birds, vermin, rodents and pests in poultry houses and feed stores. Effective measures must be taken by suitably trained personnel to control vermin, rodents, flies and other arthropods including the elimination of potential breeding areas. Such control measures must be carried out using licensed products in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, and must be logged to enable Senior Management to determine that the necessary operations have been carried out.

Conduct visual assessment of a clear bait plan and notes of actions taken and baits used. If undertaken by a contractor nothing else required. If ‘in house’, records on purchase and use should be available. (Written Assessment)

*The importance of an effective rodent control programme in controlling *Salmonella* on farms cannot be stressed strongly enough.*

(‘Vermin’ is defined in these guidance notes as a collective name for wild animals that spread disease and generally cause a nuisance e.g. rats and other rodents. A ‘Pest’ is defined in these guidance notes as an insect or animal harmful to food or livestock).

K2 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled, in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken. Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. *Bait points shall be inspected.*

The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used an appropriate bait plan shall be followed. Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

NEW section Q

Lion passport

Q1 CRITICAL A properly completed Lion passport certificate (Annex A) shall be issued by each hatchery for deliveries to Lion registered pullet rearing farms / sites.

Proof of sale must be available.

An appropriate Lion passport certificate must be available for inspection with Section 'A' completed. (Written)

A Lion passport certificate can only be issued to a Lion registered pullet rearing site/farm.

NEW Section R

Breeder Subscriber's Administrative Responsibilities

R1 Distribution of information

It is the responsibility of the breeder subscriber to ensure that all communications from BEIC to registered sites are distributed within the time frame set.

R2 Antibiotic usage

The breeder subscriber shall be responsible for ensuring that all usage of antibiotics on a registered breeder pullet rearing farm and breeder laying bird farm is communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

Section 5 – Pullet Rearing Farms

A5 CRITICAL Copies of the last 2 self-audits shall be available. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial Subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber accompanied self-audit carried out.

One of the twice yearly self-audits is to be completed in conjunction with a representative of the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber.

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitory Agency

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

If this is a new site, or a subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber transferred site, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

If the self-audit is due during turnaround, the self-audit must take place either prior to depletion or following housing of the replacement flock.

B12 CRITICAL There must be a documented, effective control programme against wild birds, vermin, rodents and pests in poultry houses and feed stores. Effective measures must be taken by suitably trained personnel to control vermin, rodents, flies and other arthropods including the elimination of potential breeding areas. Such control measures must be carried out using licensed products in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, and must be logged to enable Senior Management to determine that the necessary operations have been carried out.

Conduct visual assessment of a clear bait plan and notes of actions taken and baits used. If undertaken by a contractor nothing else required. If 'in house', records on purchase and use should be available. (Written Assessment)

The importance of an effective rodent control programme in controlling Salmonella on farms cannot be stressed strongly enough.

(‘Vermin’ is defined in these guidance notes as a collective name for wild animals that spread disease and generally cause a nuisance e.g. rats and other rodents. A ‘Pest’ is defined in these guidance notes as an insect or animal harmful to food or livestock).

B13 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled, in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. Bait points shall be inspected.

The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used an appropriate bait plan shall be followed. Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

B14 A copy of the current version of the DEFRA ‘Code of Practice for the Prevention of Rodent Infestations on Poultry Farms’ must be available.

Visit: <http://www.DEFRA.gov.uk/> or a direct link to the booklet is:

<http://archive.DEFRA.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/atoz/zoonoses/documents/reports/salrodent.pdf>

B20 Birds must not be allowed access to pesticides at any time. Any red mite treatment product must be listed on the BEIC list of approved list (see Annex N.1).

Such red mite treatment products shall be used according to the datasheet and at the manufacturer’s recommended dilutions.

D13 CRITICAL If non-vaccinal Salmonella Enteritidis, Salmonella Typhimurium, or monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium, is isolated from the pullet flock, or its environment, BEIC must be notified immediately.

(‘Immediately’ is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier)

Auditor to ask for and check paperwork. BEIC requires notification in order to ensure that the site takes appropriate action to eliminate infection in conjunction with rearer’s own vet and appropriate government body.

D14 CRITICAL If SE, ST, or monophasic ST, is isolated from a hatcher tray liner or chick box liner, the site must notify their chick supplier and BEIC immediately.

This effectively requires the approved laboratory, by the appropriate government body, to ensure that results are notified to the site as soon as possible. (‘Immediately’ is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the lab, or earlier)

D15 CRITICAL If an exotic Salmonella serovar other than SE, ST, or monophasic ST, is isolated from the pullet rearing flock or its environment, veterinary advice must be sought and advice acted upon. BEIC must be informed.

Auditor to ask for evidence of the veterinary advice and check paperwork.

F4 There shall be a written veterinary health and welfare plan in place, which shall be reviewed each year.

*The written veterinary health **and welfare** plan shall be reviewed each year. It must be available at the time of the audit and be appropriate to the operation being carried out.*

G5 All use of antibiotics must be reported to the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber immediately.

There is a prohibition on the use of the following; Fluoroquinolones at day-old; all 3rd and 4th generation Cephalosporins; and Colistin.

Fluoroquinolone products may not be used at 1 day of age. At any other age they should be reserved for use in situations of significant welfare issues for the birds, and in which a specific pathogen has been identified and its in-vitro sensitivity, and/or the nature of the lesions, confirm that no other medications are appropriate. If used, this shall be reported to BEIC.

Quarterly data must be communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

Check against Lion Passport section D.

H1 All medicated feed shall be clearly labelled.

*If a medicated feed is present on a pullet rearing site, it must be stored in bulk and the delivery note must record the additive and the level of inclusion. A notice must be placed on a feed bin if it contains medication **that requires a withdrawal period**. (Verbal/Written)*

I1 All staff shall have access to a **current version of the** of the DEFRA 'Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock - Domestic Fowls', and have received instruction on it.

A copy of the Code must be available for inspection. Staff to be asked where it is kept and questioned on its contents. Exceptions to this are staff who hold welfare training certificates.

I5 To reduce the risk of feather pecking and cannibalism, but particularly in non-beak trimmed birds, pullet rearers who are **rearing pullets in non-cage systems** are **required** to be aware of and implement **at least six** appropriate intervention strategies from the list produced by the Bristol University Feather Pecking project.

Auditors to check if Bristol University Feather Pecking Project document is available, and which intervention strategies are being implemented.

The website can be found at www.featherwel.org

I8 CRITICAL Disposal of dead and culled birds must comply with the Animal By-Products Regulations (2003).

*If by incineration, the equipment shall be registered with the **appropriate government body**.*

Incinerators or bagging for 'off-site' disposal are permissible. (View the system). Indicate method used.

I9 Carcasses stored for **on site** or off-site disposal must be kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

Check if carcass storage facilities are kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

Section L deleted and replaced by:

L1 Visitors must be kept to a minimum and those allowed access to poultry houses, (including service staff) must wear clean protective clothing that is kept on the farm.

Clean overalls or coat, plus feet and head covering, must be available on site.

L2 During periods of increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease, only essential visitors are to be allowed access to poultry houses (including service staff). All visitors must be provided with clean protective clothing, that is kept on the site/farm.

Increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease would include e.g. when an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is declared.

Clean overalls, plus feet and head covering, must be available on the site/farm.

L3 A visitors' book (including full name, business address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to the 'Specific' biosecure area (poultry house/birds) shall be available and maintained on the site/farm.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. The 'Specific' biosecure area is defined in L5 below. The anteroom shall be considered to be part of the poultry house (See Annex M as an example).

L4 Control measures must be in place to minimise the spread of disease within the site/farm and between other sites/farms.

It is the responsibility of senior management of the site to ensure that effective control measures are in place and enforced at all times.

L5 There must be a minimum of two levels of biosecurity; a defined 'General' biosecure area and defined 'Specific' biosecure area on each site/farm.

Two levels of biosecurity shall be defined;

A 'General' area of biosecurity which may refer to the site/farm at large (e.g. inside the perimeter), depending on the individual site. This may exclude any property not associated with the poultry enterprise, e.g. car park, dwelling house, other farm buildings and other farm areas.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the 'General' biosecure area.

All personnel and visitors entering a 'General' biosecure must comply with the biosecurity requirements of the site. Vehicles entering a 'General' biosecure area should be disinfected.

A 'Specific' area of biosecurity refers to each poultry house where birds are housed on the site/farm.

Entry to a 'Specific' biosecure area requires further measures (noting that a poultry house may have more than one entrance/exit) including a change of footwear (to 'indoor' footwear) over a barrier arrangement, and the wearing of protective clothing.

A 'Specific' biosecure area therefore requires a higher level of biosecurity.

Clear signage showing the 'General' and 'Specific' biosecure areas shall be in place.

A site plan shall clearly show all biosecure areas and their perimeters, with an identifiable key.

*(See **Annex ?** as an example)*

L6 The site must have an area of clean concrete, metallised surface or rolled stone which is large enough for a delivery/collection vehicle, or feed lorry, to stand.

For concrete, a wash with a hose to remove debris would demonstrate 'clean'.

L7 Consideration should be given to any vehicles and/or equipment which enters the 'General' biosecure area. Is it visually clean?

Consideration should be given to where vehicles and equipment has come from. Is it visually clean? If not, more thorough disinfection of the vehicles and equipment to be undertaken.

Possible means of vehicle disinfection include disinfectant mats, vehicle washers and wheel troughs. Attention should also be paid to the potential transmission of material from 'cab to ground'.

L8 Foot-dip/bath facilities must be provided at the entrance to the 'General' biosecure area and must be used by all who enter (and exit/leave) it.

Footwear must be able to be fully dipped in the foot dip/bath.

L9 The foot-dip/bath facility shall be replenished with fresh disinfectant at a minimum frequency of once weekly. Only disinfectants on the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants shall be used. Records of disinfectants in use, including dilution, and when changed, are to be kept.

Only Defra approved disinfectants (on the BEIC list) must be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Disinfectant solutions must also be replaced on a regular basis (a minimum weekly, or earlier if contaminated by debris/dirt, or if affected by the weather) and this recorded. The foot-dip/bath must have a cover in place to prevent dilution by rain or sunlight. An additional foot-scrub is to be provided so that organic matter can be removed prior to dipping, as it is always good practice to remove debris before dipping footwear.

Check disinfectants against the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants (Annex N).

L10 A physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, must be provided at the entrance to each 'Specific' biosecure bird area. Hand sanitisers are to be provided at the entrance to the 'Specific' biosecure area.

A barrier system is to be established at the entry to the 'Specific' biosecure area. All staff and visitors must change into colour coded house dedicated footwear (or use new robust disposable overshoes) upon each entry / exit.

As poultry houses can have more than one entrance, each entry point must provide for a physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, at the entrance to each 'specific' biosecure bird area.

Such a barrier to be: no less than 30cm high; the area inside the barrier is considered to be the 'Specific' biosecure area; staff remove outdoor footwear on the external side of the barrier; staff then put on dedicated biosecure footwear in the internal area of the barrier; provision to be seated, or supported, when changing footwear.

The auditor will look to see that debris from the 'General' biosecure area is not getting into the 'Specific' area and vice versa. Both areas should be maintained in a tidy state, e.g. cleaned daily.

The use of farm dedicated protective clothing is required to be worn when in the 'Specific' biosecure area. This shall be changed and laundered regularly. 'Regularly' is defined as a minimum of twice weekly. Ideally, protective clothing should not be taken home to be laundered. However, where it is, cross-contamination must be avoided. The use of disposable protective clothing is allowed.

L11 On a free range and organic unit, the range area shall be considered to be an 'intermediate' biosecure area which shall require the use of foot-dips/baths

and protective clothing.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the range area. Personnel and vehicles entering the range area must use foot-dips/baths and disinfect vehicles respectively. This will require the use of protective clothing.

L12 Birds must be effectively contained within the defined 'Specific' biosecure area and in the 'General' biosecure area for where ranges are present. Remedial action must be taken to prevent hens leaving these areas.

Birds must be prevented from having access to service areas and aprons. Suitable fencing must be in place.

L13 There should not be a pond or areas of standing water on the premises. Poultry must not have access to a pond or 'open' water. There shall be no areas of standing water on the premises.

If ponds are present, steps must be taken to prevent access to the pond by the birds.

Where possible, ponds should be filled in. Where this is not possible, fencing-off and netting is required. Steps should be taken to discourage waterfowl from the premises (i.e. not encourage them onto the premises).

Whilst it is accepted that during periods of heavy rain, puddles may appear, there must be no persistent standing water on the site/farm.

Ask what action senior management has taken (to assess the risk) to minimise contact between wild birds / waterfowl and poultry.

L14 A written biosecurity plan, including at least the minimum measures provided for in the appropriate government body's biosecurity guidance for protection against Avian Influenza is to be available.

Useful information can be obtained from: <https://www.gov.uk/poultry-health>

Also: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare> or: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/?lang=en> or: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

L15 A policy notice shall be displayed stating 'no unauthorised recording equipment/camera/mobile phones'

The use of photographic equipment by the accredited Monitoring Agency is authorised to record non-conformances

L16 Before any new site/farm is planned and built, the senior management of the site/farm must conduct a written assessment.

The senior management of the site/farm must undertake a full written risk assessment which considers the proximity of (as a minimum): ponds, lakes, open water, or other watercourses and the associated risks from migratory wildfowl.

M6 Staff are to receive training commensurate with all aspects of their duties

The Lion Training Passport is to be adopted as the formal route for industry training and training recognition (see Annex W).

NEW

N3 CRITICAL Registered pullet rearing sites are only permitted to issue one invoice per pullet order.

Note that there may be more than one Lion Passport and Animal Transport Certificate depending on house capacity in rearing and lorry capacity on transfer.

The pullet rearer is required to check the laying house capacity of the laying farm when an order is taken, and if the order is for more than the capacity of the house, the pullet rearer must inform BEIC, who will ensure that the accredited monitoring agency can check that the laying farm has sold the extra birds.

NEW Section S

Pullet rearer Subscriber's Administrative Responsibilities

S1 Distribution of information

It is the responsibility of the pullet rearer subscriber to ensure that all communications from BEIC to registered sites are distributed within the time frame set.

S2 Antibiotic usage

The pullet rearer subscriber shall be responsible for ensuring that all usage of antibiotics on a registered pullet rearing farm is communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

Section 6 – Laying Bird Farms

A4 CRITICAL Copies of the last 2 self-audits shall be available. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial audit carried out by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

One of the twice yearly self-audits is to be completed in conjunction with a representative of the Subscriber (Licensee).

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

*If this is a new site, **or a subscriber (licensee) transferred site**, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the Subscriber (Licensee) prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.*

If the self-audit is due during turnaround, the self-audit must take place either prior to depletion or following housing of the replacement flock.

NEW

A8 CRITICAL At the point of pullet delivery from a Lion registered pullet rearing farm, additional pullets may be purchased for immediate onward farm-gate sale. *There must be documented evidence, including the full name, address, contact telephone number, and signature of purchaser (or invoice) of the destination of the additional pullets. This must be available for inspection by the accredited monitoring agency.*

C9 CRITICAL Birds shall be kept in accordance with the welfare standards defined in Annex J.

*Enter the registration number for **the appropriate government body**.*

*This means the housing requirement in terms of stocking density, feeders, drinkers etc. do not need to be checked by the **accredited monitoring agency**.*

C11 CRITICAL Enriched Cage: The stocking density shall comply with the scheme standards in all houses (see Annex J).

The capacity of each house must not be exceeded once the hens reach maturity and are in lay.

Stocking density is governed by legislative requirements

C12 CRITICAL Barn: The stocking density shall comply with the scheme standards in all houses (see Annex J). *The capacity of each house must not be exceeded once the hens reach maturity and are in lay.*

Assessment: visual measurement, counting or Freedom Food clearance if appropriate. Full alternative system criteria is contained in 'Lion Code of Practice' Annex J.

C13 CRITICAL Free range: The stocking density shall comply with the scheme standards in all houses and range area (see Annex J). *The capacity of each house must not be exceeded once the hens reach maturity and are in lay.*

Assessment: visual measurement, counting or Freedom Food clearance if appropriate. Full alternative system criteria is contained in 'Lion Code of Practice' Annex J.

Sufficient pop-holes in a building must be opened before 09.00 hours and must be left open so as to provide access to the land area for a daily minimum of 8 hours, or to dusk.

Birds should have full access to the range as soon as practicably possible. The aim should be to allow access at 19 weeks of age and access must be allowed no later than 21 weeks of age.

Access to the range must not be obstructed in any way e.g. electric wires in front of pop-holes (even if sheathed). Electric wires must be routed over the pop-hole.

C14 CRITICAL Organic: The stocking density shall comply with the current standard set by the certification body (See Annex J). The stocking density shall comply with the scheme standards in all houses and range area. *The capacity of each house must not be exceeded once the hens reach maturity and are in lay.*

Assessment: visual measurement, counting or Freedom Food clearance if appropriate. Full alternative system criteria is contained in 'Lion Code of Practice' Annex J.

Sufficient pop-holes in a building must be opened before 09.00 hours and must be left open so as to provide access to the land area for a daily minimum of 8 hours, or to dusk.

Birds should have full access to the range as soon as practicably possible. The aim should be to allow access at 19 weeks of age and access must be allowed no later than 21 weeks of age.

Access to the range must not be obstructed in any way e.g. electric wires in front of pop-holes (even if sheathed). Electric wires must be routed over the top of the pop-hole.

C17 CRITICAL There shall be a documented management procedure to deal with birds in deep pits, under slatted floors, *or the manure collection area of multi-tier systems and enriched colony systems.*

There must be a documented management procedure to recover birds that may fall into deep pits, under slatted floors, or the manure collection area of multi-tier systems and enriched colony systems. As a maximum, the birds must be recovered within a 24 hour period.

C23 CRITICAL There must be a documented, effective control programme against wild birds, vermin, rodents and pests in poultry houses and feed

stores. Effective measures must be taken by suitably trained personnel to control vermin, rodents, flies and other arthropods including the elimination of potential breeding areas. Such control measures must be carried out using licensed products in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, and must be logged to enable Senior Management to determine that the necessary operations have been carried out.

Conduct visual assessment of a clear bait plan and notes of actions taken and baits used. If undertaken by a contractor nothing else required. If 'in house', records on purchase and use should be available. (Written Assessment)

The importance of an effective rodent control programme in controlling Salmonella on farms cannot be stressed strongly enough.

('Vermin' is defined in these guidance notes as a collective name for wild animals that spread disease and generally cause a nuisance e.g. rats and other rodents. A 'Pest' is defined in these guidance notes as an insect or animal harmful to food or livestock).

C24 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled, in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. Bait points shall be inspected.

The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used an appropriate bait plan shall be followed. Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

C25 A copy of the current version of the DEFRA 'Code of Practice for the Prevention of Rodent Infestations on Poultry Farms' must be available.

Visit: <http://www.DEFRA.gov.uk/> or a direct link to the booklet is:

<http://archive.DEFRA.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/atoz/zoonoses/documents/reports/salrodent.pdf>

C31 Birds must not be allowed access to pesticides at any time. Any red mite treatment product must be listed on the BEIC list of approved list (see Annex N.1).

Such red mite treatment products shall be used according to the datasheet and at the manufacturer's recommended dilutions.

E8 CRITICAL All birds must be vaccinated against Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium as per the manufacturers' recommendations.

Vaccines used must have a current UK Marketing Authorisation issued by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (See Annex D). They must be administered as per the data sheet, unless otherwise specifically instructed by the attending veterinary surgeon. Such instruction to be in writing as a veterinary prescription or Veterinary Health and Welfare Plan.

Any pullets which have not been vaccinated against SE and ST prior to housing in laying accommodation will not be acceptable for the production of Lion eggs.

For birds housed in enriched colony cages - By derogation to the above, a veterinary certificate, signed by the attending veterinary surgeon of the laying farm, must be available if a programme designed to provide ST protection is not administered to birds in enriched cage systems.

If the birds have been home reared, full documentary evidence of vaccine purchase and use must be available. If purchased, large rearers must provide

detailed evidence of vaccination. Some smaller rearers merely complete the Laying Hen Passport. In this latter case, random checks are recommended either by asking the site manager to obtain copies of the vaccination or by directly checking with the rearer. It is a matter of judgement based on the overall audit impression as to the best appropriate action.

If a programme designed to provide ST protection is not required to be administered to birds in enriched cage systems, a veterinary certificate, signed by the attending veterinary surgeon of the laying farm, must be available. (see Annex D and Annex E)

E9 CRITICAL If non-vaccinal Salmonella Enteritidis, Salmonella Typhimurium, or monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium, is isolated from the laying flock, or its environment, BEIC must be notified immediately.

(‘Immediately’ is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier)

Auditor to ask for and check paperwork. BEIC requires notification in order to ensure that the site takes appropriate action to eliminate infection in conjunction with producer’s own vet and appropriate government body.

E10 CRITICAL If an exotic Salmonella serovar other than SE, ST, or monophasic ST, is isolated from the laying flock or its environment, veterinary advice must be sought and advice acted upon. BEIC must be informed.

Auditor to ask for evidence of the veterinary advice and check paperwork.

G4 There shall be a written veterinary health and welfare plan in place, which shall be reviewed annually or at the end of every flock.

The written veterinary health and welfare plan shall be reviewed annually or at the end of every flock. It must be available at the time of the audit and be appropriate to the operation being carried out.

H5 All use of antibiotics must be reported to the subscriber/pullet rearer subscriber immediately.

There is a prohibition on the use of the following; Fluoroquinolones at day-old; all 3rd and 4th generation Cephalosporins; and Colistin.

Fluoroquinolone products may not be used at 1 day of age. At any other age they should be reserved for use in situations of significant welfare issues for the birds, and in which a specific pathogen has been identified and its in-vitro sensitivity, and/or the nature of the lesions, confirm that no other medications are appropriate. If used, this shall be reported to BEIC.

Quarterly data must be communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

Check against Lion Passport section D.

I1 All medicated feed shall be clearly labelled.

It will be rare for medicated feed to be present on a laying site. It will be stored in bulk and the delivery note will record the additive and the level of inclusion. A notice must be placed on a feed bin if it contains medication that requires a withdrawal period. (Verbal/Written)

J5 To reduce the risk of feather pecking and cannibalism, but particularly in non-beak trimmed birds, producers operating non-cage systems of production are required to be aware of and implement at least six appropriate intervention strategies from the list produced by the Bristol University Feather Pecking project.

*Auditors to check if Bristol University Feather Pecking Project document is available, and which intervention strategies are being implemented.
The website can be found at www.featherwel.org*

J8 CRITICAL Disposal of dead and culled birds must comply with the Animal By-Products Regulations (2003).

If by incineration, the equipment shall be registered with the [appropriate government body](#).

Incinerators or bagging for 'off-site' disposal are permissible. (View the system). Indicate method used.

J9 Carcasses stored for [on site](#) or off-site disposal must be kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

Check if carcass storage facilities are kept in a vermin proof, lockable facility, which is kept locked.

New

J11 the following data shall be recorded:

- cumulative mortality 40 and 70 weeks (or earlier if the flock is to be depleted before 70 weeks of age, including the actual age)
- the reasons attributable, where possible, to the mortality
- feather cover (using the AssureWel three point scale) at 40 weeks (+/- two weeks) and 70 weeks (+/- two weeks), or time of depletion if earlier (including the actual date)

To assist in coinciding with other checkpoints in the flock's life cycle, especially at 70 weeks, a degree of flexibility on timing is deemed appropriate for feather cover scoring, for example, Salmonella sampling and FeatherWel requirements.

(see annex ? - the AssureWel three point scoring system is to be used to record feather cover. BEIC is to prepare a laminated illustrative guide for producers' reference. Lion database being prepared to accept data on flocks depleted in 2017)

M5 CRITICAL Fibre Keyes Trays

- All Free Range eggs are to be packed on Blue keyes trays
 - All Barn eggs are to be packed on Green keyes trays
 - All Organic eggs are to be packed on Pink keyes trays
 - Eggs from enriched caged hens are to be packed on grey keyes trays.
- (Note 1 - this is extended to [ungraded](#) where such eggs are intended to be [inter-traded with another subscriber \(licensee\)](#). This is also extended to [second quality eggs where such eggs are intended to be processed according to production method](#)).

(Note 2 - In order to ease segregation in packing centres, branded lines may be packed on their own dedicated colour of keyes tray, provided the colours referred to above are not used).

Plastic Keyes Trays

- On sites where eggs are packed onto plastic keyes trays, eggs can be packed either utilising the colour coding system for fibre keyes trays, or onto single colour plastic keyes trays. However, the operator must demonstrate segregation of production types using their own colour codes on pallet identification
- Where a variation from the standard colour of keyes trays occurs, records must be kept which demonstrate documented authorisation from the packing centre of such variation.

Plastic keyes trays are becoming increasingly popular. Where they are used, they would normally be one colour. It is vital that segregation of production types utilising the Subscriber's own colour codes on pallet identification is followed.

(The packing centre must provide to the site documented authorisation that eggs can be packed onto plastic keyes trays which do not follow the standard colour of keyes trays).

M8 The minimum and maximum temperatures of the egg store shall be recorded.

Temperature records should be available for each 24 hour period. Check that thermometer(s) are in working order.

M13 Dirty and cracked eggs must be handled separately and must not be sold for human consumption in shell. Broken eggs (i.e. where both the shell and the membrane are broken) must not be used as food for human consumption. 'Unacceptable' eggs, as defined in Annex ?, must not be dispatched to the packing centre.

M14 Clean egg trays must be used and lorries collecting them must be visibly clean. Wherever possible arrangements should be made with packers to return trays to the individual premises from which they originated.

Where plastic trays and pallets are used, these must have been suitably sanitised by the packing centre.

M18 Daily production records must be maintained on farm throughout the flocks' life and kept for 12 months after the flock is depleted

Section N deleted and replaced by:

N1 Visitors must be kept to a minimum and those allowed access to poultry houses, (including service staff) must wear clean protective clothing that is kept on the farm.

Clean overalls or coat, plus feet and head covering, must be available on site.

N2 During periods of increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease, only essential visitors are to be allowed access to poultry houses (including service staff). All visitors must be provided with clean protective clothing, that is kept on the site/farm.

Increased risk from a Notifiable Avian Disease would include e.g. when an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is declared.

Clean overalls, plus feet and head covering, must be available on the site/farm.

N3 A visitors' book (including full name, business address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to the 'Specific' biosecure area (poultry house/birds) shall be available and maintained on the site/farm.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. The 'Specific' biosecure area is defined in N5 below. The anteroom shall be considered to be part of the poultry house (See Annex M as an example).

N4 Control measures must be in place to minimise the spread of disease within the site/farm and between other sites/farms.

It is the responsibility of senior management of the site to ensure that effective control measures are in place and enforced at all times.

N5 There must be a minimum of two levels of biosecurity; a defined 'General' biosecure area and defined 'Specific' biosecure area on each site/farm.

Two levels of biosecurity shall be defined;

A 'General' area of biosecurity which may refer to the site/farm at large (e.g. inside the perimeter), depending on the individual site. This may exclude any property not associated with the poultry enterprise, e.g. car park, dwelling house, other farm buildings and other farm areas.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the 'General' biosecure area.

All personnel and visitors entering a 'General' biosecure must comply with the biosecurity requirements of the site. Vehicles entering a 'General' biosecure area should be disinfected.

A 'Specific' area of biosecurity refers to each poultry house where birds are housed on the site/farm.

Entry to a 'Specific' biosecure area requires further measures (noting that a poultry house may have more than one entrance/exit) including a change of footwear (to 'indoor' footwear) over a barrier arrangement, and the wearing of protective clothing.

A 'Specific' biosecure area therefore requires a higher level of biosecurity.

Clear signage showing the 'General' and 'Specific' biosecure areas shall be in place.

A site plan shall clearly show all biosecure areas and their perimeters, with an identifiable key.

*(See **Annex ?** as an example)*

N6 The site must have an area of clean concrete, metalled surface or rolled stone which is large enough for a delivery/collection vehicle, or feed lorry, to stand.

For concrete, a wash with a hose to remove debris would demonstrate 'clean'.

N7 Consideration should be given to any vehicles and/or equipment which enters the 'General' biosecure area. Is it visually clean?

Consideration should be given to where vehicles and equipment has come from. Is it visually clean? If not, more thorough disinfection of the vehicles and equipment to be undertaken.

Possible means of vehicle disinfection include disinfectant mats, vehicle washers and wheel troughs. Attention should also be paid to the potential transmission of material from 'cab to ground'

N8 Foot-dip/bath facilities must be provided at the entrance to the 'General' biosecure area and must be used by all who enter (and exit/leave) it.

Footwear must be able to be fully dipped in the foot dip/bath.

N9 The foot-dip/bath facility shall be replenished with fresh disinfectant at a minimum frequency of once weekly. Only disinfectants on the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants shall be used. Records of disinfectants in use, including dilution, and when changed, are to be kept.

Only Defra approved disinfectants (on the BEIC list) must be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Disinfectant solutions must also be replaced on a regular basis (a minimum weekly, or earlier if contaminated by debris/dirt, or if affected by the weather) and this recorded. The foot-dip/bath must have a cover in place to prevent dilution by rain or sunlight. An additional foot-scrub is to be provided so that organic matter can be removed prior to dipping, as it is always good practice to remove debris before dipping footwear.

Check disinfectants against the BEIC list of Defra approved disinfectants (Annex N).

N10 A physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, must be provided at the entrance to each 'Specific' biosecure bird area. Hand sanitisers are to be provided at the entrance to the 'Specific' biosecure area.

A barrier system is to be established at the entry to the 'Specific' biosecure area. All staff and visitors must change into colour coded house dedicated footwear (or use new robust disposable overshoes) upon each entry / exit.

As poultry houses can have more than one entrance, each entry point must provide for a physical barrier footwear system, with dedicated footwear, at the entrance to each 'specific' biosecure bird area.

Such a barrier to be: no less than 30cm high; the area inside the barrier is considered to be the 'Specific' biosecure area; staff remove outdoor footwear on the external side of the barrier; staff then put on dedicated biosecure footwear in the internal area of the barrier; provision to be seated, or supported, when changing footwear.

The auditor will look to see that debris from the 'General' biosecure area is not getting into the 'Specific' area and vice versa. Both areas should be maintained in a tidy state, e.g. cleaned daily.

The use of farm dedicated protective clothing is required to be worn when in the 'Specific' biosecure area. This shall be changed and laundered regularly. 'Regularly' is defined as a minimum of twice weekly. Ideally, protective clothing should not be taken home to be laundered. However, where it is, cross-contamination must be avoided. The use of disposable protective clothing is allowed.

N11 On a free range and organic unit, the range area shall be considered to be an intermediate biosecure area which shall require the use of foot-dips/baths and protective clothing.

There must be a gate or barrier at the entry to the range area. Personnel and vehicles entering the range area must use foot-dips/baths and disinfect vehicles respectively. This will require the use of protective clothing.

N12 Birds must be effectively contained within the defined 'Specific' biosecure area and in the 'General' biosecure area for where ranges are present. Remedial action must be taken to prevent hens leaving these areas.

Birds must be prevented from having access to service areas and aprons. Suitable fencing must be in place.

N13 There should not be a pond or areas of standing water on the premises. Poultry must not have access to a pond or 'open' water. There shall be no areas of standing water on the premises.

If ponds are present, steps must be taken to prevent access to the pond by the birds.

Where possible, ponds should be filled in. Where this is not possible, fencing-off and netting is required. Steps should be taken to discourage waterfowl from the premises (i.e. not encourage them onto the premises).

Whilst it is accepted that during periods of heavy rain, puddles may appear, there must be no persistent standing water on the site/farm.

Ask what action senior management has taken (to assess the risk) to minimise contact between wild birds / waterfowl and poultry.

N14 A written biosecurity plan, including at least the minimum measures provided for in the appropriate government body's biosecurity guidance for protection against Avian Influenza is to be available.

Useful information can be obtained from: <https://www.gov.uk/poultry-health>

Also: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare> or: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/?lang=en> or: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

N15 A policy notice shall be displayed stating 'no unauthorised recording equipment/camera/mobile phones'

The use of photographic equipment by the accredited Monitoring Agency is authorised to record non-conformances

N16 Before any new site/farm is planned and built, the senior management of the site/farm must conduct a written assessment.

The senior management of the site/farm must undertake a full written risk assessment which considers the proximity of (as a minimum): ponds, lakes, open water, or other watercourses and the associated risks from migratory wildfowl.

O6 Staff are to receive training commensurate with all aspects of their duties

The Lion Training Passport is to be adopted as the formal route for industry training and training recognition (see Annex W).

Section 7 – Packing Centres

A3 CRITICAL There shall be an up to date plan of the site available, which identifies all areas within the packing centre.

The site plan shall clearly show the position of all buildings and associated areas.

A4 CRITICAL Copies of the last 2 self-audits shall be available. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial Subscriber accompanied self-audit carried out.

If this is a new site, or a subscriber (licensee) transferred site, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the Subscriber (Licensee) prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

B9 CRITICAL Eggs shall not be marked, graded and packed as Lion Quality Class A until the fully completed current passport (sections A, B, C, C1, C2, C3 and D) is received by the Subscriber (Licensee) from the laying farm.

This will require the laying farm to send the Lion Passport to the Subscriber (Licensee) within 14 days of pullet transfer.

B10 CRITICAL Packing centres are responsible for ensuring that Class A Lion eggs, printed only with their Producer Establishment Number (PEN), are only permitted to be traded between Lion registered packers when sold loose on trays (palletted), i.e. described as 'Class A Loose on Trays'.

Graded Class A Lion eggs not printed with the Lion logo or best-before date on the shell, packed in sealed boxes (5, 10, 15, 20 or 30 dozen), affixed with a Class A box end label, are deemed 'non-Lion' and as such are not permitted to be traded as Lion Quality eggs between Lion registered packers.

Where a derogation is in place, this is for a single movement, i.e. if Packer A trades to Packer B, and then on to Packer C, is the responsibility of Packer C to seek a derogation to buy such eggs from Packer B. Derogation to be subject to annual review.

B14 Finished product quality testing shall be in place to demonstrate compliance with customer and legislative requirements.

There must be manual quality, [print](#) and weight checking in place to cross-check grader [and printer](#) performance.

B17 Eggs must only be transported on vehicles where temperatures can be controlled at an even level below 20°C, [with the minimum / maximum recorded](#).

Transport on vehicles is to be at an even temperature that can be controlled (minimum of 5°C and maximum of 20°C).

The use of a curtain sided lorry is unacceptable when the ambient temperature is greater 20°C.

'Eggs' includes ungraded, 'Class A loose on boards' and Class A eggs.

To avoid the possibility of taint of eggs, care should be taken if transporting other goods on the same vehicle.

B18 CRITICAL Stored eggs in the packing centre shall be held at a constant temperature below 20°C in the storage area. This temperature shall be monitored and recorded daily, [with the minimum / maximum recorded](#).

Stored eggs refer to all egg storage, graded and ungraded. Can the packing centre prove that storage temperatures are below 20°C? Are temperature monitoring systems accurate (calibrated to a national standard)?

Records must be in place to prove compliance. Check at least 3 months records, of which two should be summer months (June - August). (Written)

B24 CRITICAL All required Salmonella samples shall be properly collected and submitted promptly to a [government \(in the UK\)](#) approved testing laboratory.

Samples shall be identified by the date the sample was taken, the identity of the flock(s) sampled including; house number or name, month and year when the flock was placed in the house, age of the flock sampled, the name and address of the holding, the Producer Establishment Number of the holding, and the contact details of the person submitting the sample.

Laboratory results must be available for inspection (Written evidence)

All required Salmonella samples shall be properly collected and submitted promptly to a [government \(in the UK, as published on the relevant website\)](#) approved testing laboratory.

[Egg](#) samples shall be identified by the date the sample was taken, the identity of the flock sampled including; house number or name, month and year when the flock was placed in the house, age of the flock sampled, the name and address of the holding, Producer Establishment Number of the holding, and the contact details of the person submitting the sample.

[Environmental](#) samples shall be identified by the date the sample was taken, the identity of the areas sampled, the name and address of the site, and the contact details of the person submitting the sample.

(Testing of samples must start within 4 days of sampling). Reports of testing must be available to auditors and allow full traceability of results. Some reports may be issued by, for example, veterinary practices rather than the approved laboratory. Such reports, to be acceptable, must indicate that the testing has been sub-contracted to a [government \(in the UK\)](#) approved laboratory (quoting its approval number) and quote the reference number used by the approved laboratory.

All samples are to be tested according to the methodology required under the current legislation, using the [ISO 6579 – 1/20/17 \(Primary Production\) – MSRV Method](#).

It is recommended that proof of postage is obtained when submitting samples. A list of approved laboratories in England and Wales is available from the local AHVLA Office and on the DEFRA website at:

<http://www.DEFRA.gov.uk/animal-diseases/controls/approvedlaboratories> . A

list of approved laboratories in Scotland is available from the local AHVLA Office and on the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/>

[Agriculture/animal-welfare/Diseases/disease/salmonella/labs](#) . A list of

approved laboratories in Northern Ireland is available on the [DAERA](#) website at: <http://www.dardni.gov.uk/index/animalhealth-and-welfare/animal-diseases/salmonella.htm>

B25 CRITICAL Packing centre sampling: Every 3 months:

There shall be post cleaning swabbing for Salmonella every three months, [within +/- one month](#), which must include samples from all egg contact surface areas. (See Annex R)

[Sampling must be 4 times per annum](#). The procedure set out in Annex R 'Hygiene Swabbing Procedures in Packing Centres and Protocol for dealing with Salmonella' shall be followed.

B27 CRITICAL Egg Sampling and Testing: every 3 months

All laying flocks [registered to the subscriber \(licensee\)](#) shall be monitored for Salmonella, to include samples of at least 20 eggs per farm every three months, within +/- one month. [Where flocks are depleted at the time the sample is due, the replacement flock must be sampled no later than 23 weeks of age once re-housed.](#)

Monitoring records shall be maintained and up to date.

[Sampling must be 4 times per annum](#). The sample [must](#) be one composite taken from [all flocks across the laying farm](#). Check records. Do they comply with requirements? Check monitoring for at least 3 flocks. (Written)

[Where ungraded egg is inter-traded from one subscriber \(licensee\) to another, it is the responsibility of the subscriber \(licensee\) who has registered the site to ensure that samples are submitted for testing on time.](#)

B29 CRITICAL In the event of a positive test for Salmonella Enteritidis, Salmonella Typhimurium, [or monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium](#), BEIC must be informed immediately and the 'Protocol for farms where Salmonella has been detected' as set out in Annex I shall be adhered to.

If Salmonella Enteritidis. Salmonella Typhimurium, [or monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium](#), is isolated, BEIC must be informed immediately and the actions set out in Annex I initiated. (Written).

[\('Immediately' is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier\).](#)

New

B30 CRITICAL In the event of a positive test for an exotic Salmonella serovar other than SE, ST, or monophasic ST, veterinary advice must be sought and advice acted upon. BEIC must be informed.

Auditor to ask for evidence of the veterinary advice and check paperwork.

Change title of section C to “Hygiene, Housekeeping and Biosecurity

C16 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled, in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. Bait points shall be inspected. Check records. If there is an infestation, was appropriate action taken and with suitable urgency? (Written) The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used an appropriate bait plan shall be followed. Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

C26. A visitors’ book (including full name, business address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to the egg processing, handling and storage areas) shall be available and maintained on site.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. (See Annex M as an example).

C27. All transit packaging must be visibly clean and free of debris. Where plastic trays are used, suitable provision to wash plastic keyes trays must be available on the premises, or available elsewhere.

Transit packaging includes plastic keyes trays, dividers and pallets.

Where plastic trays are used, suitable provision to wash plastic keyes trays must be available on the premises, or available elsewhere. The tray washer should be checked for effectiveness and that packaging is clean. A non-conformance can be issued if dirty trays are found easily post cleaning e.g. soiling can be seen by the auditor without moving or lifting packaging to check for cleanliness.

C28. If using fibre keyes trays, only new trays may be brought into the system (closed loop) by the packing centre.

The purchase of used or second-hand fibre keyes trays and boxes, to be used as packaging to top up the system, is not permitted. Only new keyes trays can be used.

C29. Consideration should be given to egg vehicles and pallet trucks. Are they visually clean?

Consideration should be given to where vehicles have come from. Are they visually clean? If not, provision must be made to be able to clean and disinfect egg vehicles and pallet trucks.

Possible means of vehicle disinfection include disinfectant mats, vehicle washers and wheel troughs. Attention should also be paid to the potential transmission of material from ‘cab to ground’

C30. Egg collection drivers shall demonstrate competence in the implementation of effective biosecurity measures.

Ask for written evidence of the biosecurity training plan. Relevant staff should

*attend a refresher training course every 3 years.
Where appropriate, conduct visual assessment of the biosecurity measures.*

C31. A policy notice shall be displayed stating 'no unauthorised recording equipment/camera/mobile phones'

The use of photographic equipment by the accredited Monitoring Agency is authorised to record non-conformances.

C32 Before any new site/farm is planned and built, the senior management of the site/farm must conduct a written assessment.

The senior management of the site/farm must undertake a full written risk assessment which considers the proximity of (as a minimum): ponds, lakes, open water, or other watercourses and the associated risks from migratory wildfowl.

New

D1 CRITICAL The egg packer must comply with Council Regulation (EC) No 1308/2013, and Commission Regulation (EC) No 589/2008, or any amendments thereto.

Eggs must be transported to the packing centre as soon as possible after lay, by rotation, and within a maximum period of three working days from lay. This will necessitate the collection of eggs from farm at least twice a week.

Written evidence is in the form of Packing Centre collection advice notes which are dated.

This will necessitate the collection of eggs from farm at least twice a week.

All other D numbers to be renumbered

D1 (now D2) CRITICAL Fibre Keyes Trays

- All Free Range eggs are to be packed on Blue keyes trays.
 - All Barn eggs are to be packed on Green keyes trays.
 - All Organic eggs are to be packed on Pink keyes trays.
 - Eggs from enriched caged hens are to be packed on grey keyes trays.
 - Eggs from enriched caged hens are to be packed on grey keyes trays.
- (Note 1 - this is extended to **ungraded** where such eggs are intended to be **inter-traded with another subscriber (licensee)**. This is also extended to **second quality eggs** where such eggs are intended to be processed according to production method).

(Note 2 - In order to ease segregation in packing centres, branded lines may be packed on their own dedicated colour of keyes tray, provided the colours referred to above are not used).

Plastic Keyes Trays

- Where plastic keyes trays are utilised, the packing centre must demonstrate segregation of production types using their own colour codes on pallet identification.
- Where a variation from the standard colour of keyes trays occurs, the packing centre must provide documented authorisation to its registered egg suppliers, which hold a current Certificate of Registration, of such variation.

Plastic keyes trays are increasingly being utilised. Where used, they would normally be one colour. It is vital that segregation of production types utilising their own colour codes on pallet identification is followed. The packing centre must provide to the laying site documented authorisation that eggs can be packed onto plastic keyes trays which do not follow the standard colour of keyes tray.

E6 CRITICAL All outer boxes printed for retail shall have the Lion mark printed on the box, or on the label, in the specified colour palette and font size as required by Annex S ('Provisions for the use of the Lion Quality mark', or any amendments thereof).

See Annex S 'Provisions for the use of the Lion Quality Mark'.

The Lion Trade Mark must be clearly displayed on the top or front face of the egg pack. The Lion mark must be as large as practically possible and a minimum of 1.5 x 1.5 cm for a 6-egg pack, 2.0 x 2.0 cm for any pack larger than a 6-egg pack, and 2.5 x 2.5 cm on outers. A tolerance of 2mm maximum is allowed to the width to ensure the fit of the logo is correct.

E10 CRITICAL All Lion eggs shall be graded with a best-before date of no more than 28 days from lay, within a maximum life of lay +28 days.

All Subscribers (Licensees) have been issued with a 'Lion-life' chart to assist.

E11 CRITICAL The following legend for 'Understanding egg codes' shall be shown on the pack or in-lid as follows;

UK54321 (England and Wales)

UK987SCO (Scotland)

UK9-987 (Northern Ireland)

For example, 1UK54321, 2UK987SCO, 3UK9-987.

All country codes (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) to be included on pack if it is a retailer own-label pack, or branded pack, where the packing centre (licensee) might source from across the UK.

Packs to include All packs The sentence "Production method as coded on egg" is to be included on all packs, alongside, or close to, the 'understanding egg codes' key.

NEW

E12 The in-lid of free range packs is to include 1 = free range, 2 = barn, 3 = enriched cage

The in-lid of free range packs is to include 1 = free range, 2 = barn, 3 = enriched cage to ensure transparency to consumers where veterinary authorities might require a housing order. (The addition of 3 = enriched cage does not apply to packs sold in stores which do not stock enriched cage eggs).

Existing E12 and 13 renumbered E13 and 14

G4 Staff are to receive training commensurate with all aspects of their duties

The Lion Training Passport is to be adopted as the formal route for industry training and training recognition (see Annex W).

NEW Section L

Subscriber's (licensees) Administrative Responsibilities

L1 Distribution of information

It is the responsibility of the subscriber (licensee) to ensure that all communications from BEIC to registered sites are distributed within the time frame set.

L2 Antibiotic usage

The subscriber (licensee) shall be responsible for ensuring that all usage of antibiotics on a registered laying farm and (where applicable) pullet rearing

farm is communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter.

L3 Implementation of BTAG recommendations

The subscriber (licensee) shall be responsible for ensuring that the following data from each registered laying farm is recorded on the BEIC database on time:

- cumulative mortality 40 and 70 weeks (or earlier if the flock is to be depleted before 70 weeks of age, including the actual age)
- the reasons attributable, where possible, to the mortality
- feather cover (using the Assurewel three point scale) at 40 weeks (+/- two weeks) and 70 weeks (+/- two weeks), or time of depletion if earlier (including the actual date)

L4 Isotope testing

The subscriber (licensee) shall submit to samples of eggs, which shall be collected by the accredited Monitoring Agency, and be forwarded for analysis for consistency with claimed country of origin/production system (isotope testing).

L5 Keel Bone monitoring

The subscriber (licensee) shall be responsible for ensuring that the following data from each of their registered laying farms is recorded on the BEIC database on time:

- Keel bone scoring according to the 3-point scale etc

Section 8 – Feed Mills

TBU against UFAS Code

A4 CRITICAL There shall be copies of the previous 2 completed self-audits available on site. Self-audits shall be carried out every 6 months by someone who has attended a BEIC organised/approved Feed Mill training course.

Are the self-audits effective?

All new sites must have an initial Subscriber accompanied self-audit carried out.

One of the 6-monthly self-audits is to be completed in conjunction with the Subscriber.

Self-audits must be carried out every 6 months irrespective of any audits undertaken by the accredited Monitoring Agency

Are the self-audits effective? Have any issues been followed up?

If this is a new site, or a subscriber transferred site, a self-audit shall have been conducted by the subscriber prior to the audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency.

G3 CRITICAL Pests shall be suitably monitored and controlled C.2.2 (UFAS), in accordance with the CRRU (Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use) best practice guidelines (see annex Z?). Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

Auditor to visually assess if there is evidence of rodents (rats/mice) or birds. If not seen, is there satisfactory proofing in place?

Buildings shall be free of easily seen droppings, pest (rodent) odour or sight of pests themselves. Bait points shall be inspected.

The appropriate CRRU risk hierarchy shall be followed. Where baits are used an appropriate bait plan shall be followed. Long term baiting must not be routinely undertaken.

I4 CRITICAL Salmonella positive results of serotypes Enteritidis, Typhimurium, **monophasic Typhimurium**, Virchow, Hadar, Infantis shall be notified to BEIC immediately on confirmation.

I.2 (UFAS) 'Immediately' is defined as within 24 hours of the result being received from the laboratory, or earlier. (Written evidence)

L8 A visitors book (including full name, **business** address and contact mobile or landline contact telephone numbers, **including vehicle registration number, including if the visitor had access to feed processing, handling and storage areas**) shall be available and maintained on site.

Ask to see visitors book. Sign it. Look for evidence of use. (See Annex M as an example).

M1 CRITICAL The site shall immediately inform BEIC of any contravention or infringement notices issued by a government department or its agency, or local authority.

The site will be asked to confirm any knowledge of any current, pending or past prosecutions.

*This would include, but is not limited to; a positive for Salmonella Enteritidis, Typhimurium, **monophasic Typhimurium**, Hadar, Infantis or Virchow; Residues in eggs as reported by the VMD; incomplete record keeping; non-registration with Local Authority; any undesirable substance found to be above the legal limit*

Enforcement

11.4.4 Pullet rearers carrying out self-audits of pullet rearing farms must have attended a BEIC organised/approved pullet rearing training course. Feed mills carrying out self-audits of feed mills must have attended a BEIC organised/approved feed mill training course. **Newly registered laying farms carrying out self-audits of laying farms must have attended a BEIC organised/approved laying farm training course.**

11.5.3.1 Where a 'critical' non-conformance is identified by the accredited Monitoring Agency, a breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, **hatchery**, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill holding a current Certificate of Registration will be immediately suspended, pending the appropriate corrective action. A 'critical' non-conformance requires immediate corrective action to be taken, which is signed-off by the accredited Monitoring Agency, before the suspension is lifted on the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm, or feed mill holding a current Certificate of Registration.

11.5.3.2 If a critical non-conformance is identified on a breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, **hatchery**, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill holding a current Certificate of Registration, the following course of action will be followed:

- The breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill may be subjected to further

unannounced audits. The cost of this audit shall be invoiced to the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill. In addition, BEIC may instruct the accredited Monitoring Agency to provide a full-time presence at the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill for a period of time to be determined by BEIC. The cost of this will be invoiced to the registered breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill.

- If the same critical non-conformance(s) is/are identified during any of these audits, BEIC shall withdraw the Certificate of Registration from the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill and the products of such breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill may not be acquired by any other breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill holding a current Certificate of Registration if such products are intended to be utilised at any stage in the production of eggs ultimately to be packed marketed and sold as 'Lion' eggs until such time as the site provides satisfactory evidence to the accredited Monitoring Agency and have been informed that the suspension has been lifted. The Certificate of Registration must be immediately returned to BEIC.

- If the Certificate of Registration of the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill is withdrawn, the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill shall be required to re-apply for approval and be subject to an independent audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency. The cost of this audit shall be invoiced to the breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm or feed mill.

NEW

11.5.3.3 Where a 'critical' non-conformance is identified by the accredited Monitoring Agency, a hatchery holding a current Certificate of Registration will be immediately suspended, pending the appropriate corrective action. If a critical non-conformance is identified in a hatchery holding a current Certificate of Registration, the following course of action shall be followed:

- The hatchery will be subjected to three further unannounced audits in the following three month period. The cost of such audits shall be invoiced to the registered hatchery. In addition, BEIC may instruct the accredited Monitoring Agency to provide a full-time presence at the hatchery for a period of time to be determined by BEIC. The cost of this shall be invoiced to the registered hatchery.

- If the same critical non-conformance(s) is/are identified during any of these three audits, BEIC shall withdraw the Certificate of Registration from the hatchery and the products of such hatchery may not be acquired by any other Hatchery or pullet rearing farm holding a current Certificate of Registration if such products are intended to be utilised at any stage in the production of eggs ultimately to be packed, marketed and sold as 'Lion' eggs until such time the site provides satisfactory evidence to the accredited Monitoring Agency and have been informed that the suspension has been lifted. The Certificate of Registration must be immediately returned to BEIC.

- If the Certificate of Registration of the hatchery is withdrawn, the hatchery shall be required to re-apply for approval and be subject to an independent audit by the accredited Monitoring Agency. The cost of this audit shall

be invoiced to the hatchery

- The hatchery, upon a successful audit, shall be required to pay to BEIC a 'rejoining fee', based on chick throughput, such fee to be determined by BEIC.

Existing 11.5.3.3 and 11.5.3.4 to be renumbered as 11.5.3.4 and 11.5.3.5 respectively.

New

11.8.1 It shall be the duty of the Licensee ('Subscriber'), Breeder subscriber and Pullet rearer subscriber to ensure that all usage of antibiotics on a registered Breeder Pullet Rearing farm, Breeder Laying Bird, Pullet Rearing farm and Laying farm is communicated to BEIC in the format specified, by the end of the month following the quarter. If a return (including a 'nil' return) is not made by the due date, an email reminder will be issued, following which, if no completed return is received with one week, a critical non-conformance contravention notice from the BEIC shall be issued to the Licensee ('Subscriber'), Breeder subscriber and Pullet rearer subscriber who shall be subject to three further unannounced audits in the following three month period by the accredited Monitoring Agency. The cost of such audit shall be invoiced to the Licensee ('Subscriber'), Breeder subscriber and Pullet rearer subscriber. Where a request for information is made by BEIC, a response is to be provided within 5 working days.

11.8.2. At the point of pullet delivery from a Lion registered pullet rearing site, additional pullets may be purchased for immediate onward farm-gate sale. There must be documented evidence, including the full name and address, contact telephone number, and signature of purchaser (or invoice) of the destination of the additional pullets. This must be available for inspection by the accredited monitoring agency. If a flock, in a house on a registered Laying farm, is found to be overstocked at 'first egg', the flock will be suspended from producing Lion Quality eggs for the duration of that flock's life. When a new flock is housed, the house can re-enter the Lion scheme. A second instance of overstocking would result in the permanent exclusion of the whole of the Laying Farm from the Lion scheme.

Existing 11.8, 11.9, 11.10 and 11.11 to be renumbered as 11.9, 11.10, 11.11 and 11.12 respectively

NEW 11.10 Each breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm, feed mill or egg packing centre, holding a current Certificate of Registration shall inform BEIC immediately of an inspection by a government department or its agency, or local authority, to investigate a legal, food safety, quality or animal welfare complaint. This would include any contravention or infringement notices issued by a government agency (including current, pending or past prosecutions). Each breeder pullet rearing farm, breeder laying bird farm, hatchery, pullet rearing farm, laying bird farm, feed mill or egg packing centre, holding a current Certificate of Registration shall inform BEIC immediately of any site break-in, including suspected animal rights activity.

Annexes

Annex A – Lion Passport

Attached. A guidance note on completing the passport will be added to this annex

Annex B – Imports of hatching eggs and day-old chicks

Okay

Annex C – Lion sampling and testing requirements for Salmonella

TBU

Annex D&E

Attached

Annex F

TBU

Annex G

Okay

Annex H

Okay

Annex I

TBU

Annex J – laying Hen Welfare Standards

2.10 Pop-holes

Where practicable, pop-holes should be distributed evenly around the building.

Each pop-hole must be a minimum of 2m. long by 45cm. high, but if necessary to ensure the structural safety of the building the pop-hole may contain a stanchion.

Sufficient pop-holes must be available to provide the equivalent of 1 pop-hole to 600 birds.

Sufficient pop-holes in a building must be opened before 09.00 hours and must be left open so as to provide access to the land area for a daily minimum of 8 hours, or to dusk.

Birds should have full access to the range as soon as practicably possible.

The aim should be to allow access at 19 weeks of age and access must be allowed no later than 21 weeks of age.

Access to the range must not be obstructed in any way e.g. electric wires in front of pop-holes (even if sheathed). Electric wires must be routed over the top of the pop-hole.

4.2 Flock / Colony size

Adequate levels of management must be provided appropriate to the flock/colony size. Houses must be divided as appropriate. ~~The maximum flock size is 32,000 birds.~~ Where the flock size is more than 6,000 birds it must be divided into colonies. The maximum colony size is 6,000 birds.

Annex K

Okay

Annex L

TBU

Annex M

TBU

Annex N.1

Now included on BEIC website

New Annex N.2

List of authorized red mite treatment products (to be proof read). List will be published on BEIC website

Annex O

Okay

Annex P

Okay

Annex Q

TBU

Annex R

TBU

Annex S

TBU with amendment already made on width of Lion logo

Annex T

Okay

Annex U

TBU

Annex V

TBU

Annex W

TBU

Annex X

Okay

Annex Y

TBU

Annex Z

TBU

Additional Annexes

CRRU guidelines

Feather scoring
Class B farm seconds eggs