



CHICKEN FARMERS OF CANADA ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Chicken Farmers of Canada's (CFC) Animal Care Program is a credible standard with a strong set of program requirements, annual audits, mandatory regulations and enforcement measures. Farmers are audited annually to assess the implementation of the program and determine if the mandatory requirements are being maintained. 100% of farmers are now certified on the program.

The CFC Animal Care Program requirements include 42 mandatory and 15 highly recommended elements. Some examples of these requirements are provided below. In order for a farmer to be certified, they must implement each of the mandatory elements.

» FEED AND WATER

- Sufficient feeders and drinkers to eat and drink without restriction
- Diets that meet nutrient requirements and maintain good health
- Continuous access to feed and water

» ENVIRONMENT (TEMPERATURE, AIR QUALITY, LIGHTING)

- Temperatures maintained within thermal comfort zone
- Air quality monitored daily and ammonia and humidity levels maintained within specific ranges
- Feed, water and ventilation systems checked at least twice daily
- Lighting programs to ensure adequate periods of rest: at least four consecutive hours of darkness provided from day 5 of placement until one week before shipping
- Standby power systems to ensure ventilation, feeding, watering and lighting programs are always available

» PEST CONTROL, BIOSECURITY AND SANITATION

- CFC's On-Farm Food Safety program must be followed to ensure appropriate biosecurity, cleaning, disinfection and pest management

» BIRD MONITORING AND HANDLING

- Barns prepared for the arrival of new chicks and personnel present at chick delivery
- Chicks handled gently to reduce the chance of injury or stress
- Chickens inspected at least twice daily for illness, lameness, behaviour and body condition

» STOCKING DENSITY, HOUSING SYSTEM AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

- Normal stocking density limit of no more than 31 kg/m²
- Farmers may stock between 31 kg/m² and 38 kg/m² if additional requirements are met regarding record keeping and flock monitoring
- Good quality fresh litter provided and litter quality monitored daily
- Litter cleaned out after every flock & replaced with clean bedding

» HEALTH CARE PRACTICES

- Mortality and culls recorded daily and mortality levels kept within prescribed limits
- Sick or injured birds humanely euthanized on a daily basis by an approved method
- Personnel involved in bird care and handling must be competent in a number of husbandry practices, including humane euthanasia

» CATCHING AND TRANSPORTATION

- Water is available to the birds until catching begins
- The flock is evaluated for fitness prior to transport and those deemed unfit are humanely euthanized or separated

The "Raised by a
Canadian Farmer"
Brand is proud to be
part of this program.

