

SPCA CERTIFIED Self-Assessment Checklist Laying Hens

Farm name:		
Person(s) conducting self-assessment:		
Telephone number:		
Date:		
General Farm Details:		
Type of Operation:	☐ Free-range	☐ Organic
Flock Size:		
Total eggs sold annually (dozen):		
Member Statement		
As part of this self-assessment, I have can Raising and Handling of Egg Laying He required registration forms to reflect any the Certification Body is true and accuradditional unannounced visits by representation be required, for which I hereby give my personal true and the required of	ens, relevant record changes to my ope rate to the best of ntatives of the SPC	ls from my farm and updated the ration. All information submitted to my knowledge. I understand that
Signature:		Date:

FARM SELF-ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST: LAYING HENS

Space, Equipment, & Systems 2.1	Response Comments
Feed & water availability checked twice daily	Y
Feed & water devices placed at appropriate height for bird size	Y
Birds travel less than 8 m to feed & water	Y
Type of feeder	
Feeder space (cm/bird or # of bells/pans per bird)	
Type of drinker	
Drinker space (cm/bird or # of nipples/bells/cups per bird)	
Feed Management & Nutrition 2.2	Response Comments
Feed available at all times	Y
Feed meets hens nutritional needs (incl. source of calcium)	Y
	Y
source of calcium)	
Insoluble grit provided List of feed supplements/additives	Y
Insoluble grit provided List of feed supplements/additives provided (incl. dosage & duration) Feed ingredient breakdown & analysis	Y

	\	
Current list of feed suppliers provided	Y 🗌 / N 🗌	
		records viewed; records attached
Assess and comment on feed quality, any		
concerns re: contamination or infestation.		
Water Management & Hydration 2.3	Response	Comments
Clean water available at all times	Y / N	Odminichts
Olean water available at all times	1 / 14	
Annual water test results available	Y	
Annual water test results available	f/ IN	☐ records viewed; ☐ records attached
List of water supplements/additives	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
provided (incl. dosage & duration)		records viewed; records attached
Water quality monitored regularly	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
(assess and comment on quality, noting		
any concerns regarding colour or odour)		
Housing 3.1	Response	Comments
Housing 3.1	response	Comments
	Y / N	Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system		Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system		Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing		Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.)		Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed:	Y	Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages	Y / N	Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages - on wire flooring	Y / N	Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages	Y / N	Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages - on wire flooring - on fully slatted flooring	Y	
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages - on wire flooring	Y / N	Comments
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed:	Y	
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages - on wire flooring - on fully slatted flooring Floor is flat, or with a slope < 8°	Y	
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed: - in cages - on wire flooring - on fully slatted flooring Floor is flat, or with a slope < 8° If a multi-tiered system - there are no more than 3 tiers	Y	
Pullets sourced from cage-free rearing system Type of flooring (concrete, earth, etc.) Are birds ever housed:	Y	
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 manure removal system does not interfere with or injure hens 	Y
Driveways allow safe and unobstructed access to barn by transport vehicles	Y
Space Allowance 3.2	Response Comments
Aviary tiers have 45 cm between each floor and ceiling	Y
Number of aviary levels & type (feeders, nest boxes, water nipples, perches)	Y
Dimensions of barn (or include on map) or total area of living space incl. tiers	Y
Floor partially slatted? List size of slatted area to determine proportion of total area	Y
Is operation free range? If yes, complete section 3.7	Y
Environmental Enrichment 3.3	Response Comments
Environmental Enrichment 3.3 Enrichment provided at placement (litter, perches)	Response Comments Y / N
Enrichment provided at placement (litter,	
Enrichment provided at placement (litter, perches)	
Enrichment provided at placement (litter, perches) Other types of enrichment items used Enrichments replaced or disinfected	Y
Enrichment provided at placement (litter, perches) Other types of enrichment items used Enrichments replaced or disinfected between flocks	Y
Enrichment provided at placement (litter, perches) Other types of enrichment items used Enrichments replaced or disinfected between flocks Foraging, Scratching & Dust Bathing Are Birds have access to litter at all times (3)	Y
Enrichment provided at placement (litter, perches) Other types of enrichment items used Enrichments replaced or disinfected between flocks Foraging, Scratching & Dust Bathing Are Birds have access to litter at all times (3 day restriction allowed after placement) Type of litter material (savings, sawdust,	Y

Litter depth	
Litter allows dustbathing	Y / N
Perches 3.3.2	
Perches are non-slip material, no sharp edges	Y
Total perch space or perch space per bird	
Width of perches	
Perches spaced ≥1.5 cm apart and ≥19 cm from walls or ceilings	Y / N
All perches ≥30 cm off floor, with 20% at least 40 cm off floor (Code requirement)	Y / N
Perches positioned to avoid soiling feed, water, and birds below	Y / N
Anti-perch wire over feed or water lines free of electricity	Y / N
Nest Boxes 3.3.3	
Nest boxes are easily accessible & designed to avoid distress or injury	Y
Total communal nest box space OR number of individual nest boxes	
Nest box flooring type – is flooring is kept clean and dry?	Y
Nest boxes provide privacy and shading	Y / N
Nest boxes exclude feeders, drinkers, perches (feeders ≥ 6 inches away)	Y

Lighting 3.4	Response	Comments
Indoor lighting is natural or full-spectrum (if other, please describe)	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Light of at least 20 lux in directly lit areas during daylight hours at bird height	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Light below 1 lux in dark periods/night	Y 🗌 / N 🗍	
Light program adjusts light in a gradual manner to simulate dawn/dusk	Y	if natural lighting check n/a
Method of adjusting light intensity available (manual or programmable)	Y 🗌 / N 🗍	
Light program records available and reviewed by Validator (if program used)	Y	☐ records viewed; ☐ records attached
Lighting control system inspected regularly	Y	
8 hrs continuous light and 8 hrs continuous dark every 24 hr period	Y	if natural lighting check n/a
Temperature 3.5	Response	Comments
Temperature 3.5 Daily max/min temperature records kept (measured at bird height)	Response Y	Comments ☐ records viewed; ☐ records attached
Daily max/min temperature records kept		
Daily max/min temperature records kept (measured at bird height) Temperatures outside acceptable range	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Daily max/min temperature records kept (measured at bird height) Temperatures outside acceptable range (10°C-28°C). If yes, list # days Heating systems inspected regularly &	Y	
Daily max/min temperature records kept (measured at bird height) Temperatures outside acceptable range (10°C-28°C). If yes, list # days Heating systems inspected regularly & maintained in working order Birds distributed evenly throughout barn	Y	
Daily max/min temperature records kept (measured at bird height) Temperatures outside acceptable range (10°C-28°C). If yes, list # days Heating systems inspected regularly & maintained in working order Birds distributed evenly throughout barn area - If no, are they gathered in close	Y	

Ventilation & Air Quality 3.6	Response	Comments
Ventilation systems inspected regularly & maintained in working order	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
Ventilation maintains circulation of fresh air and minimizes drafts	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
Any gas-powered equipment is used away from barn air intake vents	Y	
Weekly ammonia test records available from producer	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	☐ records viewed; ☐ records attached
Number of ammonia tests at or above 20 ppm		
Validator ammonia test result (in ppm)		
Producer & Validator ammonia tests taken at bird height	Y	
Free Range Production 3.7 Hens have outdoor access at least 6 hours a day for 120 days/year (1/3 year)	Response Y	Comments n/a operation not free range
Days on range as well as pophole opening & closing times recorded	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	☐ records viewed; ☐ records attached
List reason & length of any periods of restriction to outdoor access: - Training after placement - Poor weather, heat/cold - Threat to hen welfare - Ordered by government	Y	☐ records viewed; ☐ records attached
Number of popholes		
Popholes distributed along access side(s) of barn	Y / N	
Length of popholes (cm)		

Height of popholes (cm)	
Range Management 3.7.1	
Range free of poisonous plants, chemicals, & debris	Y
Range is well drained and maintained	Y
Range provides shade and overhead cover (describe type & distribution)	Y
Height of perimeter fence Fence is tight to ground/buried	Y 🗌 / N 🔲
Describe range coverage & list proportion of seeded/vegetated area:	
Hens with no barn access (i.e. mobile pens) have shade & shelter sufficient for entire flock	Y
Health Management 4.1-4.6	Response Comments
Health Management 4.1-4.6 Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1 Farm owner has VCPR with licensed vet	Response Comments Y / N
Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1 Farm owner has VCPR with licensed vet	
Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1	
Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1 Farm owner has VCPR with licensed vet Flock Health Plans 4.2	Y
Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1 Farm owner has VCPR with licensed vet Flock Health Plans 4.2 Flock health plan in place Health Plan reviewed annually at	Y
Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1 Farm owner has VCPR with licensed vet Flock Health Plans 4.2 Flock health plan in place Health Plan reviewed annually at minimum Stockpeople are familiar with flock health plan Monitoring Flock Health 4.3	Y
Vet Client/Patient Relationship 4.1 Farm owner has VCPR with licensed vet Flock Health Plans 4.2 Flock health plan in place Health Plan reviewed annually at minimum Stockpeople are familiar with flock health plan	Y

Dead birds removed immediately	Y
Disease diagnostic performed when needed and records kept on file	Y
Instances (or suspicion) of reportable disease in flock? If yes, describe.	Y
Managing Sick & Injured Birds 4.4	
Sick or injured birds treated or euthanized immediately	Y
Hospital area provided for birds undergoing treatment	Y
Birds in hospital area monitored a minimum of 3 times/day	Y
Medication and treatment records kept up to date, include reason for treatment	Y
Flock lameness must be scored by Validator (see attached scoring form)	Y
Medications & Vaccines 4.5	
Flocks are vaccinated (if yes, describe)	Y
Antibiotics are added to feed or water? If yes, include supporting vet prescription.	Y
Are homeopathics alone used to treat flock? If yes, list type and reason used	Y / N
Date of last veterinary visit and reason:	
Culls & Mortalities 4.6	
Culls and mortalities recorded daily and indicate cause/reason (if known)	Y
Calculate total mortality (including culls) per production cycle	

Did mortality ever exceed 0.5% of the flock in 24-hour period?	Y 🗌 / N 🔲
 If yes, was a vet investigation conducted? Explain: 	Y
Biosecurity 4.7-4.8	Response Comments
Stockpeople are familiar with the Biosecurity Plan	Y
All-in/all-out system used for restocking (each flock is same age and species)	Y
Between flocks and before restocking:	
 Feed & water equipment flushed 	Y
 Barns and permanent fixtures cleaned/disinfected 	Y
Litter and disposable enrichment	Y
objects replaced	
Mortalities disposed of in a way that	Y 🗌 / N 🔲
prevents access by other animals	
Written record kept of all farm visitors	Y / N
(vets and Validators included)	records viewed
 If yes, describe how record is kept 	n/a 🗌
Visitors & staff required to wear	Y
appropriate footwear & clothing on site	
Foot dips/sanitation stations & hand	Y
sanitizer/hand wash stations available at each barn	
each bain	
Nuisance Animal Control 4.9	Response Comments

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Facilities monitored weekly for signs of rodent/bird/insect infestation	Y
Fly & insect population control used • Describe: (fly paper, zap traps, etc.)	Y
Feed storage is rodent proof	Y
Rodent control used? Describe method (& list frequency traps are checked, if applicable)	Y
Wild bird control used? Describe method (& list frequency traps are checked, if applicable)	Y
Rodents & birds found injured in traps are euthanized immediately	Y
Guardian animals used • List species, breed and number used	Y
Guardian animals appear in good health	Y
and form	
and form	
and form General Management	Response Comments
General Management Record Keeping 5.1	Response Comments
General Management Record Keeping 5.1 Farm records (per Appendix A of Standard) up to date and available	Response Comments Y / N
General Management Record Keeping 5.1 Farm records (per Appendix A of	Response Comments
General Management Record Keeping 5.1 Farm records (per Appendix A of Standard) up to date and available Records kept between assessments	Response Comments Y / N
General Management Record Keeping 5.1 Farm records (per Appendix A of Standard) up to date and available Records kept between assessments (the past 3 years, minimum)	Response Comments Y / N
General Management Record Keeping 5.1 Farm records (per Appendix A of Standard) up to date and available Records kept between assessments (the past 3 years, minimum) Staff Knowledge and Training 5.2 Staff can access & are familiar with BC	Response Comments Y / N
General Management Record Keeping 5.1 Farm records (per Appendix A of Standard) up to date and available Records kept between assessments (the past 3 years, minimum) Staff Knowledge and Training 5.2 Staff can access & are familiar with BC SPCA Standards for Egg-Laying Hens Staff can access & are familiar with Code	Response Comments Y

Staff are provided with on-farm training on chicken behaviour, husbandry, and health	Y
Poultry Management 5.3-5.6 Physical Alterations & Identification 5.3-	Response Comments
Are any of the following performed: Beak trimming (describe method) Caponization Toe trimming Comb/wattle trimming; dubbing Hole punching (for ID) Pinioning/de-winging Are spectacles/goggles/blinkers, etc ever	Y
used to prevent beak trimming?	
Describe type of identification used for individual birds, if applicable	n/a 🗌
Are hens ever forced to moult?	Y / N
Purchase & Sale of Hens 5.6	
Are birds purchased at auctions or markets?	Y
If yes: origin & history documentation for each bird is available	Y
Breed & population of flocks recorded	Y
Source of all purchases & sales recorded	Y
Inventories of # birds placed & # shipped at end of cycle available	Y _ / N records viewed

Emergency Preparedness 5.6	Response	Comments
Written emergency plan that covers flock	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
care in event of a natural disaster, power		
outage, or mechanical failure is in place		
and reviewed with staff		
Emergency back-up generator or similar	Y \square / N \square	
in place in case of power outage		
System tested regularly (list)	$Y \square / N \square$	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	' / ' \	
frequency)	V 🗆 / N 🗀	
Emergency supply of water sufficient for	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
one day is available		
Facility/equipment maintenance & alarms	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
inspected regularly to ensure working		
order (list frequency)		
Waste storage facilities maintained to	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
prevent contamination of streams /		
groundwater		
A responsible employee is available to	Y 🗌 / N 🗍	
contact at all times in case of emergency		
Contact info readily available on site	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
Contact into readily available on site	1 / 11	
Pre-Transport	Response	Comments
Training & Preparation 6.1		
Hauler has SOP & Emergency Protocol	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
		☐ Viewed and verified
Transport personnel have read &		
understand:		
 Health of Animals Act 	$Y \square / N \square$	
Codes of Practice re: Transport	Y / N	
	Y / N	
SPCA Certified Layer Standard Section 2008 Section	Ϋ́Π/ΝΠ	
Hauler SOP & Emergency Protocol		
Stockpeople briefed on trip details &	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
related care requirements before		
transport		
Fitness of Chickens for Transport 6.2		

Birds too sick/injured to be transported are euthanized on site	Y
Birds still in withdrawal period from medication are held back from transport	Y
Avoids loading wet birds in cold weather	Y
Catching 6.3	Response Comments
Feed & water available until catching? If not, describe:	Y
 Number of hours water is withdrawn prior to catching 	n/a 🗌
 Number of hours feed is withdrawn prior to catching 	n/a 🗌
Catching contracted out If yes, name company:	Y
Automated (mechanical) chicken catchers are used	Y
Feeders & waterers removed/lifted before catching	Y
Lights dimmed at time of catching	Y
Describe how chickens are carried/held and put down:	
Farm representative present during catching to observe protocols	Y
Death and injuries resulting from catching and loading are recorded	Y

Loading 6.4	Response	Comments
Transport containers used?	Y 🗌 / N 🗌	
If yes, are they loaded inside the barn?	Y	
Once loaded, all chickens are upright,	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
able to rest simultaneously, &	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
have no parts protruding from container	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Conveyors (if used) avoid tilting	Y / N	
containers of birds	n/a 🔲	
Vehicle & area checked for loose birds	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
prior to departure		
Transport Conditions 6.5	Response	Comments
Transport contracted out (if yes, list	Y [] / N [
company)		
Transport time under 12 hours	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Transport density in containers (kg/m²) or		
birds/crate		
Birds sheltered from wind & weather	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
extremes while on trucks		
Deaths and injuries resulting from	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
transport recorded		records viewed
Calculate and list average % of DOA's		
over all shipments in last year		
Unloading & Placement of Birds 6.6	Response	Comments
Pullet supplier name & address	-	
Farm staff on site at time of pullet delivery	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
to assess birds' condition		
Unloading process ensures pullets do not	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
become chilled or overheated		

Euthanasia 7.1-7.4	Response	Comments
Written euthanasia plan in place &	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
reviewed annually	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	□ viewed
Staff trained to recognize when	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
euthanasia is appropriate & how to do it		
List methods of euthanasia used		
(including size of birds for each type)		
Birds checked for consciousness after	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
euthanasia is attempted		
Euthanized birds removed immediately	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Equipment kept clean & maintained (list	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
frequency)		
Mass depopulation plan in place (Code of	Y 🗌 / N 🗌	
Practice requirement)		
Slaughter & Processing	Response	Comments
Slaughter & Processing Slaughter age, approximate:	Response	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate:	Response	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed?	Response	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information.		Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed?	Response Y / N	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records	Y / N	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP		Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program	Y / N	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program Egg processing facility classification	Y / N	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program Egg processing facility classification (federal, provincial, other)	Y	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program Egg processing facility classification (federal, provincial, other) Meat (spent hen) processing facility	Y / N	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program Egg processing facility classification (federal, provincial, other) Meat (spent hen) processing facility follows a HACCP program	Y	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program Egg processing facility classification (federal, provincial, other) Meat (spent hen) processing facility follows a HACCP program Meat (spent hen) processing facility	Y	Comments
Slaughter age, approximate: Where are birds slaughtered / processed? Provide name and contact information. Producer has access to slaughter records Egg processing facility follows a HACCP program Egg processing facility classification (federal, provincial, other) Meat (spent hen) processing facility follows a HACCP program	Y	Comments

Sources of Stock	Response	Comments
Flock records available	Y / N	
Stock purchase receipts available	Y 🗌 / N 🗍	
Each flock of single type	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
Pullets reared in a system similar to that used for adults	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
 If no, does producer have related issues (i.e. behaviour problems)? 		
Product Traceability	Response	Comments
Product labelled with SPCA Certified label	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
Eggs labelled free-range	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Copies of product logo attached to checklist / report	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Producer keeps grading receipts on farm	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Members undertake on-farm paperwork audits	Y 🗌 / N 📗	
Required farm records available during assessment	Y	
Please describe outcome of on-farm paperwork audit:		

Other Animals On Site (if applicable)	Response Comments	
Note: this section applies to farm	n animals raised for their products, but which are not to be SPC	A Certified
Species and Number of Animal(s)		
Reason(s) for keeping the animal(s) – e.g. personal use, commercial use, etc.		
Adequate food and water	Y	
Well-maintained environment	Y 🗌 / N 🔲	
Animal(s) appear healthy	Y	
Validator observations consistent with Member's Standard Operating Procedures	Y	
Other Audits / Inspections		
•	nent, have there been any audits / inspections from government or narketing board, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, etc.)?	Y 🗌 / N 🗍
If yes, list the name of the agency(ies), the	date and the purpose of the visit:	
Other Information	Response Comments	
Information contained in registration forms was accurate	Y	
Barn / room diagrams are accurate	Y	
Farm map represents an accurate picture of the farm	Y	
Since the previous SPCA Certified Assessment, have non-compliance issues	Y	
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been verified as completed?			
Since the previous SPCA Certified Assessment, have complaints been	Y 🗌 / N 🗍		
received? - If yes, please explain how they were rectified:	Y 🗌 / N 🗍		

NOTE

Documents to append:

- Water quality tests
- Feed and water ingredients and additives
- Standard Operating Procedure and Emergency Protocol from hauler (if other than BCEMB)
- Product labels
- Mortality records
- DOA and condemnations report from processor
- Other documentation, as requested above

Notes / changes since last assessment:

Expanded Comments:			