

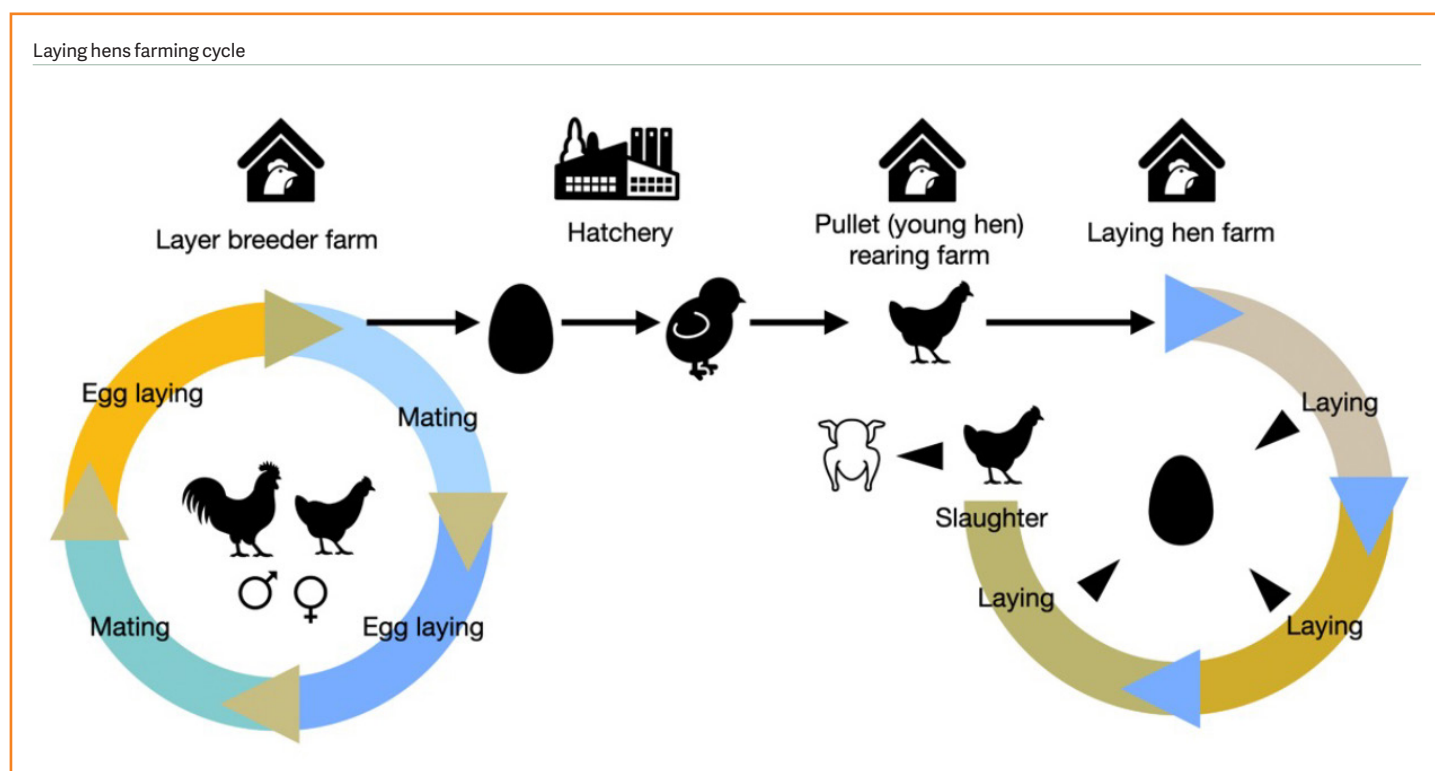
## 5.4 Laying hens Toolkit

### Introduction

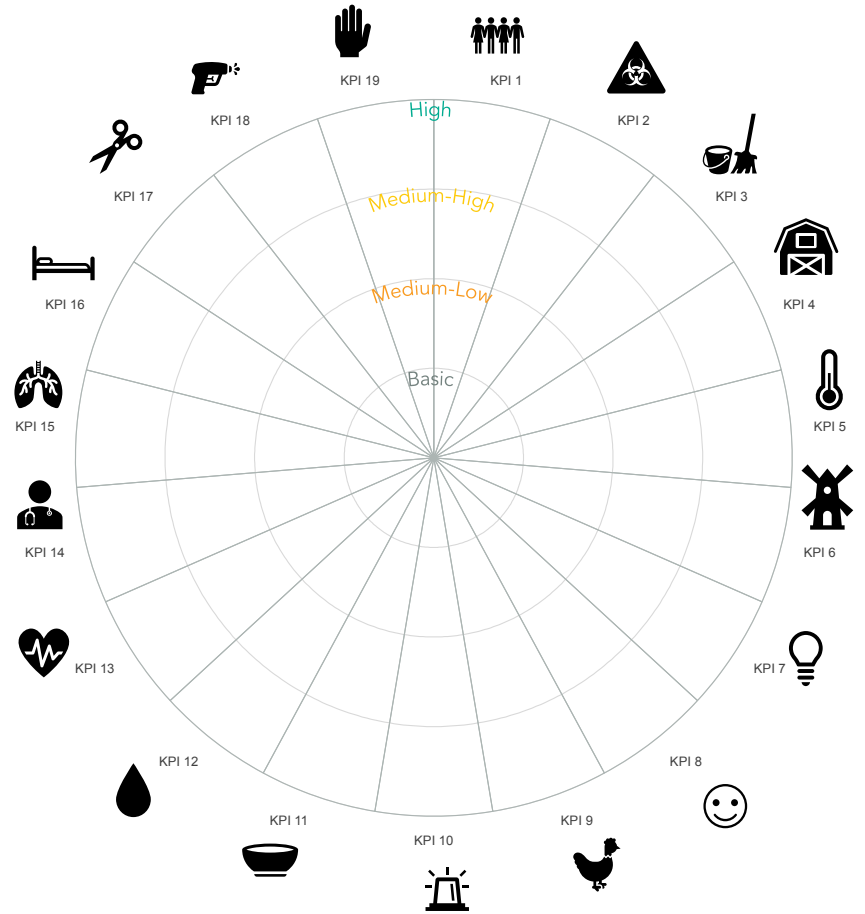
Chickens were first domesticated at least 8,000 years ago from several species of jungle fowl in southeast Asia, moving north into China and across central Asia, then into Europe. Today, the chicken is ubiquitous, being farmed in huge numbers on every continent. The FAO suggests there are 16 billion chickens in the world, and in 2019, more than 660 billion eggs were produced in China alone. Chickens have been increasingly bred for either laying eggs or producing meat, resulting in distinctly different-looking birds. Laying hens tend to be quite 'light' in their body shape (when compared to meat producing (broiler) birds), and are active and able to forage, climb into trees, and perch. Chickens can live for up to ten years, but most laying commercial laying hens are killed after 1 to 1.5 years of production. Wild or feral chickens will form small social groups of up to 15 individuals, with a dominant male and several hens and subordinate males. In nature, chickens will spend time preening (cleaning and grooming their feathers), and this is augmented where possible by bouts of dustbathing, on average once every two days.

Laying hens are highly motivated to lay their eggs in a nest, perch and to forage, spending large proportions of their day scratching about and foraging, even in the presence of abundant food.

Key welfare issues of laying hens include: cramped housing conditions in cage systems; abnormal behaviours; feet, beak and feather conditions; internal and external parasites; broken bones from handling or housing conditions; handling, catching and transport to slaughter; and non-stun slaughter.



KPI	Achievement
KPI 1 : People, training - Links to P1, P11	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 2: Biosecurity - Links to P5, P11	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 3: Cleaning and disinfection - Links to P5, P11	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 4: Farm environment: physical - Links to P4, P5, P6, P9	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 5: Farm environment: temperature - Links to P4, P9	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 6: Farm environment: ventilation - Links to P4, P9	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 7: Farm environment: light - Links to P6	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 8: Farm environment: enrichments - Links to P6	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 9: Farm environment: stocking density - Links to P4, P6	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 10: Farm environment: emergency - Links to P7, P10, P11	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 11: Feed - Links to P3	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 12: Water - Links to P3	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 13: Health, and health planning - Links to P5	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 14: Medicines - Links to P5, P11	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 15: Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> ), dust, humidity - Links to P4, P5	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 16: Litter, bedding - Links to P4	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 17: Mutilations - Links to P5, P6, P7	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 18: Euthanasia - Links to P5, P7	<input type="radio"/>
KPI 19: Catching - Links to P7	<input type="radio"/>
Basic level not achieved	
Basic (B)	
Medium-Low (ML)	
Medium-High (MH)	
High (H)	
<b>Overall KPI achievement</b>	



KWI	Achievement	
	KWI 1: Animal records - Links to P10	
	KWI 2: Beak trimming, feather loss - Links to P5, P6, P7	
	KWI 3: Keel bone damage - Links to P5	
	KWI 4: On-farm culls - Links to P5	
	KWI 5: On-farm mortality - Links to P5	
	KWI 6: Transport mortality - Links to P5, P10	
	KWI 7: Slaughter: wing damage - Links to P5	
	KWI 8: Slaughter: leg damage/bruising - Links to P5	
	KWI 9: Slaughter - Links to P5, P11,	

Basic level not achieved	
Basic (B)	
Medium-Low (ML)	
Medium-High (MH)	
High (H)	

**Overall KWI achievement**



**Overall achievement**

**Overall achievement**





### KPI Laying 1

People, training - Links to P1, P11		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	All people responsible for the care of animals should have received appropriate training by others with appropriate experience, who can demonstrate sufficient knowledge of animal behaviour, general signs of diseases, and indicators of poor animal welfare.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Animal Abuse is avoided (see Resource 3)	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	People handling animals are trained in handling techniques, emergency killing procedures and biosecurity.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Routine procedures should not cause injury, panic, lasting fear or avoidable pain or distress, and where painful procedures cannot be avoided, they should be carried out by competent and trained people.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	An animal welfare contact person or co-ordinator, responsible for animal welfare aspects within the farm or company, is identified.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The animal welfare contact person has received training in animal welfare aspects.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	People in the company are supported to have higher-level training, which is refreshed on a regular basis, or achieve professional qualifications in animal care and animal welfare.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 2

Biosecurity - Links to P5, P11		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Indoor environments have surfaces that allow for effective cleaning, and are periodically cleaned (between flocks as a minimum), so the animals can remain clean and to help prevent disease.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	A biosecurity programme or plan (see Resource 8) is in place.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Access to houses is limited and visitors adhere to strict biosecurity requirements specific to the farm being visited.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Facilities (including feed and litter storage areas) are constructed to limit the entry of pathogens, pests and animals that could transmit diseases to birds.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	All staff and visitors are provided with a full complement of protective clothing.	<input type="radio"/>				
	If vehicles are brought on-site, they are sprayed (wheels as a minimum) at the gateway.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The biosecurity programme includes a risk assessment (which may be based on hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) training) of the primary pathogens and parasites that are likely to pose a risk to the flock.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	For high health flocks:	<input type="radio"/>				
	Hand washing and sanitisation is available on entry to each house.	<input type="radio"/>				
	All staff and visitors shower on-site.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Feed silos are located at the site perimeter, so that feed vehicles do not need to enter the site.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KPI Laying 3

Cleaning and disinfection - Links to P5, P11		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Vermin are controlled through appropriate and effective measures, and only approved pest control substances or chemicals permitted by law are used.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The construction of accommodation, pens and equipment are periodically thoroughly cleaned and disinfected (see Biosecurity requirement KWI Laying 2).	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Written cleaning and disinfection protocols are implemented.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	A list of permitted disinfectants and detergents used on the farm, and their safety data sheets, is available.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Internal house equipment, water tanks and silos, are cleaned during house cleaning. The areas around the buildings are kept clear of debris and non-essential equipment.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Vegetation is kept short and is well managed so as not to offer shelter to wild birds or rodents.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	A microbiological testing programme for house hygiene is in place for a targeted sample of company farms each year, and there is a policy for feeding results back to the farm and the cleaning teams.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The most humane effective baiting method is adopted, and pest control baits are only accessible to the targeted species.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KPI Laying 4

Farm environment: physical - Links to P4, P5, P6, P9		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Floors, surfaces, fittings, equipment and other facilities in and around the environment are designed, constructed, operated and maintained to minimise the risk of smothering, injury, trapping, or disease, and are free from rough edges and sharp protrusions.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Businesses operating unenriched cage systems have a clear plan to transition to higher welfare systems and must show year-on-year progress against the plan.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Any cage system provides the opportunity for comfortable resting and normal movement, and allows for the expression of a range of normal species-specific behaviours, including scratching, dustbathing, nesting and perching.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Animals are protected from predators, vermin, and excessive noise.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Housing is constructed to minimise fire risk, and firefighting equipment and smoke detectors are installed, with capacity to escape the building in an emergency.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	A non-cage system is employed to enable greater freedom of movement and opportunities to express natural behaviours. Non-cage includes barn, aviary/multi-tier, wintergarden and free-range systems.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	At least 1 nest is provided for every 7 hens.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	Automatic systems have not replaced human 'care and observation' until their safe and reliable use in maintaining animal welfare has been demonstrated.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Access to a suitable outdoor environment is provided, in addition to a non-cage system that allows for opportunities to express normal behaviours.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KPI Laying 5

Farm environment: temperature - Links to P4, P9		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Heating and cooling systems are capable of producing enough heat or cooling to ensure birds do not get too hot or too cold.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Automatic equipment for temperature control is fitted with alarms that warn immediately of equipment failure.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Heating and cooling systems essential for bird health and welfare are checked daily for proper operation.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Records of daily maximum and minimum shed temperatures (at bird height) are kept on file and available for review.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	House temperatures are controlled to maintain the temperature range recommended by the breeder or veterinarian.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	Houses are equipped with means of controlling relative humidity.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	An outdoor environment that has a choice of temperature/environment is provided to enable birds to maintain individual thermal comfort.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KPI Laying 6

Farm environment: ventilation - Links to P4, P9		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The equipment for ventilation, including natural ventilation in open houses, supports birds in both extreme hot and cold weather.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Automatic equipment for ventilation is fitted with alarms that warn immediately of equipment failure.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Ventilation systems essential for bird health and welfare are checked daily for proper operation.	<input type="radio"/>				
	The equipment for ventilation, including natural ventilation in open houses, manages air exchange, air quality and dust, and bird comfort.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Automatic equipment for ventilation has a back-up power supply that is tested weekly.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	As previous requirement.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 7

Farm environment: light - Links to P6		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Light levels are at the legal base requirement.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	If no legal requirement exists, adequate levels of light are provided for carers to observe animals, and for the animals to carry out daytime behaviours.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Dark rest periods are provided.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Natural or artificial light (of an intensity of at least 20 lux) is available in all buildings, illuminating at least 80% of the useable area, for a minimum of 8 hours daily.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Lighting follows a 24-hour rhythm and includes periods of darkness lasting at least 6 hours in total, with an uninterrupted period of darkness of at least 4 hours.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Dawn/dusk is either provided naturally, or the light level at dawn/dusk is gradually raised and lowered (typically over a 10-minute period) via an automatic system.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Natural light (daylight) is provided throughout the year – this means that windows allowing in daylight will be found in enclosed houses.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 8

Farm environment: enrichments - Links to P6		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The producer is aware that birds can use enrichments when they are provided, and this can affect animal welfare.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	At least one pecking object is provided as environmental enrichment for every 1,000 birds, or per caged colony.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Enrichment is provided to all birds ≥7 days of age. Environmental enrichment must be maintained, replaced or changed as necessary to ensure birds have continuous access.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Dustbathing areas are provided.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Foraging enrichment is provided on a range or in a house (such as grass, foliage, hanging hay or twine).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 9

Farm environment: stocking density - Links to P4, P6		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Where stocking density is legislated, the legal specification is followed.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	All birds have sufficient space to walk, turn around, preen, sit undisturbed, flap, stretch wings, and access feed and water without undue competition.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Stocking density is at least 750cm <sup>2</sup> per bird in colony cages, or up to 9 birds per usable m <sup>2</sup> in alternative systems.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Stocking density on an outdoor range does not exceed 2,000 birds/ha.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Stocking density on an outdoor range does not exceed 1,000 birds/ha.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 10

Farm environment: emergency - Links to P7, P10, P11		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Written plans are in place to deal with emergencies such as fire, power failure, flooding, accidental injuries, freezing, failure of water and feed supply, or chemical or effluent spillage.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Contacts and emergency phone numbers, and contact numbers in cases where the emergency can affect human health, are available at each site.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	If generators are used for back-up power, they are tested under conditions of load at least 4 times a year.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	The emergency plan includes approved methods of humane killing and mass depopulation, with each method having an SOP containing: instructions for implementation; equipment requirements; training; safety; biosecurity; and environmental aspects.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The methods proposed are consistent with national law.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	Plans have been developed in consultation with a specialist veterinarian and are updated annually, to cover circumstances such as animals infected with a potentially zoonotic or notifiable disease.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 11

Feed - Links to P3		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The feed is of a quantity and quality to maintain normal health and productivity, to prevent prolonged hunger or malnutrition, and is suited to the animals' age and needs.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Feeders meet manufacturers' recommendations, good poultry husbandry practices and local regulatory requirements, and must provide adequate access for all birds.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Forced moulting is not permitted.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Feed and watering systems are designed to reduce aggression and competition.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	All feeding and drinking systems are checked daily for proper operation.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	In the event of a supply failure, the farms can provide feed within 24 hours.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	As previous requirement.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	Food type and presentation provides interest and occupation for the birds (for example, scattered, or from a foraging device).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 12

Water - Links to P3		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Water is of a quantity and quality to maintain normal health, and to prevent dehydration.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Drinkers meet both manufacturer recommendations and local regulatory requirements, and provide adequate access for all birds.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Drinking systems essential for bird health and welfare are checked for proper operation daily.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Hens have access to clean potable water during all daylight hours.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	In the event of a power failure, the farms can provide water within 12 hours.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Water should be tested annually to ensure potability to (see FAO 2016 in Resource 11).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Drinkers do not cause wet litter through leakage.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	The emergency supply of water has sufficient capacity to supply the site for 24 hours at maximum demand.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 13

Health, and health planning - Links to P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	A procedure is in place to deal with an outbreak of important transmissible disease, including geographically appropriate OIE-listed diseases.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Infectious, parasitic and metabolic diseases, injury, and conditions causing distress, are prevented and controlled through good management, good animal care, biosecurity, vaccination and genetic selection.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The farming system does not depend on prolonged or routine use of pharmaceuticals.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	A H&W plan is in place (Resource 7).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	The H&W plan is reviewed and updated annually and authorised by a specialist veterinarian.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		





## KPI Laying 14

Medicines - Links to P5, P11		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Any drugs or other agents used to treat animals must be compliant with all local guidelines and applicable local legislation.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Hormones and antibiotics are not used as growth promoters.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Preventive (prophylactic) use of antimicrobials is not permitted.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	An antimicrobial reduction programme is in place (see World Vet, Resource 11).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Antimicrobials and other medicines are used responsibly to protect both human and animal health.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Vaccines and medicines are stored securely and in the recommended conditions (label instructions).	<input type="radio"/>				
	Medicine use is recorded (Resource 6).	<input type="radio"/>				
	The company has access to a veterinarian experienced in laying hen care.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Any antimicrobial classified as being of 'high' or 'medium' importance for human medicine is not permitted for use in laying hens, unless under veterinary advice.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Persons using medicines have relevant experience and training.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	An antimicrobial stewardship plan is in place and complied with (see FAO 2016, Resource 11).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The plan is reviewed annually, and is linked to existing regional or national antimicrobial stewardship schemes.	<input type="radio"/>				



## KPI Laying 15

Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> ), dust, humidity - Links to P4, P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Ammonia is measured if the levels appear to be noxious to humans.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Ammonia is tested at the end of the flock cycle, or if levels appear to be rising. Ammonia is below <25ppm when measured at bird head height.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The cause of high ammonia is rectified.	<input type="radio"/>				
	House humidity at bird level is measured and recorded.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	If dust levels are recognised to be causing negative impacts on bird health and welfare, steps are taken to reduce dust (from feed, litter and ventilation).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	The target for NH <sub>3</sub> levels is <10ppm.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



## KPI Laying 16

Litter, bedding - Links to P4		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Litter provision is at the legal base requirement.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Where no legal definition exists, in non-cage systems some new litter material is provided for each flock cycle.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	In non-cage systems, the poultry house floor is completely covered in litter to a minimum average depth of 50mm/2 inches.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Birds have continuous access to litter (unless, for chicks ≤7 days old in sheds where chick paper is used).	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Litter is maintained and poor litter is replaced when required.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Where litter beetles are present, they are controlled.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	Litter is of quality sufficient to encourage dustbathing and foraging.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Litter quality is measured and recorded using a recognised litter scoring scale.	<input type="radio"/>				
	When litter score falls below targets set by the company, steps are taken to improve the litter quality during the flock cycle.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KPI Laying 17

Mutilations - Links to P5, P6, P7		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Any beak trimming is performed by, or in a system managed by, trained, competent stockpeople.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Where beak trimming is performed, infrared systems are used and birds are not more than 10 days old.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Beak trimming, or use of beak trimmed day-old chicks, is not routine, but only where management efforts have proved ineffective at reducing injurious pecking and feather loss. Monitoring of feather loss is required.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Beak trimming is not carried out and birds have excellent feather cover.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 18

Euthanasia - Links to P5, P7		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Animals are euthanased by adopting local legally-approved methods.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Sick or distressed animals are isolated and treated promptly, or euthanased humanely without delay, if treatment is not feasible or recovery is unlikely.	<input type="radio"/>				
	People responsible for euthanasia have received appropriate training (see Resource 5).	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Any equipment used for euthanasia is maintained in good working order, and records documenting maintenance are kept.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	A written policy for euthanasia is produced by working with a veterinarian, and is based on recognised best international practice.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Gas killing used in emergency or disease control situations has approval from the appropriate local government agency.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KPI Laying 19

Catching - Links to P7		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Catching is carried out by trained people.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Animals which are sick, weak, injured, or known to be diseased, are not transported. They are humanely euthanased on-site.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Picking up or suspending/carrying birds by a leg, wing or tail is prohibited.	<input type="radio"/>				
	No more than 3 birds should be carried in each hand.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Catching is scheduled to minimise the time to slaughter as well as to minimise climatic stress during catching, transport and holding.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Water withdrawal does not exceed 1 hour prior to the start of catch for that house.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Maximum feed withdrawal time is 12 hours (feeders are empty/raised, to the scheduled time of slaughter).	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Lairages protect the birds from adverse weather and high temperatures.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Animals are handled using low-stress methods, equipment, and facilities that calm animal movement.	<input type="radio"/>				
	If mechanical catchers are used, they are designed, operated and maintained to minimise injury, stress and fear to the birds.	<input type="radio"/>				
High (H)	Birds are slaughtered as close as possible to the farm of origin, and as soon as possible after arrival.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Birds are handled singly, in an upright position, held by both legs and with the torso supported.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KWI Laying 1

Animal records - Links to P10		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Records are kept of:	<input type="radio"/>				
	Number of birds placed, and date placed	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Age of birds placed	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	Records are kept of:	<input type="radio"/>				
	a) Daily mortality	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	b) House temperature (max/min, measured at bird height)	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Records are kept of daily culls (with reason, if known)	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Records are kept of staff observation/checking times within the poultry house.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KWI Laying 2

Beak trimming, feather loss - Links to P5, P6, P7		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The farmer is aware of beak trimming, injurious pecking and feather loss as a welfare issue for both the birds being pecked and those performing the pecking.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Beak trimming is performed only to prevent high levels of feather loss.	<input type="radio"/>				
	Monitoring of feather loss occurs and if levels are high (>20%) management changes are undertaken to reduce risk, such as improving foraging opportunities (see Resource 1).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	All culls/mortality due to cannibalism are recorded.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-High (MH)	Beaks are trimmed and low levels of feather loss are achieved. Trials of untrimmed hens are undertaken as part of a transition to permanently not trimming.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Beaks are untrimmed and the prevalence of feather loss at the end of lay is low (<10%).	<input type="radio"/>				
	Proactive monitoring for feather loss of a representative sample of >100 birds is performed at least 4 times during the lay period.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The company sets high targets, measures performance and reports on outcomes.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KWI Laying 3

Keel bone damage - Links to P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The farmer is aware of keel bone damage as a welfare issue.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Measures are taken to reduce the risk of keel bone damage (such as through improving bone strength, or for non-cage systems by training birds in rear to utilise a 3D environment).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	If the prevalence of keel bone damage is higher than established targets in the H&W plan, measures are taken to reduce prevalence in subsequent flocks (see Resource 2).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Proactive monitoring for keel bone damage of a representative sample of >100 birds is performed at end of lay	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Keel bone damage is present in <10% of the flock	<input type="radio"/>				
	The company sets high targets, measures performance and reports on outcomes.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KWI Laying 4

On-farm culls - Links to P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Only mortality (not cull) data is collected. Mortality is defined as 'found dead', whereas cull is defined as 'actively, humanely killed for health or welfare reason'.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Daily cull number is collected and recorded.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Both cull data and mortality is analysed, and the cause of adverse trends is investigated and acted upon. The suggested threshold for investigation is total cull >1.5%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	The company has a written plan in place to respond to sudden increases in culling.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The plan includes veterinary consultation and actions to address the problem where necessary.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KWI Laying 5

On-farm mortality - Links to P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Daily mortality data is recorded.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	As previous requirement.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Mortality data is analysed, and the cause of adverse trends is investigated and acted upon. The suggested threshold is >5% at end of lay.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	A procedure is in place to investigate unexplained mortality.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	If morbidity and mortality levels increase, and other signs indicate the flock has been affected by disease, a diagnostic investigation is conducted to identify the causative agent.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KWI Laying 6

Transport mortality - Links to P5, P10		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	Dead on arrival (DOA) at slaughterhouse is calculated and recorded.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	DOA at slaughterhouse <0.5%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	DOA at slaughterhouse <0.25%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	The company has a written plan in place to respond to negative changes in DOA, over any 24hr period.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The company sets higher targets than those in ML and MH, measures performance and reports on outcomes.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KWI Laying 7

Slaughter: wing damage - Links to P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The slaughterhouse is aware of wing damage as a welfare issue.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Wing damage <0.5%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Wing damage <0.25%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	The company has a written plan in place to respond to negative changes in wing damage over any 24hr period.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The company sets higher targets than those in ML and MH, measures performance and reports on outcomes.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		



### KWI Laying 8

Slaughter: leg damage/bruising - Links to P5		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	The slaughterhouse is aware of leg damage, broken or dislocated legs as a welfare issue.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-Low (ML)	Leg damage/broken/dislocated legs <0.5%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Leg damage/broken/dislocated legs <0.25%.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	The company has a written plan in place to respond to negative changes in leg damage over any 24h period.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	The company sets higher targets than those in ML and MH, measures performance and reports on outcomes.	<input type="radio"/>				



### KWI Laying 9

Slaughter - Links to P5, P11,		Observed?	Comment on observation	Achieved level?	Progress	Evidence/comment
Basic (B)	A recognised method to induce immediate insensibility is adopted at slaughter (see Introduction Section 3.5 regarding stunning).	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
	Animals are slaughtered by adopting local legally-approved methods.	<input type="radio"/>				
	The slaughterhouse is aware of stunning as a welfare issue.	<input type="radio"/>				
Medium-Low (ML)	As previous.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Medium-High (MH)	Percentage of birds not effectively rendered immediately insensible is recorded and actions taken to reduce to a minimum.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
High (H)	Internationally-recognised best practice methods for slaughter are adopted.	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		

## Notes: Laying hens

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