American Humane Farm Program
American Humane Certified™
Ducks (Meat and Egg Layers)
Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool
Introduction

The ***American Humane Farm Program (American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards)*** is the product of over 130 years of applied experience in farm animal welfare. Since its beginning in 1877, American Humane has had a long history with the humane treatment of farm animals. In its work to improve the treatment of working animals and livestock in transit, American Humane has been involved in almost every major advancement in improving the welfare of animals, including an instrumental role in the enactment of the 28 Hour Transportation Law. In 1916, the U.S. Secretary of War asked American Humane to help with the rescue of horses and other animals on the battlefields of World War I. The program that followed became the American Humane Rescue program, which continues to this day to rescue and shelter animals involved in disasters throughout the country.

Given its history, it was natural that American Humane would create the first farm animal welfare audit program. In 2000, American Humane pioneered the first third party audit and certification program in the United States to encourage and support the humane treatment of animals used for food. Organized as the Free Farmed® certification program, the first ***Welfare Standards*** were based on the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' ***Welfare Standards***, the Federation of Animal Science Societies' ***FASS Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching***, and the governing principles first developed by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC) known as the "Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare":

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury, or disease
- Freedom from fear and distress
- Freedom to express normal behaviors

Since its origins, American Humane's farm animal welfare standards have been and continue to be a living document. The standards and the audit process are continually reviewed and updated, using the expertise of the Scientific Advisory Committee. This committee of internationally renowned animal scientists and veterinarians advances new science and regularly evaluates the standards to help ensure that the American Humane Certified™ program incorporates the best and current knowledge of humane practices.
American Humane collaborates with institutions and organizations on independent research in animal behavior as well as new handling and housing applications. The program incorporates the practical, hands-on experience of farmers and ranchers, and helps ensure that new technology and knowledge from veterinarians and animal research experts are shared with producers. Third-party audits help to educate, encourage, and support producers in adopting humane practices. The program promotes clear, reasoned communication with consumers and retailers about the meaning and value of humanely raised food and the benefits not only to animals but also to people.

*Note: Please refer to Appendix E of the full **Animal Welfare Standards** for a list of additional Resources & References consulted in the development of these standards.*

Audit Scoring

- *American Humane Certified™ program audits are conducted by independent, 3rd party auditors, each specialists in their respective species, in order to help ensure the greatest objectivity, transparency, and accountability.*

Audit Process & Scoring

Each individual Audit (e.g., hatchery, grower, processing, or transportation, as applicable at specific sites and facilities) will receive its own score ("Audit Score"). For each audit item, producer will receive the maximum number of points allotted if it meets the standard, and zero points if it does not meet the standard (i.e., no partial credit). When an audit item is deemed not applicable (e.g., because it is not relevant to the type of Audit), it will be removed from the total available points in calculating the Audit Score. To be eligible for certification, producer must pass each mandatory Pass/Fail audit item and receive an Audit Score of at least 85% for each Audit.

Since not every audit item may apply to every farm, some items will be considered Not Applicable (N/A). It is necessary to remove these N/A questions from the overall count. An example of this process is provided below:

a.) Total Points Possible			**b.) Total N/A's**	**c.) Adjusted Points Achievable**	**d.) Total Points Achieved**	**Overall Audit Percentage**
Items	Value	Points	Example	Example	Example	
5	50	250		250	250	
21	25	525	1 @ 10	525	525	
40	10	400		390	330	
67	3	201	4 @ 3	189	186	
A.) Total Points Possible		**=1376**	**B.) Total N/A's** **=22**	**C.) Total Points Achievable = A.-B. =1376-22 =1354**	**D). Total Points Achieved** **=1291**	**D./C. = Overall Audit Percentage** **Example= 1291/1354=95%**

Step 1- Count the Total Points Possible for all items on the scored ***Animal Welfare Standards Checklist.***
Step 2- Count the number of Total Not Applicable (N/A) audit items. Subtract the Total N/A's from the Total Points Possible for all items. This will give you the Adjusted Points Achievable for the audit.
Step 3- Count up the Total Points Achieved in the audit. These are the audit items that were in conformance.
Step 4- Divide the Total Points Achieved by the adjusted Total Points Achievable to find the Overall Audit Percentage.

Non-Conformances

All welfare issues identified with a loss of points during an audit are discussed in the exit interview by the auditor and will be described on the ***Non-Conformance Report***. The ***Non-Conformance Report*** will list the non-conformances found by the auditor and must be signed by both the manager and auditor. All corrective actions agreed upon at the exit interview must be corrected even if your farm receives certification.

Corrective Action Plan

If a producer receives an Audit Score of less than 100%, producer must submit a Corrective Action Plan detailing steps that will be implemented to reach 100% compliance to all relevant Animal Welfare Standards.

Completion Report

Upon implementation of any Corrective Action Plan, a Completion Report confirming implementation of the plan must be submitted for American Humane's review and approval.

The American Humane Certified™ program reserves the right to perform unannounced audits at any time during the certification period.

.

American Humane
Farm Program

American Humane Certified™
Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool
Ducks (Meat and Egg Layers)

- *Auditor note: the following information should be completed in full (unless N/A) and reported to the American Humane Certified™ program with submission of the audit.*

AUDITOR:	AUDIT DATE: From: To:	AUDIT SCORE:

LICENSE HOLDER:

PRODUCER:		**LICENSE MNGR:**	
Address:		**Email:**	
City:		**Office #:**	
State:		**Cell #:**	
ZIP:		**Alt #:**	
Country:		**Fax #:**	

AUDIT FARM LOCATION:

FARM NAME:		**FARM MANAGER:**		**OTHERS:**	
Address:		**Email:**		**Email:**	
City:		**Office #:**		**Office #:**	
State:		**Cell #:**		**Cell #:**	
ZIP:		**Alt #:**		**Alt #:**	
Country:		**Fax #:**		**Fax #:**	

HATCHERY:		**TRANSPORTER:**		**PROCESSOR:**	
NAME:		**NAME:**		**NAME:**	
Contact:		**Contact:**		**Contact:**	
Contact #:		**Contact #:**		**Contact #:**	
Address:		**Address:**		**Address:**	
City:		**City:**		**City:**	
State:		**State:**		**State:**	
ZIP:		**ZIP:**		**ZIP:**	
Country:		**Country:**		**Country:**	

FARM DATA:

ALL AHC HOUSES ON SITE:
(including the house being audited)

No. of Growout Houses on Site: _____

No. of Brooder Houses on Site: _____

FOR AUDITED HOUSE ONLY:

Type/ Description of Housing:
- ❍ Meat
- ❍ Brooder
- ❍ Layer
- ❍ Other as described*

_____
*(*give short description)*

Other Housing Notes:
(*enter if needed*) _____

Species/ Type of Duck:
(Common/Domestic i.e. Pekin, Mallard, Other; does NOT incl. Muscovy/Barbary) _____

No. of Ducks Placed in House:

Current No. of Ducks in House: _____

Estimated Mortality (*%/ flock*): _____

_____

Total Usable Floor Space (*ft²*):
(total indoor space incl. litter, slats, etc.) _____

_____ ***vs.*** _____
Actual (ft²) ***Req'd (ft²)***

Total Litter Space (*ft²*):
(if applicable, else "0") _____

Total Slatted Space (*ft²*):
(if applicable, else "0") _____

Total Nest Space ____
(if applicable)

Est. Duck Wt., Time of Audit *(lbs):* _____

Target/ Market Wt. of Ducks *(lbs):* _____

Date Ducks Placed in House: _____

Anticip. Date Ducks Removed: _____

Yearly Number of Cycles: _____

Conv. or Organic:
- ❍ Conventional
- ❍ Organic

Type of Outside Access, if Provided: ***(select as noted)***
- ❍ N/A- not prov.
- ❍ Outdoor Run
- ❍ Free-Range***
- ❍ Pasture***
- ❍ Other*

(Note: Select "Free-Range" OR "Pasture" ONLY if space meets requirements of E23)***

_____
(*give short description)

Total Available Outside Space (ft²): _____
(Only if applicable) _____ ***ft² per duck***

Is Outside Access Rotated?
- ❍ No
- ❍ Yes*

_____
(*If yes, give brief description of area available at any time, e.g. "1/2rotation ")

Type of Feeder:
- ❍ Trough-style
- ❍ Pan
- ❍ Other OR Mix

Feeder Manufacturer: _____

Length OR No. Feeders (*inches or No.*)
Double-sided Trough: _____
Single-sided Trough: _____
Perimeter/Round: _____
No. of Feeders*: _____
(*ONLY if needed, e.g. "52 feeder pans")

_____ ***vs.*** _____
Actual ***Req'd***

Type of Waterer:
- ❍ Nipple
- ❍ Trough
- ❍ Other OR Mix

Waterer Manufacturer: _____

No. of Nipples (*No.*): _____

No. of Waterers* (*No.*): _____
(*ONLY if needed, e.g. "362 bells")

_____ ***vs.*** _____
Actual ***Req'd***

Preening/Bathing Water Type & Description: _____
_____
(*give short description)

Additional Farm Data/ Pertinent Information:

List Any Quality Assurance Programs Routinely Implemented:

Audit Notes

- The American Humane Certified™ standards are written to cover facilities in varying geographic and temperature regions and facilities utilizing different systems. Therefore, not all sections in these standards apply to every facility. Farmers must comply with any local, state or federal mandates for handling and processing ducks that affect the environment or safety of their product.
- If an outside company is used for other processes such as transport, processing, etc., auditors must verify this process by observing the practices being conducted. If this is not a viable option for the site, then the company needs to be able to show documentation that the individuals are properly trained in these areas. This can be accomplished through training documents, employee interviews, and/or Certificates of Conformance. A Certificate of Conformance (COC) is a document signed or otherwise authenticated by an individual certifying the degree to which terms or services meet specified requirements. A COC may be required when third parties, for example, are used for tasks like loading or transporting.
- If the auditor observes willful acts of abuse towards the animals during the course of the audit, s/he must suspend the audit and notify the manager, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. Auditor note: unless noted otherwise, for each audit item select all boxes that apply regardless of whether the audit item is marked "Yes" or "No." For any audit item marked "No," provide reasons in the "Notes" section.

Office Records/ Management

A high degree of caring and responsible husbandry is vital to help ensure good animal welfare. Managers and caretakers must be thoroughly trained, skilled, and competent in animal husbandry and welfare. They must have a good working knowledge of their system and the animals under their care.

The following records and documentation must be made available to the auditor at the time of audit. These are to be maintained in the form of a Farm Manual. Producers may use their own forms for records or they may use the template forms that are provided on the American Humane Farm Program website: *http://www.humaneheartland.org/our-standards.*

Company Policy & Employee Code of Conduct

		Selection	Score
M1	**Company Policy** The Company Policy must be available to all personnel, in their native language. Workers must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, the Company Policy, which must include as a minimum: ❑ Emphasis of the company's commitment to providing an environment which promotes high standards of animal welfare; ❑ The implementation of a "zero-tolerance" policy which states that kicking, throwing, yelling at, purposefully scaring, and other acts of abuse towards the ducks or acts of neglect in the care of the ducks will not be tolerated and, upon the discretion of the company, these actions are grounds for immediate dismissal; and ❑ The implementation of an animal welfare "whistle blower" policy that protects employees who report animal welfare issues.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
M2	**Employee Code of Conduct** An Employee Code of Conduct must be available to all personnel, in their native language. Workers must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, this Code of Conduct, which must include as a minimum: ❑ All personnel are expected to handle the ducks in a positive and compassionate manner at all times; ❑ Each worker has the responsibility for and is expected to contribute to upholding high standards of animal welfare at all times as they perform their own duties; ❑ In addition to the worker's assigned duties, each also must be cognizant that the basic requirements such as adequate feed, water, lighting, environmental control, and bio-security must be provided to the ducks at all times, and corrective actions must be taken immediately and/or a supervisor or the farm AWO must be notified if any of these basic necessities are lacking; and ❑ All personnel must have access to the ***Animal Welfare Incident Report*** or a similar company document or company protocol (such as an 800 number) for reporting incidences. Personnel must complete and submit this document or otherwise report whenever they observe incidences related to animal welfare that cause them concern.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
M3	**Animal Welfare Officer** Each farm must have at least one designated Animal Welfare Officer (AWO). The AWO is the individual who is responsible for monitoring operations to ensure that high standards of animal welfare are being provided to the animals at all times. ➢ *Auditor note: The owner/ operator or license manager may designate him or herself as the AWO.* ➢ *Auditor note:* _____ Name/position of AWO	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Office Records & Documentation

M4	**Records of Flock Production** Comprehensive production records must be available for at least one year in electronic, graphic, or tabular form for each flock, recording performance parameters including but not limited to: ❑ Animal movement logs (incoming and outgoing flocks); ❑ Actual duck weights at mid-flock cycle (for comparison to acceptable range of duck weights to conform to production growth rates); ❑ Actual duck weights and age of flock at loading; ❑ Daily numbers of mortalities (with reasons stated, if known); ❑ Daily numbers of culls (with reasons stated); ❑ Daily numbers of ill or injured ducks (with cause of illness/ injury, if known); ❑ Feed consumption; and ❑ Drinking water consumption, and whether preening/ bathing water is supplied separately. Check if appropriate: ❑ House recording sheets are used as source records. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M5	**Building Checklists** Records must be available for at least one year for each house with the following information for all flocks previously and currently maintained in that house: ❑ Total floor area available; ❑ Total number of ducks placed in house; ❑ Target weight of ducks at loading; ❑ Total numbers of waterers and feeders; ❑ Air quality parameters and actual ammonia levels; ❑ The lighting program and actual light intensity; and ❑ Total nest area available. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

M6	**Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** SOPs must be available in regularly updated, comprehensive written instructions, in workers' native language, relating to daily, weekly, and monthly activities and procedures. Examples include but are not limited to: ❑ Daily inspections of flocks; detection of sick and injured animals, causes of illness or injury, and action taken, removal of dead animals, and causes of mortality where known; ❑ SOPs specific to operations with outdoor access, where applicable; ❑ Daily inspections of equipment, routine maintenance and cleaning, and back-up protocols, including: ❑ Feeders and feed supplies, ❑ Drinking waterers and water supplies, and ❑ Water facilities for preening/ bathing; ❑ Daily monitoring of maximum and minimum house temperatures; ❑ Daily monitoring of ventilation settings/ rates, any necessary adjustments, and periodic ammonia testing; ❑ Maintenance and management of litter; ❑ Monitoring of lighting program, including light intensity; ❑ any bio-security protocols (e.g. maintaining nets, checking rodent bait, etc.); ❑ Maintenance and testing of auxiliary power supply; ❑ Maintenance and testing of alarm systems; ❑ Maintenance and testing of automatic ventilation systems; ❑ Specific SOPs for ducklings; ❑ Catching & handling SOPs; and ❑ Any additional procedures to maintain compliance with any applicable local, state, and federal regulations. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: mark "Yes" if SOPs for miscellaneous activities and procedures are available; mark "No" if they are not.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M7	**Emergency Response Plan** The Emergency Response Plan must be available at the main office. This plan includes: ❑ Emergency information and numbers, i.e. relevant information for responders about the site as needed, contact numbers for fire department, local utilities, etc.; ❑ Procedures to help ensure that responsible individuals (and alternates, if necessary) can be notified. This should include primary and alternate contact numbers for these individual(s) responsible for reacting to emergencies, i.e. farm workers/ managers, family members, and/or owner as appropriate. *Note: it is recommended to provide contact numbers for at least three responsible workers and/or family members when possible, and a predefined calling schedule to help ensure that all responsible parties may be contacted if necessary;* and ❑ Contingency plans and precautions to cope with severe events/ emergencies in order to safeguard the welfare of the ducks, and the procedures to be followed by responsible personnel in these occurrences or by those discovering an emergency such as fire, floods, storms or other severe weather, interruption of power or water, interruption of supplies, etc. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: When barns are not located on the same property as the main office, Emergency Contact Information or the Emergency Response Plan must also be posted on the barn site. See E4.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Animal Health Plan

M8	**Animal Health Plan** A written Animal Health Plan (AHP) must be available at the main office. This plan must include: ❑ Certification or proof that the AHP has been developed in consultation with the flock veterinarian: o The flock veterinarian must sign and date the AHP; and o The AHP must be regularly, at least yearly; ❑ Records of vaccination protocols and any vaccinations; ❑ Records of treatment protocols and any treatments, including: ❑ Identification of the animal(s); ❑ The type of treatment and reason for the treatment; ❑ Dates of treatment; ❑ The types/route of administration and quantities of medications used; ❑ Details of the therapeutic use, defined as treatment, prevention and control, as allowed by current laws, of any antibiotics (including ionophores), antiparasitics, and antifungals, which includes the requirements that antibiotics, antiparasitics, and antifungals must only be used therapeutically as prescribed by the flock veterinarian; ❑ Therapeutic use must be for individual animals OR for specific groups of animals only when specified by the flock veterinarian through determination that the entire group is at high risk of contracting disease; ❑ Therapeutic use is in conformance with the latest edition of the FDA ***Judicious Use of Antimicrobials For Poultry Veterinarians*** and complies with withdrawal periods; ❑ Records of any surgical procedures; ❑ Tolerance levels for overall flock performance; ❑ Causes of morbidity and mortality where known; and ❑ Targets for other aspects of flock health. ❑ Livestock and poultry must not be implanted or injected with any growth hormone/ growth promoter or fed antibiotics (except ionophores) or fed beta-agonists for the purpose of boosting growth or feed efficiency. NOTE: Treatment must never be withheld to maintain an antibiotic-free production policy. Animals must be given appropriate treatment, including antibiotics, if prescribed by the flock veterinarian, regardless of antibiotic-free production policy.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
M9	**Flock Performance Parameters** Flock Performance Parameters must be continuously monitored for indicators of disease common to ducks or to production disorders. ❑ Tolerance limits for flock performance parameters must be identified. ❑ Monitoring of animal performance parameters must include review of records of observations made during daily inspections, AND especially the review of periodic assessment of specific health conditions (see "Inspections of Ducks"). ❑ If any flock performance parameters fall below the tolerance limits identified in the AHP, the flock veterinarian must be notified and records must be available showing that the program of action developed to remedy the problem, as defined in the AHP. Rates of inspections must be increased as necessary until parameters reach acceptable tolerances. ❑ If the mortality level within a house is in excess of 0.5% in 24 hours, the flock veterinarian must be notified and records must be available showing that a veterinary investigation was made to determine the cause. Records must describe any actions taken to remedy the problem.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

M10	**Action and Management Plans in the AHP** Records of any Action and Management Plans must be retained as part of the AHP, including but not limited to: ❑ Action plans to remedy any problems which cause animal performance parameters to fall below tolerance limits; ❑ Procedures to be followed in the event of an outbreak of abnormal behavior, including appropriate and immediate changes in the system of management, with records kept; ❑ Management plans for the prevention of suffering from chronic joint disease or leg deformation, which includes: ❑ the monitoring and assessment of daily inspection logs for culls due to leg abnormalities and/or deformities to help ensure that an increasing problem is not developing, and where found, ❑ recommendations and guidance from the flock veterinarian to alleviate/ prevent such instances; ❑ Monitoring plans for eye conditions, which includes courses of action for the mitigation of eye problems; ❑ Action plans for the mitigation/ prevention of recurring injuries seen in a number of ducks to suggest that there is a common cause and that is attributable to physical features of the environment or handling procedure (*Recurring injuries are those seen on a number of ducks, to suggest that they have common cause. Injury is described as damage severe enough for the formation of granular scar tissue or defective bones or joints, and to an extent significantly greater than would be caused by accidental bumps or scratches. Attention must be paid to foot lesions*.); and ❑ The program adopted and followed for the reduction and control of organisms that cause food safety concerns.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Nutrition Plan

M11	**Nutrition Plan** The Nutrition Plan must be available at the main office. This plan includes: ❑ Certification or proof that the diet has been developed in consultation with a qualified flock nutritionist or the flock veterinarian. ❑ The flock nutritionist/veterinarian must be identified by name. ❑ The plan must be reviewed periodically and updated as necessary. ❑ Demonstration that the diet conforms to the following requirements (such as a letter from the flock nutritionist/veterinarian or other evidence which confirms the following): ❑ The diet has been developed in accordance with guidelines provided by the most recently published National Research Council (NRC) standards; ❑ Growth hormones/ growth promoters are not used as additives to the feed in the stated formulation for the stated producer *(note: growth hormones are not permitted for use with poultry in the United States)*; and ❑ In-feed antibiotics or anti-parasitic agents are not used in the stated formulation for the stated producer, except and unless for therapeutic reasons as prescribed by an attending veterinarian and as documented in the Animal Health Plan.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

M12	The Nutrition Plan must also include: ❑ Specifications for a diet that is adjusted as appropriate to the ducks' age and strain in order to promote balanced nutrition. ❑ When changing feed type, feed intake for the ducks must be monitored to help ensure that animals do not lose weight.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M13	The Nutrition Plan must also include: ❑ Feed records that have been retained for at least one year, including: ❑ Identification of feed mills and whether they are major or minor sources of feed; and ❑ Feed constituents/ feed concentrates (minerals/amino acids, etc.) used at each site. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Lighting Program

M14	**Lighting Program** The lighting system in houses must be designed and maintained to regulate a daily cycle for all ducks 7 days or older through the course of the grow out cycle up to the last week of the grow out period. The lighting program for each house must be tested once per each flock with records on file. The lighting program must provide within each 24-hour period: ❑ A minimum continuous period of 8 hours of light; ❑ The daytime light levels must be an average minimum 20 lux (2 foot-candles) at the ducks' head height throughout the house, excluding areas in the shade of equipment. ❑ Supplemental lighting, where provided, must be uniformly distributed throughout the house. ❑ A minimum period of 6 hours of darkness or the natural period of darkness, if less. (*Note: 'Darkness' refers to lighting that has been dimmed to allow ducks to rest.)* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Lighting and light intensity must also be evaluated on-site. See E15-E17.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**

Bio-security & Sanitation Plans

M15	**Bio-security Plan, Structural/Access** The structural bio-security plan must be available and include as a minimum: ❑ Description and maintenance of physical methods for discouraging pests, predators, and wild ducks. *Such as overhead netting in yards (where required for outside access for ducks), screening of drains/vents/ openings, etc.;* ❑ Description of company bio-security policies and procedures for employees; ❑ Description of the policies and procedures for the deterrence of unapproved visitors; and ❑ Descriptions of the policies and procedures for approved visitors including the logging of all approved visitors. Non-farm personnel are not permitted on the site unless approved by farm managers, and unless appropriate precautions have been taken, including compliance with the company policy on "downtime" i.e. time away from contact with other poultry. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: The implementation of the structural bio-security policies and procedures must be evaluated on-site. See E2.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M16	**Bio-security Plan, Operational** The operational bio-security plan must be available and include as a minimum: ❑ The maintenance of outdoor areas adjacent to surrounding buildings to keep vegetation short and tidy within at least 24" from the house (i.e. removing vegetation that provides shelter to pests and predators); ❑ Descriptions of policies and procedures for the deterrence and control of pests and predators, maintenance schedules and personnel responsible for baiting and trapping, etc.; ❑ The removal of feed sources and the protection of bulk feed and water supplies to reduce the attraction of pests, rodents, mold, etc.; ❑ The protocols for personnel working with older flocks to limit contact with young ducks; and ❑ The provision and maintenance of protective clothing, foot baths, and/or shower facilities for workers, where appropriate. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: The implementation of the operational bio-security policies and procedures must be evaluated on-site. See E3.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M17	**Cleaning and Sanitation Plan** The Cleaning and Sanitation Plan must be available as part of the overall health plan and must include: ❑ Details for routine/ scheduled cleaning and sanitation procedures and cleaning and sanitation procedures between flocks; and ❑ Records indicating a standard minimum layout period of 5-7 days between flocks, unless and except for special circumstances (with reasons given) only under approval from the flock veterinarian. ❑ Where recommended by the flock veterinarian, houses must be tested negative from infectious agents as specified in the Animal Health Plan.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M18	**Waste Disposal Plan** Each farm must maintain a Waste Disposal Plan that details protocols for the safe and proper disposal of medical waste (such as vaccination bottles, medication, gloves, etc.), sharps, carcasses, and other waste that poses a potential threat to animal and human health and safety.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Specific SOPs for Ducklings

M19	Ducklings must be inspected a minimum of twice daily with records of inspections kept.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M20	❑ Ducklings must be placed on reasonably clean and well-maintained litter or other appropriate substrate, such as plastic-coated perforated wire or slatted flooring. ❑ Substrate provided in the brooder area must be similar to that of the main house.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M21	**Thermal Environment & Brooders** ❑ Day old ducklings must be handled carefully and placed in an appropriate environment for thermal conditions. ❑ The brooder environment must be sheltered to minimize drafts at duckling level. (*Select only if applicable)*: ❑ If the brooder area is unable to maintain optimum thermal conditions for the ducklings, supplemental heat (such as brooder heaters) must be used. Where used: ❑ Placement and maintenance of supplemental heat must minimize risk of fire and noxious emissions (such as CO, CO_2, etc.) at the level of the ducklings. ❑ Brooder area design must allow ducklings to move freely towards or away from the heaters. ❑ The behavior of the ducklings must be closely monitored throughout the brooding period and the heaters adjusted accordingly (i.e. when all of the ducklings are huddled, it is too cold; when all are at the perimeter of the brooder, it is too hot; when all are clustered to one side, it is too drafty.)	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M22	**Lighting** The lighting program used for the ducklings must be recorded. ❑ The average minimum lighting for newborn ducklings must be 25 lux (2.3 foot-candles) for the first three to four days. ❑ After the first day, ducklings must be given a minimum 1 hour of continuous darkness (defined as 2 lux or less), and each day thereafter the dark period should be increased an additional hour per day up to 6 hours. *It is recommended that light levels be increased during the first week to help the ducklings locate the feed and water, and that for the first day, light is provided for 24 hours. For each day thereafter there is an increase of 1 hour of darkness until 6 hours of darkness is reached on the seventh day.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M23	Supplementary feed trays, in addition to the permanent feeders, must be provided as necessary during the first week of life.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M24	❑ Supplementary waterers, in addition to the permanent waterers, must be provided as necessary during the first week of life. ❑ The design of waterers must limit the possibility of ducklings drowning or from becoming wet prior to the development of waterproofing on their feathers.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M25	Feeding, watering, lighting, and management regimes must be similar to those in the main house to allow the ducklings to adapt (if the ducklings are to be moved to a different house for grow out.).	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M26	Premises and equipment must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before placing new ducklings. (Re: “Cleaning and Sanitation Plans”)	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Exterior Access SOPs

*The **American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards for Ducks** provide specifications for different types of systems including those where ducks have access to the exterior. If the production system provides the ducks with access to the exterior, the following guidelines must be met.*

M27	**Management of Exterior Access**
	Where ducks have access to the outside, Exterior Access SOPs must be available and include as a minimum:
	❑ Inspection of the ducks and the outdoor facilities, conducted twice daily as a minimum;
	❑ Maintenance of shade and shelter; and
	❑ Maintenance of any methods to discourage predators, wild birds, and rodents.
	
	Additionally for Outside Runs/ Porches/ Winter Gardens:
	❑ *(Select the following if applicable)* If dust-bathing environment for ducks is provided outdoors, maintenance of suitable substrate for dust-bathing, with access allowed for at least 4 hours every day;
	❑ *(Select the following if applicable)* Where outdoor runs are provided with a cover of living vegetation, SOPs must:
	  ❑ Include provisions for the maintenance and active management to remedy damaged or sodden ground and allow the vegetation to regrow in order to provide an appropriate cover of living vegetation; and
	❑ Where outdoor runs are not provided a cover of living vegetation, SOPs must:
	  ❑ Include provisions for the maintenance and cleaning of exterior substrate.
	Additionally for Free-Range and Pasture:
	(Select only as applicable):
	❑ For mobile housing units, schedule for rotation of mobile housing; and for permanent housing, schedule of pasture rotation;
	❑ Maintenance to allow vegetation to regrow where the climate allows;
	❑ Maintenance and active management of land to remedy damaged or sodden ground. No more than 20% of the area may be denuded; and
	❑ Maintenance of shade structures and fencing.
	
	➢ *Auditor note: Where ducks are provided access to the exterior, the physical condition of the exterior space must be evaluated on-site. See E23-E27.*
		❍ **Yes**
		❍ **No**
		❍ **N/A**
			__ /10

M28	**Exterior Access Policy** The Exterior Access Policy must be available and state that: ❑ Ducks kept in systems with exterior access must be introduced to the outdoor areas by four weeks of age unless the ducks are well feathered before that time. (*Note: Upon introduction to outdoor conditions, young ducklings should be guided towards food, water, and shelter if necessary*.) ❑ Schedule for when ducks have access to the exterior, i.e. daily procedures for opening/ closing popholes, with continuous access to the outdoor areas during daylight hours weather permitting and records and SOPs demonstrating that the ducks are not being exposed to temperatures outside their thermal neutral zone. ❑ Access must be provided for a minimum of 8 hours each day, except when the natural daylight period is less. ❑ All exit areas must normally be open for this time, except when this is precluded by inclement weather conditions. ❑ Protection must be provided from predators, and ducks must be closed in the house or mobile shelter at night. ❑ Access to drinking water is provided. ❑ Restrictions to the access of the total required area must be temporary for resting/reseeding/management of ground and/or as scheduled per the defined rotation program. *Note: Under situations of high risk for avian influenza or other highly pathogenic infectious diseases, ducks can remain indoors as recommended by the veterinarian.* For free range and pasture-based systems, there must be demonstration or proof that the location of the free range or pasture-based system provides local climatic conditions suitable for ducks to access the exterior for the majority of the year, and permits the outdoor area to be provided with a substantial cover of living vegetation: ❑ Records must be available for at least one year documenting the number of days that it was necessary to secure the ducks indoors due to inappropriate weather conditions. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" for this bullet if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.* ❑ The daily records must show that the number of individual days for which it was necessary to secure the ducks indoors due to unacceptable weather conditions did not exceed 90 days in total. (*I.e., records must show that weather conditions were acceptable for providing ducks with access to the outdoor area for at least 275 days of the year.)* Note: The 90-day total does not include any days in which the ducks were secured indoors per the recommendation of the flock veterinarian due to a specific disease risk or other health concern. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>:* _____ Number of days for which it was necessary to secure ducks indoors due to unacceptable weather conditions.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/10**

Catching & Handling/ Transportation SOPs

	Catching & Handling and Transportation SOPs must be available and focus on maintaining high standards of animal welfare during loading and transport and minimize time in transport. (See “Transport” section)	***Refer to “Transport” Section for Scoring***	***/-***

Processing Plant SOPs

	Processing Plant SOPs must be available and focus on maintaining high standards of animal welfare during unloading, shackling, stunning, and bleeding. (See “Processing” section)	***Refer to “Processing” Section for Scoring***	***/-***

Records of Personnel Training

The continuing education of personnel who have day-to-day contact with the animals is one of the most important ways to help ensure behaviors that support and promote animal welfare. It is important to have documentation confirming personnel training in aspects of flock welfare appropriate to the level of operation.

M29	**Training Documentation** *Note: applies to <u>all training</u> in this section "Records of Personnel Training"* Personnel must be provided training at orientation, as well as yearly updates/ refresher courses, opportunities for continuing education and professional development, and specialized training in aspects of animal welfare appropriate to the level of operation. For all training of personnel: ❑ Training must be presented in the workers' native language. ❑ Training may include videos, manuals, classroom settings, online instruction, etc. as appropriate. ❑ Training must include review of applicable company SOPs and 'hands-on' experience and evaluations. ❑ Training must include review of the ***American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards*** to confirm personnel are familiar with and understand the content. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" for this bullet if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.* ❑ Training must clearly define each worker's duties and responsibilities. ❑ Training records must be signed by both the trainer and the trainee, and include the training topic (i.e. orientation, yearly update/refresher course, specialized training, etc.) as well as the training date.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M30	**Training for All Personnel** Prior to being given responsibility for the welfare of the ducks, all personnel must be properly trained. As a minimum, the training program for all personnel in direct contact with the ducks must include the following topics: ❑ Knowing the normal behavior of ducks, recognizing deviations from normal flock activity and the flock, and recognizing the signs that indicate good health and welfare, so that they are able to recognize the signs of any impending problem in the earliest stages; ❑ Knowing the proper way handle ducks in a manner which minimizes unnecessary stress; ❑ Recognizing the signs of abnormal behavior and fear; ❑ Understanding the physical and environmental requirements for ducks; ❑ Recognizing the signs of common diseases, and being familiar with the appropriate actions for treatment that will be taken by responsible personnel; ❑ Understanding the factors that affect litter condition (i.e. moisture, nitrogen content, and slippery, caked litter), and identifying welfare problems associated with poor litter management (e.g. burnt hocks, foot pad lesions, and breast blisters); and ❑ Knowing the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency, i.e. the Emergency Response Plan.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

M31	**Specialized Training of Personnel** Documentation must be available showing that personnel have been appropriately trained to perform specialized duties, with emphasis on optimizing health and animal welfare, and minimizing pain and distress to the animals. Prior to performing any procedures that have the potential to cause suffering, the worker must be able to demonstrate proficiency in performing those procedures. Specialized training includes but is not limited to: ❑ Specific training in the correct procedures for performing inspections of the ducks; identifying which ducks are to be culled/ euthanized and recognizing unusual conditions or behaviors; and the appropriate and timely remedial actions to be taken, either by the direct action of the worker or through the notification of the responsible personnel: ❑ Sick ducks or ducks suffering from injury such as open wounds or fractures must be treated immediately, and any ducks suffering from injuries must be segregated and treated or must be euthanized immediately. ❑ If the duck is suffering in uncontrollable pain, or if the duck will not recover, then it must be immediately euthanized by qualified personnel. ❑ All culls due to leg abnormalities and/or deformities must be recorded daily, and incidence must be assessed weekly to help ensure that an increasing problem is not developing. ❑ Where such a problem is identified, veterinary guidance must be sought to alleviate/prevent further deaths. ❑ Specific training for those who are responsible for the care of ducklings in the brooder area; ❑ Specific training in how to assess common signs of the health of individual ducks and the flock, as well as how to conduct gait scoring; ❑ Specific training and certification of each worker's proficiency in approved techniques for euthanasia; ❑ Specific training and orientation for personnel responsible for any equipment on which the ducks depend, including: ❑ recognizing normal operation of the equipment; ❑ operating the equipment competently (e.g., heaters, lighting, ventilation, flaps/fans); ❑ carrying out routine maintenance to help ensure that the equipment is kept in good working order; routine maintenance; ❑ recognizing common signs of malfunction; and ❑ carrying out any actions in the event of failures.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
-	**Training of Catch and Transport Crews** The training of catch and transport crews must be documented and full, detailed, written instructions must be available and provided to all crew members. (See "Transport" Sections)	***Refer to "Transport" Section for Scoring***	**/-**
-	**Training of Processing Plant Crews** Task-specific training of processing plant crews must be documented and all members of the crews must be provided full, detailed, written instructions. (See "Processing" Section)	***Refer to "Processing" Section for Scoring***	**/-**

M32	**Training of Outside Workers** The training of crews outside the producer's control (transport crews, processing crews, etc.) must be documented to confirm familiarity with and conformance to the standards herein. ❑ Training must be validated through employee documents and/or Certificates of Conformance. ❑ Outside workers must be held to the same standards of humane care as the company employees. All workers must sign and date the "Employee Code of Conduct" as described in M2, or a similar code of conduct.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Inspections of Ducklings and Ducks

M33	Records must be kept on file for a minimum of one year showing that the ducks and facilities are inspected a minimum of twice daily. Inspections must include monitoring the overall health of the flock, including but not limited to: ❑ Body condition, including plumage, eyes, skin, bill, legs, & feet; ❑ Behavior patterns; ❑ Respiration; ❑ Presence of external parasites; and ❑ Appearance of droppings. Records of inspections must: ❑ Identify the person performing the inspection, and the time (i.e. AM/PM) and date of the inspection; ❑ The numbers of mortalities with reasons stated, if known; and ❑ The numbers of culls, with reasons stated. ❑ The number of sick or injured ducks, and where known, causes of illness or injury. ❑ The worker performing the inspections must proceed in a careful, deliberate manner to avoid frightening the ducks unnecessarily, and must follow a path that allows them to see all of the individual ducks in the house. *Work routines must accustom the ducks to human presence. The workers must take care to avoid frightening the ducks in avoidable ways, such as by making loud noises, surprising the ducks, making sudden movements, etc. "Flip-overs" must be righted as needed.* ❑ During inspections or at any other time, if any duckling or duck is found to be in severe pain or is suffering from severe sickness or injury (for example, it walks with obvious difficulty and cannot travel more than 5 feet without needing to sit) then the ducks must be immediately euthanized by approved (trained) personnel. ❑ Welfare issues noted during inspections must be addressed immediately as necessary to limit the spread of the issue and reduce unnecessary pain and distress to the ducks. Where significant welfare issues are noted, the frequency of inspections must be increased until conditions return to normal. ❑ Mortalities found during inspections or at any other time must be removed promptly and disposed of properly. *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

M34	**Records of Gait Scoring/ Lameness** Records must be kept on file for a minimum of one year of Gait Scoring (conducted by the Producer in the last two weeks at the end of each flock cycle): ❑ 85% or more of all ducks must have a Gait Score of 0 on a 0-2 point scale based on the following scoring system*: o Best Gait. There are no obvious signs of problems. The duck is able to waddle without obvious impediments. (At least 85% of flock must have a Gait Score of 0.) o Moderate Gait. The duck waddles with a labored walk or slight limp. ❑ Poor Gait. The duck is reluctant to waddle. Euthanasia must be considered for ducks in this category. ❑ Where records show that less than 85% of a flock had a Gait Score of 0, there must be documentation available of the corrective actions that the producer took to improve the Gait Score for subsequent flocks. *Note: Gait Scoring should be performed after the daily inspection of the ducks has occurred. Therefore, at scoring there should be no ducks with a Gait Score of 2.* *Method: At 4 separate, random locations in the house, select 25 ducks to observe and record the Gait Score.* *Auditor note: Score "Yes" to this item if flock records show that at least 85% of ducks had a Gait Score of 0, and/or if records show that when less than 85% of ducks had a Gait Score of 0, the producer implemented corrective actions to improve the Gait Score for subsequent flocks. Otherwise, score "No" to this item.* *Reference: Assessing the Waddle: An Evaluation of a 3-point scoring system for ducks, Makagon, Woolley, and Karcher; 2015 Poultry Science 94: 1729-1734 ➢ *<u>Auditor note:</u> gait observations must also be performed on site on the day of the audit. See E28.* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Mark "N/A" if the producer is new (within 12 months of initial certification) to American Humane Certified™.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	___ **/10**

Inspections & Maintenance of Equipment

M35	**Equipment Inspections** Manual or automatic equipment that is essential to duck welfare, such as waterers, feeders, and fans, must be inspected on a daily basis. Personnel must also perform routine, scheduled maintenance as defined in the SOPs, and records of any required maintenance must be kept. Where a defect is found (whether on inspection or at any other time): ❑ It must be repaired immediately, with records kept of the nature of the defect and how the defect was repaired; or ❑ If the defect cannot be repaired immediately, the records must detail the measures as specified in the SOPs that the worker followed in order to safeguard the ducks from suffering unnecessary pain or distress as a result of the defect. Records must show that these measures were maintained until the defect was repaired. ❑ Routine maintenance must be performed per the equipment manufacturer's recommendations, with records kept.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M36	**Inspections of Water Systems** Records must be kept showing the following: ❑ Water availability is checked daily, which includes checking that drinkers are dispensing water (i.e. are not clogged or damaged); ❑ Water lines are flushed between flock cycles, or more often as necessary to reduce contaminants, especially for preening water.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M37	**Inspections of Auxiliary Power Supply** ❑ Records must be kept showing that an auxiliary power supply (such as a standby generator) is available on-site and is tested weekly under load (unless the manufacturer recommendations are available which state otherwise) with the outcome of the test documented. ❑ Records must show that the auxiliary power supply has sufficient capacity to operate critical equipment such as fans, feeders, waterers, and lights for the duration of the outage. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: an Auxiliary Power Supply is not required for sites that rely on manually operated equipment. Where it is required, the auditor must confirm that the Auxiliary Power Supply is available on site and functional. See E11.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
M38	**Inspections of Alarm Systems** ❑ For controlled environment houses, records must be kept showing that alarm systems (audible & remote) are tested monthly, with the outcome of the test documented. ❑ Records must show that the alarm systems are operational even if the principal electricity has failed. *Alarm systems must be installed and functional for giving notification in the event of an emergency (e.g. during a power failure, high temperatures, water failure, etc.)* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Alarms are not required for sites that rely on manually operated equipment. For controlled environment houses, the auditor must confirm that alarm systems are available on site and functional. See E12.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

M39	**Ventilation & Environmental Controls** ❑ Maximum and minimum temperatures and relative humidity must be monitored and recorded daily at duck head height at several locations (at least at the center and both ends) in the house. ❑ Temperate and humidity levels must fall within recommended and acceptable guidelines for the ducks. ❑ Ventilation equipment must be checked daily and maintained for proper operation to satisfy air quality parameters. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Environmental conditions must also be evaluated on site on the day of the audit. See E13.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
M40	**Automatic Ventilation Systems** Automatic ventilation systems in controlled environment houses must include: ❑ Documentation on ventilation system that includes information on design, capacity and CFM rating. A backup plan must be in place to safeguard ducks from suffering pain or distress as a result of a malfunction of the ventilation equipment. ❑ An alarm that will give adequate warning of the failure of that system to function properly. The alarm must operate even if the principle electricity supply to it has failed. ❑ Additional equipment or means of ventilation (whether automatic or not) which, in the event of such a failure of the ventilation system, will provide adequate ventilation so as to prevent the ducks from suffering unnecessary distress as a result of the failure. ❑ Automatic side curtains, if installed, must open automatically in the event of complete power failure or dangerously high temperature, with record of doing so. Side curtains must be functional and tested. *<u>Auditor note</u>: Select ONLY as appropriate above. Mark "Yes" if the SOPs require the side curtains be opened manually in the event of an emergency condition e.g. extreme temperature (for manual side curtains) OR if the permitted procedures are performed per the above noted requirements. Otherwise, mark "No" with reasons given.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

M41	**Producer Monitoring and Records of Ammonia Levels** The SOPs must specify a program for minimum ventilation requirements to maintain air quality parameters and limit levels of noxious gases and dust in the house. The SOPs must specify measures to be taken to mitigate excess levels of ammonia or other noxious gas levels, i.e. replacing wet litter, increasing ventilation, etc. Records must be available showing: ❑ Ammonia levels, measured by the producer at the height of the ducks at multiple locations in the house, must not exceed 25 parts per million (ppm), and ideally should be maintained at less than 10 ppm. ❑ Results of tests of ammonia levels, measured at duckling placement and weekly thereafter, with the final measurement taken one week prior to loading. (See "Litter Maintenance Plan" below also.) ❑ If any ammonia test result was in excess of 25 ppm, records must show that a program of ammonia mitigation was implemented. Along with a description of the steps taken to reduce ammonia levels, records must show that testing was performed daily until ammonia levels dropped below 25 ppm. *Note: Provisions must be made to help ensure that aerial contaminants do not reach a level at which they are noticeably unpleasant to a human observer. Ammonia levels are to be maintained at less than 10 ppm wherever possible.* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Air quality and ammonia levels must be evaluated on-site on the day of the audit. See E14.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
M42	**Litter Maintenance Plan** The Litter Maintenance Plan must be available detailing proper maintenance of litter quality. ❑ Litter must not be present in areas immediately surrounding any provided water facilities. ❑ Litter must be of an appropriate material and size, be kept at a sufficient depth for the dilution of feces and be managed in a friable and dry but not dusty condition. ❑ Litter that is infested with lice or otherwise harmfully contaminated must be removed immediately from the house and replaced. ❑ Wet litter resulting from accidental flooding or any other cause must be removed from the house and replaced. *Wet litter will release water when squeezed by the hand.* ❑ If litter is tilled, ventilation rates must be adjusted as long as necessary immediately after tilling to mitigate the temporary increase in ammonia levels. *Personnel must be aware of the welfare problems associated with poor litter management and understand the factors that affect litter condition (i.e. moisture, nitrogen content and slippery, caked litter.) See Training of Personnel.* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: The specifications for litter are under review by American Humane, pending additional research. If litter is provided in the house, the producer must have a Litter Maintenance Plan. If litter is not provided, please state this in the "Notes" section and score this item as "N/A".* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: Where litter is present, litter quality must be evaluated on-site on the day of the audit. See E21-E22.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Policy for Husbandry Procedures

M43	**Policy for Procedures** Only procedures specifically approved by American Humane are permitted. Procedures must be performed by properly trained personnel using appropriate, well-maintained equipment in a manner that minimizes pain and distress and optimizes recovery. ➢ *Auditor note: select only as applicable for each section below:* Egg Tooth (Pipping Tooth) Trimming: Egg tooth trimming of ducks is permitted only as a preemptive measure to mitigate the risks of injurious pecking if egg teeth are left intact. ❑ Egg tooth trimming is NOT performed. (*If egg tooth trimming is NOT performed, select this bullet and skip to Wing-clipping below.*) **OR** ❑ Egg tooth trimming is performed due to a concern about injurious pecking. ❑ Egg tooth trimming must result in the removal of no more than the egg tooth from the tip of the beak by properly trained and validated personnel using appropriate, well-maintained equipment specifically designed for egg tooth trimming. ❑ Egg tooth trimming must be performed within the first 24 hours using a cauterizing blade or infrared equipment. Wing-clipping: Wing-clipping of ducks is prohibited as a matter of course. Only where necessary to inhibit flying, the flight feathers of one wing only are permitted to be clipped. Any other alteration of the wing is prohibited. ❑ Wing-clipping is NOT performed. *(If wing-clipping is NOT performed, select this bullet and skip to Claw-trimming below.*) **OR** ❑ Wing-clipping is performed only as a measure to inhibit flight by clipping only the flight feathers from only from one wing. Claw-trimming: The practice of claw-trimming is prohibited. *Claw-trimming of meat ducks is an uncommon practice.* ❑ Claw-trimming is NOT performed. ➢ *Auditor note: Select ONLY as appropriate above. Mark "Yes" if the procedures are either not performed at all, OR if the permitted procedures are performed per the noted requirements. Otherwise, mark "No" with reasons given. Do not mark "N/A".*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/25**

Euthanasia Policy

M44	The Euthanasia Policy must include provisions for routine euthanasia (culls) and emergency euthanasia (incl. mass disposal during disease outbreaks such as highly pathogenic avian influenza.) Euthanasia and disposal of carcasses must be consistent with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
	
	A Euthanasia Policy must be available which includes provisions for humane and timely, routine and emergency, euthanasia. This policy must include:
	
	❑ Only properly trained farm personnel or the flock veterinarian are permitted to perform euthanasia.
	❑ Training records which identify: the names of the personnel who have undergone training; the name of the trainer; the specific method(s) of euthanasia covered in the training; confirmation that the trainees' competence in performing the procedure was validated by the trainer, including proper techniques and proper use of any equipment; and the date(s) that the training occurred. *Trained personnel should be able to demonstrate proper use of equipment and proper techniques to the auditor.*
	❑ Procedures stating that:
	  ❑ If there is any doubt as to whether euthanasia is required: the veterinarian or properly trained personnel must be called at an early stage to advise whether treatment is possible; OR
	  ❑ If the veterinarian or properly trained personnel determine that an animal is in severe, uncontrollable pain, or is unable to move on its own accord, then the animal must be promptly and humanely euthanized to prevent further suffering.
	❑ For euthanasia methods requiring equipment: records showing that equipment has been maintained per the manufacturer's recommendations and that it is stored securely, protected, and kept clean.
	❑ The approved methods of euthanasia that are to be used for each age group of animals and under what circumstances, i.e. for routine culling or for emergency euthanasia for flocks. These methods must be performed promptly to prevent further suffering and must comply with the latest edition of the American Veterinary Medical Association's ***AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals.***
	❑ The farm performs the following approved methods of on-farm euthanasia (*select only as applicable*):
	  ❑ Cervical dislocation, to be used for euthanizing a very small number of ducks not weighing more than 8 or 9 pounds. Cervical dislocation involves stretching the neck to dislocate the first vertebrae in the neck from the skull and cause extensive damage to the major blood vessels. <u>Use of equipment that crushes the neck rather than dislocates the spine, such as pliers, is never acceptable practice.</u>
	  ❑ Electrical stunning, immediately followed by neck cutting.
	  ❑ Any other method approved by the AVMA (*describe in "Notes"*).
	❑ Procedures stating that the persons performing euthanasia must verify that each duck has been properly euthanized. If necessary, the same method or an alternate method must be performed immediately to help ensure that the animal does not suffer.
	❑ For situations other than routine culls, logs stating the reason for euthanasia, numbers of ducks euthanized, the date, and the procedure used.
	❑ Procedures for the prompt, proper disposal of carcasses, and records of the name of the outlet through which all such carcasses are disposed, unless carcasses are disposed of on-farm, in which case records must be kept of the disposal method as part of the Waste Disposal Plan. Disposal must meet all state, local, and/or federal regulations.
	
	<u>Nothing stated here is intended to discourage the prompt diagnosis and appropriate treatment of any ill or injured animal.</u>
		❍ **Yes**
		❍ **No**
		❍ **N/A**
			__ /50

On-Site/ Feed & Water

Ducks and ducklings must be free from unnecessary hunger, thirst, and malnutrition by being provided a wholesome diet and continuous access (until the start of catching) to fresh water to maintain their full health, prevent hunger, thirst, and malnutrition, and promote a positive state of well-being. Feed and water must be distributed in a manner that allows the ducks to eat and drink without undue competition.

Feed

		Selection	Score
FW1	**Access to Feed & Feed Space** ❑ Ducks must be fed a wholesome diet in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and to satisfy their nutritional needs. Ducks must have sufficient access to nutritious feed each day unless otherwise required by the flock veterinarian, or when they are being prepared for transport. Per each duck, there must be a minimum: ❑ 0.20" of feeder space per duck. Feeders must be: ❑ Designed to allow the ducks to readily scoop the feed; ❑ Placed at the appropriate height for the size and age of the ducks; and ❑ Located so that all ducks have access to feed without undue competition from other ducks. *Note: Supplemental feed must be provided in trays or on paper for ducklings for the first several days. Re: M23*. ❑ <u>Tube-feeding/ gavage is prohibited</u> for any reason except as explicitly noted following. *(Select only if applicable:)* ❑ Tube-feeding/ gavage may be performed only per the specific prescription and supervision of a veterinarian who has determined that tube-feeding/ gavage using appropriate equipment is necessary for therapeutic reasons for an individual duck(s). Records must be kept of all instances of tube-feeding including: ❑ The name of the individual who has been properly trained using appropriate equipment. ❑ The name of the prescribing veterinarian and the reason for prescribing tube-feeding. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>:* _____ Calculated length and type of feed trough per duck (e.g. '***0.21" of DS trough per adult duck'***)	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/50**
FW2	Feed must be fresh and appear to be of good quality. It must not be left in a contaminated (i.e. moldy, wet, soiled with rodent feces, etc.) or stale condition.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/3**
FW3	**Even Distribution of Feeders** Feed must be distributed evenly throughout the housing system to minimize competition among the ducks. Ducks must not have to travel more than 22 yards (20 meters) to access feed in the house. Note: it is acceptable for small areas of the house to be further from the feeders, such as at the ends of long houses and in corners.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/3**

Drinking Water

FW4	**Access to Drinking Water** ❑ Ducks must have unrestricted and continuous access to an adequate supply of clean, fresh drinking water at all times, unless otherwise required by the flock veterinarian. Drinkers must be provided at the following rates *(select only as applicable)*: ❑ Nipples: ❑ 1 nipple per every 15 ducks. **OR** ❑ Other rate as specified in documentation from the drinker manufacturer (*provide specifics below*) ❑ Water troughs: ❑ 0.20" of water trough space per duck. *NOTE- where water troughs are intended to also satisfy the preening requirement, they must be wide and deep enough to allow a duck to dunk its head to preen. See additional requirements stated in FW9.* ❑ Open water baths: ❑ 0.20" of open water bath space per duck. *NOTE- open water baths must be designed in full consideration to the ducks' desire to preen. Open water troughs must be provided at the rate noted here, and also meet additional requirements stated in FW9.* *Note: Supplemental drinkers must be provided for ducklings as needed for the first several days and meet other requirements as noted. Re: M24.* ➢ *Auditor note*: _____ Calculated amount of drinker space or type per duck (e.g. '***0.22" double-sided drinker/ duck***' *or* '***1 nipple per 14.7 ducks***')	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /50**
FW5	The drinking water supply must be clean and fresh. Drinking water must not be allowed to remain in a contaminated or stale condition, and especially in the case of water used for both drinking and preening, troughs and baths must be monitored and maintained.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
FW6	Drinkers must be placed at the optimum height and be an appropriate design for the size and age of the ducks per manufacturer guidelines.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
FW7	**Even Distribution of Drinkers** Drinkers must be distributed evenly throughout the housing system to minimize competition among the ducks. Ducks must not have to travel more than 22 yards (20 meters) to access drinking water in the house. Note: it is acceptable for small areas of the house to be further from the drinkers, such as at the ends of long houses and in corners.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
FW8	**Emergency Drinking Water Supply** On-site provisions must be in place to provide clean, fresh drinking water for the duration of the outage during a shut-off or failure of the main water supply, including freezing conditions.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Preening (Bathing) Water

FW9	**Access to Preening Water** Ducks must have unrestricted access to an adequate supply of clean water to allow them to immerse their heads, to preen and to condition their feathers. Troughs, baths, or other devices/equipment can be used to fulfill this requirement and must be provided over a large area to allow all ducks to freely preen. *Auditor note: If the answer to this question is "No", mark FW10, FW11, and FW12 as "N/A".*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
FW10	❑ Water for preening must be monitored and maintained for cleanliness and not allowed to remain in a contaminated or stale condition. ❑ Where used, open water baths must be cleaned out daily.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
FW11	Water facilities for preening must be easily accessible to the ducks, especially ducklings that have developed waterproofing on their feathers. The height of the facility must be adjusted as needed for the size and age of the duck/duckling.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
FW12	Water facilities for preening must be located, designed, and maintained to minimize spilling and excessive wetting of the surrounding areas, especially litter. ❑ The facilities must be placed on slats or a perforated mat to help drain excess water. ❑ Excess water from the water facilities must be channeled to drains and not allowed to pond or excessively wet the adjacent litter. *Litter that is excessively wet will release water when firmly compressed, such as by the foot.* ❑ Preening water facilities must have a stable design so that water does not easily spill or slosh out when in use by the ducks. *As examples: the troughs should not sway, the sides of baths should have a stiffened top edge to limit warping, and water should be filled below the rim*.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

On-Site/ Environment

The ducks' environment must take into account their welfare needs and be designed to help protect them from unnecessary physical and thermal discomfort, fear, and distress, and allow them to perform their natural behaviors. All equipment and fixtures must be selected, installed, and maintained to optimize the well-being of the flocks. The ducks must be protected from unnecessary pain, injury, and disease, and their environment must be conducive to good health.

Auditor Evaluation of Buildings & Environmental Safety

		Selection	Score
E1	A written or electronic copy of the current ***American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards for Meat Ducks*** must be available on-site as a reference for all personnel in the facility.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

E2	**Auditor Evaluation of Bio-security Implementation, Structural/Access**
	The auditor must confirm that structural bio-security policies have been implemented as demonstrated on-site by:
	❑ Physical methods for the deterrence of pests, predators, and wild birds must be in place and in good condition, which may include: perimeter fencing, overhead netting in yards (where there is outside access for ducks), screening of drains/ vents/ openings, and other physical methods;
	❑ Physical methods/ controls for approved visitors and the deterrence of unapproved visitors must be in place, including:
	  ❑ Signs posted at the farm and/or house entrances that provide instructions and information for farm personnel and approved visitors regarding bio-security procedures;
	  ❑ Physical methods to deter entry such as property gates and/or secured houses and/or fences etc.; and
	  ❑ Logging of all approved visitors. *Logs should include the statement that non-farm personnel are not permitted on the site except by approval from farm managers, and unless appropriate precautions have been taken, including compliance with the company policy on 'downtime', i.e. time away from contact with non-farm birds.*
		❍ **Yes**
		❍ **No**
		❍ **N/A**
			__ /10

E3	**Auditor Evaluation of Bio-security Implementation, Operational** The auditor must confirm that operational bio-security policies have been implemented as demonstrated on-site by: ❑ The vegetation adjacent to surrounding buildings in outdoor areas must be in a short and tidy condition within at least 24" from the house; ❑ Pest control methods such as baiting and trapping must be in place and functional; ❑ Bulk feed and emergency water sources are covered and protected, and other potential attractants of pests, rodents, mold, etc. are removed (i.e. there are no visible open trash cans with food waste or other items not necessary to the operation of the house); and ❑ Protective clothing, foot baths, and/or shower facilities for workers and approved visitors must be provided, where appropriate.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

E4	**Emergency Contact Information (or Emergency Response Plan)** Emergency Contact Information or the Emergency Response Plan must be posted at the entrances to all houses or at an on-site central location, with the exception that emergency information may be posted at a central office or the main office if the office is <u>located on the same site</u> as the facility. This must include: ❑ Emergency information and numbers, i.e. relevant information for the responders about the site as needed, contact number for fire department, local utilities, etc.; ❑ Procedures to help ensure that responsible individuals (and alternates, if necessary) can be notified. This should include primary and alternate contact numbers for these individual(s) responsible for reacting to emergencies, i.e. farm workers/ managers, family members, and/or owner as appropriate. *Note: it is recommended to provide contact numbers for at least three responsible workers and/or family members when possible, and a predefined calling schedule to help ensure that all responsible parties may be contacted if necessary;* and ❑ Contingency plans and precautions to cope with emergencies in order to safeguard the welfare of the animals, and the procedures to be followed by those discovering an emergency such as fire, floods, storms or other severe weather, interruption of power or water, etc. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: If the house is located on the same property as the main office, Emergency Contact Information or the Emergency Response Plan may be posted at the main office instead of the house. See M7.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
E5	Housing and equipment must be designed so that the ducks can be readily viewed during daily observations.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
E6	The physical environment must take into consideration the safety of the ducks, including but not limited to: ❑ There must be no sharp edges, projections, protrusions, damaged partitions, etc. that are likely to cause injury or distress to the ducks. ❑ The ducks must present no injuries attributable to physical features of their environment, or to handling procedures.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
E7	Electrical equipment must be: ❑ Inaccessible to the ducks; ❑ Well-insulated and properly grounded; ❑ Safeguarded from rodents; and ❑ Regularly tested for stray voltage.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
E8	Except for preservatives with an insecticidal control, ducks must have no possibility to coming into contact with paints, wood preservatives, disinfectants, or other toxins.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
E9	❑ The house design must allow for effective cleaning to prevent the significant buildup of parasites and other pathogens. ❑ Internal walls must be smooth and constructed of a durable material capable of withstanding cleanout procedures.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
E10	Where used, euthanasia equipment must show no obvious signs of neglect, i.e. rust, dirt and grime, and must be stored in a secure location protected from the elements.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Auditor Confirmation of Auxiliary Power & Alarm Systems

E11	**Auditor Confirmation of Auxiliary Power Supply** The auditor must confirm that an auxiliary power supply, such as a standby generator, is available on-site and functional. ➢ *Auditor note: Mark "Yes" if a worker can demonstrate to the auditor that the auxiliary power supply is available and functional OR for sites that rely on manually operated equipment. Otherwise, mark "No" with reasons given.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
E12	**Auditor Confirmation of Alarm Systems** For controlled environment houses, the auditor must confirm that alarm systems (audible & remote) are installed and are functional. ➢ *Auditor note: Mark "Yes" if a worker can demonstrate to the auditor that the alarm systems are functional for controlled environment houses OR for sites that rely on manually operated equipment. Otherwise, mark "No" with reasons given.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Auditor Evaluation of Thermal Environment & Ventilation

E13	Ducklings and ducks must be maintained in a thermally comfortable environment for their age according to the breeder guidelines at all times. ➢ *Auditor note: The ducks must not show signs of being too cold or too hot.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
E14	**Auditor Evaluation of Ammonia Levels** As measured by the auditor, ammonia levels at the height of the ducklings or ducks at multiple locations in the house must not exceed 25 parts per million at any location. ➢ *Auditor note: measure ammonia levels at the height of the ducks at a minimum of 5 random locations in the house. At no location should the ammonia exceed 25 ppm.* _____ Measured max ammonia in PPM (must be ≤ 25 ppm) _____ Average house ammonia in PPM	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**

Auditor Evaluation of Lighting

E15	**Auditor Evaluation of Light Levels** As measured <u>by the auditor</u>, light levels for ducks must provide an average minimum illumination of 20 lux (2 foot-candle) throughout the house. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: the light levels must be checked at the level of the ducks at a minimum of 5 random location throughout the house and the results averaged. Locations that are in the shade of equipment should not be included in the sampling.* _____ Measured average light level in foot-candles	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
E16	Artificial/ supplemental lights must be distributed to cast light evenly throughout the house. Patches of high-intensity artificial or natural light must be avoided in the house.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
E17	Adequate fixed or portable lighting must be available to enable the ducks to be thoroughly inspected at any time without difficulty.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Space Allowance (Indoor Housing)

E18	**Space Allowance** As with all welfare standards, the space necessary to help ensure good welfare outcomes continues to be researched and evaluated by AH's Scientific Advisory Committee. Significant to the integrity of duck welfare, and for analysis of the other elements that additionally impact duck welfare, AH and its Scientific Advisory Committee require that the third-party auditor observe and score the following outcome-based elements: freedom of movement; gait; litter (if used); ammonia, clean environment and feather quality. The following elements will be observed and scored by the auditor according the appropriate scoring system. **Score either "Yes" (for a total of 50 points) if all six items are achieved or score "No" (for a total of 0 points) if one or more of the items are not achieved.** **Freedom of Movement**: Ducks must have sufficient freedom of movement to be able to stand, turn around and flap their wings without difficulty. When the auditor walks through the house, the ducks must be able to freely move away to a distance of at least five feet. Score "Yes" on this item if the ducks have sufficient freedom of movement as defined above, otherwise score "No". **Gait:** Method: At 4 separate, random locations in the house, select 25 ducks to observe and record the gait score. Assess gait as ducks walk toward the observer. Score "Yes" on this item if 85% or more of all ducks have a Gait Score of 0 on a 0-2 point scale based on the following scoring system. Otherwise, score "No". 0 Best Gait. There are no obvious signs of problems. The duck is able to waddle without obvious impediments. 1 Moderate Gait. The duck waddles with a labored walk or slight limp. 2 Poor Gait. The duck is reluctant to waddle. Euthanasia must be considered for ducks in this category. **Litter:** Litter (if used) must be maintained in a dry and friable condition. The auditor must evaluate litter quality and litter quality must be checked, at a minimum, in each third of the house away from the feeders. Where litter is located near misting equipment, the top surface of the litter should be moved	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /50**

	aside. When litter is squeezed in the hand, it should not form a clump, and there should be no free water that is released. If no free water is released and the litter crumbles easily, score "Yes" on this item, otherwise if the litter is too wet, score "No". **Ammonia:** Ammonia levels, measured by the auditor at the height of the ducks at multiple locations in the house, must not exceed 25 parts per million. Measure ammonia levels at the height of the ducks at a minimum of five random locations distributed throughout in the house. Locations should include the front, back, and three locations between in a zigzag pattern from side to side. At no location should the ammonia exceed 25 ppm. Score "Yes" if all ammonia measurements are 25 ppm or less, otherwise score "No". **Clean environment**: The scoring of this density element is intentionally left as a subjective evaluation and will rely on the judgment and experience of the auditor in determining clean and dry living conditions. Do the ducks appear clean, free of accumulated manure, and do they have sufficient dry litter on which to walk and rest? To pass this item, the answer to the above question must be "Yes." **Feather Quality**: Method: At 4 separate random locations in the house, select 25 ducks to observe and record the feather quality score. Score "No" if greater than 2% of the ducks are scored 2; OR if greater than 15% of the ducks are scored 1. Otherwise score "Yes" for this item. Feather quality scoring: 0 Best: Good coverage of down or feathers. 1 Moderate: Some evidence of down/feather picking or damaged area (as evidenced by short and stubby down/feathers) and less than 1 cm^2 (5/32 $inch^2$) of area. 2 Worst: Severe feather picking (as evidenced by blood) or damaged areas (as evidenced by short and stubby down/feathers) and greater than 2 cm^2 (5/16 $inch^2$). Note: If feather picking is a problem as evidenced by scores of 1 for greater than 15% of the ducks or scores of 2 for greater than 2% of the ducks, the producer must take immediate remedial action with the flock veterinarian to mitigate the problem.		

Nest Areas (for layers)

E19	**Layer ducks must have access to nest boxes.** Nests must be provided to the ducks: ❑ If individual nest boxes are installed, a minimum of one functional nest must be available per 5 ducks and each nest box must provide enough space for one duck to nest comfortably. ❑ Nest boxes must have a floor substrate that encourages nesting behavior. The bottom can be lined with various materials including artificial grass mats, rubber mats, plastic nest pad, or litter. Wire floors or plastic-coated wire do not meet this requirement. ❑ Nests must be maintained in a clean condition. Auditor Note: Mark N/A for meat ducks and young ducks prior to being moved to the breeder house.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**

Auditor Evaluation of Floor & Litter

- *<u>Auditor note</u>: The specifications for wire flooring and litter are under review by American Humane, pending additional research. For the following items in this section, score as applicable for wire mesh and perforated floors and/or litter. If wire mesh/perforated floors or litter are not provided, please state this in the "Notes" section and score the applicable items as "N/A".*

E20	**Wire Mesh, Perforated Floors or Slatted Floors** Flooring must be of a design that limits irritation and injury to the foot pads of the ducks. *Note: It is recommended that wire mesh used as a flooring surface should be vinyl/rubber coated, and that the spacing of the mesh be ¾" for ducks less than 10 days old and 1" for older ducks.* ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>:* _____ Brief description of floor material and size (e.g. *"**vinyl-coated wire mesh ¾"** "*)	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/10**
E21	**Litter** Where provided, litter must be well-maintained and must: ❑ Be of a suitable, absorbent material of an appropriate particle size; ❑ Be a sufficient depth (no less than 2 inches) for dilution of feces; and ❑ Be reasonably clean, loose (such as through regular tilling) and of good quality. ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>:* _____ Percentage of litter provided in house (e.g. "***None***", "***25%***", etc.*"*)	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/10**
E22	**Auditor Evaluation of Litter Score** <u>Where litter is provided</u>: Litter quality must be evaluated by the auditor at three locations per enclosure. Litter must be maintained in a friable and dry but not dusty condition . <u>This is especially true near preening water, if present.</u> ➢ *<u>Auditor note</u>: If litter is provided, litter quality must be checked at three random locations per enclosure and near preening water if applicable. Where litter is located near misting equipment, the top surface of the litter should be moved aside. When litter is squeezed in the hand, it should not form a clump, and there should be no free water that is released. If no free water is released and the litter crumbles easily, score "Yes" on this item, otherwise the litter is too wet, and score "No" on this item.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/25**

Auditor Evaluation of Exterior Access

*The **American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards for Ducks** provide specifications for different types of production systems. Where ducks are provided access to the exterior, the following guidelines must be met:*

E23	**Exterior Access** For all instances where ducks have access to the exterior, access areas: ❑ Must be provided by four weeks of age unless the ducks are well feathered before that time; ❑ Must not include land used for arable cropping; ❑ Must have a perimeter that extends no more than 400 yards from the house; ❑ Must be designed and managed to help ensure that the area around the house is well-drained and does not become muddy; ❑ Must provide access to a well-drained area for the ducks to rest while outside; no more than 20% of the area may be denuded; and ❑ Must be provided with perimeter fences and as appropriate cover/ screening to discourage contact with predators, rodents, and wild birds. <u>Free-Range & Pasture</u> For free-range and pasture areas specifically, access areas: ❑ Must be provided with drinking water in the outdoor area. ❑ (*Select only if Free-Range*) Free-Range areas must be provided at a minimum rate of: ❑ 1 acre of range per every 2,000 ducks (21.8 square feet per duck) total available acreage including portions of the range fenced off for regrowth of vegetation; ❑ Of this total, at least one quarter (5.45 square feet per duck) must be available at any one time whenever ducks have access to the exterior; and ❑ Restrictions to the access of the remaining total required area must be temporary for resting/ reseeding/ management of ground and/or as scheduled per the defined rotation program. ❑ *(Select only if Pasture)* Pasture areas must be provided at a minimum rate of: ❑ 2 ½ acres of pasture per every 1,000 ducks (108.9 square feet per duck) total available acreage included in the specified rotation program; and ❑ Of this total, at least one quarter (27.2 square feet per duck) must be available at any one time whenever ducks have access to the exterior; ❑ Restrictions to the access of the remaining total required area must be temporary for resting/ reseeding/ management of ground and/or as scheduled per the defined rotation program; and ❑ Must be provided with a substantial cover of living vegetation.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
E24	**Access to Shade** In warm months, natural or artificial shaded areas must be available so that the ducks are able to spread out to cool off. These areas must be evenly distributed throughout exterior areas. *Overhead shade should be at least 10 square yards for every 1000 ducks. Artificial overhead shade should be rotated often to reduce the risk of disease and allow the area to regrow.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

E25	**Natural Water Sources** Where ducks have access to natural water sources (such as ponds or pools), these areas must be well maintained to prevent stagnation. Ponds and pools must have a sufficient flow of water and aeration/filtration as needed to prevent the accumulation of dead vegetation and other debris.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
E26	**Exit Areas to the Outside (Popholes)** Exit areas to the outside: ❑ Must be evenly distributed across the outside-accessible building wall(s), with a minimum of two openings; ❑ Must be provided at an adequate rate to help ensure the free movement and ready, unrestricted access of ducks into and out of the house and limit undue crowding of ducks around the opening; ❑ Must be a minimum of 18 inches high by 20 inches wide (45 cm by 50 cm) to allow the passage of more than one duck at a time; ❑ Must have an opening height that allows the ducks to have a clear view to the outside; and ❑ Must be provided with a ramp along the width of the opening whenever there is a step greater than 2 inches (5 cm) from ground to base of opening. ➢ *Auditor note:* _____ Brief description of exit areas. (e.g. '***18" X 6' wide opening every 40' along wall'***)	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
E27	**Conditions under which ducks may be confined inside:** • Ducks may only have their access to ranging and foraging restricted when their welfare would otherwise be negatively affected. • Acceptable reasons for removal from outdoor areas may include extreme weather (temperatures outside the range of 32-95° F), natural disasters (e.g. wildfires, hurricanes, floods), and/or an emergency disease outbreak (e.g. highly pathogenic avian influenza). *Auditor note: Please refer to Exterior Access SOPs within M27 & M28 for additional specifications.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Auditor Evaluations of Ducks on Farm

E28	**Gait Observations** **Gait:** Method: At 4 separate, random locations in the house, select 25 ducks to observe and record the gait score. Assess gait as ducks walk toward the observer. Score "yes" on this item if 85% or more of all ducks have a Gait Score of 0 on a 0-2 point scale based on the following scoring system. Otherwise, score no. 0 Best Gait. There are no obvious signs of problems. The duck is able to waddle without obvious impediments. 1 Moderate Gait. The duck waddles with a labored walk or slight limp. 2 Poor Gait. The duck is reluctant to waddle. Euthanasia must be considered for ducks in this category.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Supplemental Animal Welfare Standards
Audit Tool for Transport and Processing Plant Audit

Transport

Animal transport systems must be designed and managed to help ensure ducks are not caused unnecessary distress or discomfort. The transport and handling of ducks must be kept to an absolute minimum. Personnel involved in transport must be thoroughly trained and competent to carry out the tasks required of them.

Training of Loading, Handling, and Transport Crews

		Selection	Score
T1	**Training of Loading and Transport Crews** Managers must have provided the loading staff full and detailed written instructions for loading, handling, loading, and unloading, and loading staff must be trained and fully aware of their duties and responsibilities. Documentation must be available for the training of loading and transport crews in order to minimize distress to the ducks, and all members of the loading and transport crews must be provided comprehensive written instructions presented in their native language as necessary. Training includes: ❑ Loading protocols and SOPs; ❑ Specific training on the proper use of mechanical equipment affecting the animal such as loaders (where used) and other equipment such as conveyors, forklifts and trucks; and ❑ Transport protocols and SOPs.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Loading & Handling SOPs

The Loading & Handling SOPs must be available and include the following protocols:

T2	**Feed and Water Withdrawal** ❑ Ducks must be provided water up to the time when loading begins. ❑ Feed must be available to ducks up to 4 hours prior to catching. ❑ Ducks must not be deprived of feed for more than 12 hours in total, including the period from loading, transport, and up to the time of processing.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
T3	Where possible, feeders, waterers, and other obstacles must be raised or removed from the house prior to loading to minimize the risk of bruising.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T4	Loading must take place in optimum levels of lighting which allows the loading process to proceed in safe manner for both the loading crews and the ducks, but which also minimizes ducks' fear reactions. *It is recommended that loading be done at night or early morning.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T5	❑ Actions must be taken to prevent ducks from injurious overcrowding. ❑ Where overcrowding occurs, the ducks must be allowed to spread out calmly and quietly, and given time to settle before loading is resumed.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T6	Adequate ventilation at duck height must be provided for uncaught ducks up to time of loading.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Loading

The following must be verified by direct observation of the auditor:

T7	**Loading Animal Welfare Officer** A Loading Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) must be present at all instances of loading operations. The Loading AWO is a member in the loading crew who is responsible for supervising, monitoring, and maintaining high welfare standards throughout the loading process. _____Name of Loading AWO identified and present	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/10**
T8	**Loading** By Herding and Use of Loaders: ❑ There must be sufficient personnel on hand to help ensure that the herding operation runs smoothly; ❑ Ducks must be guided smoothly towards the mouth of the ramp, and the ducks guided gently to allow the smooth loading of the ducks into the coops; ❑ Loading personnel must handle ducks carefully: Ducks must be handled upright, never upside-down, and with adequate support to avoid injury and distress as they are placed into the coop/module; ❑ All loading personnel must watch for signs and act to prevent over-crowding, such as if the ducks start piling or flapping their wings excessively; and ❑ All loading personnel must maintain constant vigilance throughout loading to help ensure that no ducks are injured. By Catching and Carrying**:** ❑ Catching must be performed quietly, quickly, and smoothly with care to avoid unnecessary pain and distress to the ducks. ❑ Ducks must be caught by the neck or the body. ❑ When caught by the neck, the weight of the duck must be supported and carried under the body. ❑ When ducks are lifted by their necks for placement in the transport coops, the action must be completed as a single, smooth motion. ❑ Ducks must be carried by supporting the body weight, and always in an upright position. ❑ Ducks must not be caught or carried by the legs or wings or carried by the neck without body support. ❑ Ducks weighing more than 9 pounds must be carried individually with their body fully supported and must be placed in the transport coop one at a time. ❑ Ducks must be placed in the transport coop within 20 seconds of being caught.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/25**
T9	**Transport Coops/ Modules** Transport coops/ modules: ❑ Must be appropriate for the size/ weight of the ducks; ❑ Must have no sharp edges or other protrusions or mechanisms which may cause injury to the ducks; and ❑ Must have a solid floor surface to prevent soiling of the ducks in the stack below.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	__ **/3**

T10	**AWO Supervision of Loading** The Loading AWO is responsible and must regularly check that: ❑ All ducks are upright in the coop and that and no ducks have their body parts caught in coop door. ❑ The density of ducks in the coops is appropriate for the size of ducks and the ambient temperature: ❑ Ducks must have room to spread out as they desire and must not be loaded atop one another. ❑ The number of ducks per coops/module must be increased during cold weather and decreased during hot weather. ❑ Unfit or injured ducks- such as ducks that are obviously ill, cannot walk on their own accord, or are in severe pain- must not be transported but instead must be immediately euthanized.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Transport SOPs

The technology is now becoming available to monitor temperature and humidity on board transport vehicles. This allows drivers to take appropriate action to maintain ideal conditions for ducks. American Humane encourages the use of such equipment and will monitor the development of such technology and review its use for future inclusion in these standards.

Transport SOPs must be available and include the following protocols:

T11	All personnel including non-employees who are involved with transportation must be trained in the proper handling of ducks and use of the transport equipment when loading and unloading the ducks and while in transit. This can be demonstrated through a quarterly audit process, SOP, or a Certificate of Conformance (COC).	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
T12	The AWO, i.e. the person supervising the handling and loading of ducks, must work closely and coordinate with the processing plant to minimize the time ducks spend waiting on the vehicle.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T13	Drivers must plan their journey accordingly and be aware of any potential traffic problems they may encounter: Every effort must be made to help ensure journeys are completed without unnecessary delays.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T14	Noise levels from all sources must be minimized as much as possible during loading, unloading, and transport.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T15	**Prior to Transport** ❑ The transport SOPs must describe appropriate actions to be taken during loading and unloading when high ambient temperatures and/or high humidity pose a threat of heat stress to the ducks. ❑ Prior to loading, weather forecasts must be consulted to determine the expected weather conditions, and if necessary supplemental ventilation or other cooling systems must be provided to reduce the risk of heat stress to the ducks. *This is especially true of ducks reared in houses with tunnel ventilation.* ❑ In periods of hot weather, ducks must be transported at night or in the coolest part of the day OR systems must be in place to provide cooling during load out of ducks.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T16	**During Transport** The transport SOP must identify steps that must be taken to shelter and protect the ducks when they are transported during extreme weather. ❑ If it is necessary to keep ducks on a stationary vehicle, the driver must take action to avoid thermal stress to the ducks.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

T17	The transport SOPs must address procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency, such as an accident.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
T18	The total time between the start of loading and the completion of unloading must not exceed 12 hours.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Processing Plant

All processing systems must be designed and managed to help ensure that ducks are not caused unnecessary distress or discomfort. The pre-slaughter handling of ducks must be kept to an absolute minimum. Personnel involved in slaughter must be thoroughly trained and competent to carry out the tasks required of them.

The aim of the American Humane Certified™ program is to adopt a birth-to-slaughter policy. American Humane recognizes that at the present time this is not always possible but will continue to work towards this objective.

Processing Plant Records

		Selection	Score
P1	**Assessments by Plant Personnel** ❑ To assist in the monitoring of on-farm welfare, routine assessments (at least once per shift unless noted otherwise) must be made of ducks at the processing plant and records made available to the auditor. This includes records of: ❑ Shackling Scoring; ❑ Broken Leg Scoring; ❑ Stunning Rate Scoring; ❑ Missed Ducks at Auto Knife Scoring; ❑ Broken Wing Scoring; ❑ Live Ducks Entering the Scalder Scoring; ❑ Foot Pad Scoring; and ❑ Number of condemns by the USDA. ❑ Where scores are outside of the stated acceptable parameters, records must be available to show the remedial actions that were taken to management and/or the environmental conditions. ❑ Records must show that scores for subsequent flocks from the same facility improved as a result of the remedial actions. *Note: All Scoring items are based on a 500-duck sample using the performance criteria listed in the 'Environment' section and later in the 'Processing' section.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /50**
P2	**Records of DOAs** ❑ All transport deaths and injuries must be recorded and reported daily to the AWO and management and corrective actions must be implemented immediately before the next consignment from the same source is collected. These records must be made available to the auditor. ❑ Where mortalities during transport are traced to a single cause, prompt action must be taken to prevent further deaths, injury, or suffering from occurring. ❑ Average levels of transport mortality (DOAs) above 0.2% in any three-month period are subject to investigation.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

P3	**Training of Processing Plant Crews** Managers, in conjunction with the AWO, must develop and implement a training program for all staff handling and slaughtering ducks. They must ensure that staff members are properly trained to carry out their duties and are competent to perform them. ❑ Records must be available for task-specific training of processing plant crews. All members of the crews must be provided comprehensive written instructions related to their duties presented in their native language. Training includes: ❑ Handling protocols and processing plant SOPs; ❑ Specific training in the proper operation and maintenance of equipment; ❑ Specific training for workers to recognize and perform a proper stun; and ❑ Specific training for performing the correct ventral cut for workers monitoring ducks at the automatic cutter.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**

Processing Plant SOPs

Processing Plant SOPs must be available and include the following protocols:

P4	**Animal Welfare Policy** The Processing SOPs must include an Animal Welfare Policy. This policy must include written procedures with regard to maintaining animal welfare in the processing plant, including the responsibilities and duties of staff and emergency procedures and contingency plans. The animal welfare policy must be regularly reviewed and updated.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
P5	**Animal Welfare Officer** Managers must appoint at least one trained Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) per each shift, who is responsible for the implementation of the animal welfare policy. *A number of processing plants have installed closed circuit television (CCTV) monitors within the holding and slaughter areas. This allows those responsible for animal welfare including the AWO to help ensure that welfare standards are maintained. The installation of CCTV systems is recommended by American Humane.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
P6	The AWO is responsible for ensuring that frequent checks are made throughout the day to help ensure that ducks are being effectively stunned and are insensible throughout the slaughter operation. Records must be kept of these inspections and where non-compliances are found, there must be records of the immediate remedial action that was taken.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P7	❑ All transport coops must be examined on arrival at the slaughterhouse to identify any ducks suffering from injury, heat or cold stress. ❑ Where any issues are found, immediate action must be taken to prevent suffering and help ensure that similar occurrences are prevented.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P8	All transport modules or live haul trailers must be inspected for damage that has the potential to cause injuries to the ducks, and also to help ensure no ducks are left inside them after unloading.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

P9	Ducks must be placed in a thermally comfortable holding area immediately on arrival at the processing facility: temperature and humidity in the holding area must be regularly monitored. The person in charge of any premises must help ensure that any duck on their premises awaiting slaughter is: ❑ Provided with shade/ protection from direct sun and from adverse weather, i.e. wind, rain, hail, snow, etc.; ❑ Provided with means to mitigate the risk of heat stress, for example through the use of fans and misting equipment; and ❑ Immediate action must be taken to remedy conditions if any ducks are found to be suffering from heat or cold stress.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /10**
P10	Standby equipment, e.g. a generator, must be available for emergency breakdowns, and/ or the processor must have an effective contingency plan approved by American Humane to cope with extenuating circumstances. Once ducks have arrived and are unloaded at the processing plant, they must not be moved on to other premises.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P11	**Timely Slaughter/ Permissible Holding Areas** ❑ Ducks may be kept in holding areas prior to slaughter. Ideally ducks should be slaughtered within 24 hours. Holding areas must be inspected by the auditor and, if ducks are to be housed in holding areas for longer than 12 hours, the holding area must meet all requirements of these standards, including but not limited to: ❑ Feeder space per duck; ❑ Drinking water space per duck; ❑ Space allowance; and ❑ Environment. *NOTE: Ducks must never be deprived of feed and water from more than 12 hours.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**

SOPs for the Shackling, Stunning, and Bleeding

Gas or oxygen stunning systems may offer welfare improvements to the ducks. American Humane will review the use of these systems in the future development of these standards.

P12	The shackling line must be located in an enclosed/sheltered area. Where loose ducks are found they must be taken immediately to the hanging area or, if injured, immediately and humanely euthanized away from the line.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P13	Processing plant managers must ensure that sufficient personnel are employed on shackling lines at all times to help ensure due care and diligence.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P14	Personnel working on the shackling lines must be rotated frequently to avoid fatigue.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P15	Shackling teams must be thoroughly trained to handle the ducks in such a way as to avoid injury. Ducks must be unloaded in a careful manner to minimize injury and distress to the ducks.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P16	Ducks must be lifted and then hung on the shackles by both legs.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P17	Appropriate measures must be taken to prevent wing flapping and ducks raising their heads before reaching the stunning bath. This may include the use of a breast bar, curtains, reduction in noise, low light intensity, etc.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

P18	Shackles must be of a size and a type that is specifically designed for ducks and the slaughter line must run at a speed that permits the ducks to be hung on properly without causing unnecessary pain or distress.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P19	Ducks must not be suspended for more than 90 seconds before they are stunned.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P20	**Stunning Equipment and Settings** Electrical water bath stunning or hand-operated stunning are acceptable methods of stunning: <u>Where an electrical water stunning bath is used</u>: ❑ The water bath stunner must be designed and set up to prevent ducks from receiving pre-stun shocks. ❑ The water bath used for stunning ducks must be of sufficient size and depth, and the overflow at the entrance to the stunner must be minimized. The electrode immersed in the water must extend the length of the water bath. ❑ The stunning bath must be set at a height appropriate for the size and number of ducks. In particular, the height must be set such that the heads of all ducks make an effective contact with the water bath. ❑ A current sufficient to induce insensibility in all ducks prior to neck-cutting must be used. ❑ The water bath must be fitted with a controller that clearly displays voltage, current, and frequency settings to accurately monitor current flow through the bath when loaded with ducks. <u>Where hand-held electrical stunners are used:</u> ❑ The ducks must be restrained in a cone or on a shackle. ❑ They must be stunned immediately after shackling. ❑ The stunning electrodes must be placed carefully and firmly in the optimum position (between the ear and the eye). ❑ Stunner must be operated using manufacturer recommended settings (i.e. current, time of stun, etc.) ❑ Stunners must be operated until initial wing flapping ceases, or until the legs become rigid and extended. ❑ Neck-cutting must be performed immediately after stunning.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
P21	All stunning and bleeding equipment must be regularly maintained, cleaned, and inspected daily to help ensure that it is in proper working order. Any problems must be reported to the AWO and repaired immediately.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P22	There must be contingency plans in place to deal with occasions when unavoidable delays may occur and it is not possible to process ducks. Specifically, if the slaughter line is stopped- <u>AND if workers can access the ducks safely</u>- then ducks between the point of shackling and the stunner must be removed and any ducks that have already been stunned must be immediately slaughtered.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P23	All ducks leaving the stunner must be monitored regularly to ensure that every duck has been effectively stunned. <u>Immediate action must be taken</u> if this is found not to be the case.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P24	Staff must be trained to recognize the signs of an effective stun, and use these signs to recognize that ducks have been effectively stunned or are dead.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

P25	No more than 10 seconds may elapse between stunning and neck cutting.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P26	Each duck must be checked to ensure that the carotid artery has been cut effectively. This cut must be checked by the appointed member of staff who must be given sufficient time to sever the blood vessels manually, if necessary. If manual stick bleeding is performed, each duck must be checked for insensibility and bleed-out quality. *Carotid arteries and jugular veins must be effectively severed manually or by using automated equipment that performs a ventral cut.* Live ducks, i.e. ducks whose carotid arteries have not been effectively severed, MUST not enter the scalding tank. See P/F3 also.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**
P27	Ducks must not be immersed in a scalding tank or plucked until at least 90 seconds have elapsed since the major blood vessels in their necks have been severed.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /3**

Auditor Evaluations of Ducks at Processing Plant

P28	**Shackling Score** A count of 500 ducks leaving the shackling area shows: ❑ No more than 1 duck hung on the shackles by one leg alone; and ❑ No more than 5 ducks hung high on the shackle (i.e. by the duck's shank.) *Shackles must be of a size and type specifically for ducks, and the slaughter line must run at a speed that permits hanging of the duck correctly causing no unnecessary pain or distress.* ➢ *Auditor note: where the Shackling Score results in a "No" response, management must be notified and the non-conformance must be corrected immediately.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
P29	**Broken Leg Score** A count of 500 ducks leaving the shackling area must show no more than 1 duck with one or both legs broken with hemorrhaging. ➢ *Auditor note: Only score broken legs with hemorrhaging.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
P30	**Stunning Score** Electric Water Bath Stunning A count of 500 ducks leaving the stunner must show no more than 5 ducks missing the stun. ➢ *Auditor note: where the Stunning Score results in a "No" response management must be notified and the non-conformance must be corrected immediately.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
P31	**Missed Ducks at Automatic Knife or Manual Stick Bleeding Score** A count of 500 ducks leaving the automatic knife/manual stick bleeding shows: ❑ No more than 5 ducks that have missed the automatic cutter; AND ❑ In the case of the automatic knife, there must be a manual backup available to perform the effective ventral cut on each duck that missed the automatic cut. ➢ *Auditor note:* ➢ *Mark "Yes" if no more than 5 ducks missed the automatic cutter AND subsequently the backup cutter performs an effective ventral cut on all missed ducks.* ➢ *Mark "No" if more than 5 ducks have missed the automatic cutter AND subsequently the backup cutter performs an effective ventral cut on all missed ducks.* ➢ *If this item is marked "No", management must be notified and the non-conformance must be corrected immediately.* ➢ *Auditor note: Refer also to P/F3: If any duck is observed at any time as not having been properly cut by either the automatic cutter or by the manual cutter- i.e. if any duck is observed entering the scalder without its carotid arteries having been effectively severed- this is considered an automatic failure of the audit.*	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**

P32	**Absence of Live Ducks in Scalder** A count of at least 500 ducks entering the scalder must show no live ducks entering the scalder: Auditor note: The presence of live birds in the scalder is a severe non-conformance, and results in **automatic failure of this audit.**	**Refer to "Pass/Fail Auditors Evaluations" Section**	**No points assigned**
P33	**Broken Wing Score** A count of 500 ducks leaving the stunner must show no more than 15 ducks with one or both wings either broken or dislocated.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**
P34	**Foot Health/ Foot Pad Score** A count of 500 ducks must show no more than 50 ducks with a Score of 1 or above on the 0-3 point scale based on RSPCA. ❑ 90% of all ducks must have a Foot Pad Score of 0 on a 0-3 point scale based on the RSPCA scoring system: 0. No lesions present 1. Minor: Very small and superficial lesion(s), slight discoloration on a limited area, mild hyperkeratosis 2. Mild: Substantial discoloration, superficial lesion(s), dark papillae 3. Severe: Ulcers or scabs of significant size, signs of hemorrhages or swollen foot pad/hock ❑ Where records show that less than 90% of a flock had a Foot Pad Score of 0, there must be documentation available of the corrective actions that the producer took to improve the foot health, and records for subsequent flocks must demonstrate the corrective actions were effective.	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No** ❍ **N/A**	**__ /25**

Pass/Fail Auditor Evaluations

P/F1	**No Instances of Willful Acts of Abuse or Neglect** Throughout the course of the audit, the auditor must not have observed farm personnel committing willful acts of abuse or neglect, which include but are not limited to kicking, throwing, yelling at, or purposefully scaring the birds, or neglecting to provide feed, water, or health care. ➢ Auditor note: this item has no point value. **A mark of "Yes" indicates that the auditor did NOT observe willful acts of abuse or neglect committed by farm personnel towards the birds.** ➢ **A mark of "No" indicates that the auditor believes that willful acts of abuse or neglect towards the birds have been committed. The auditor must document the incident observed and s/he must inform management of the company being audited, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. Management must take all actions as necessary to immediately correct the issue. Upon the discretion of the American Humane Certified™ program, the audit may be suspended.** **The presence of willful acts of abuse or neglect is a severe non-conformance, and results in automatic failure of this audit.**	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No**	***/-***
P/F2	**Absence of Live Ducks in DOA Bin** At the shackling area, there must be no live ducks in the DOA bin. ➢ *Auditor note: this item has no point value.* ➢ *Mark "Yes" to this item if live ducks <u>are NOT observed</u> in the DOA bin.* ➢ *Mark "No" to this item if live ducks are observed in the DOA bin.* **The auditor must document the incident observed and s/he must inform management of the company being audited, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. Management must take all actions as necessary to immediately correct the issue. Upon the discretion of the American Humane Certified™ program, the audit may be suspended.** **The presence of live ducks in the DOA bin is a severe non-conformance, and results in automatic failure of this audit**	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No**	***/-***

P/F3	**Absence of Live Ducks in Scalder** There must be no live ducks entering the scalder. **A "live duck" is defined as any duck missing both the automatic and the backup knife whose carotid arteries have not been effectively severed prior to the bird entering the scalder. Refer to Standard P32 for the minimum number of ducks to observe entering the scalder.** **Auditor Note: this item has no point value.** ➢ **Mark "Yes" to this item if there are no live ducks in the scalder.** ➢ **Mark "No" to this item if live ducks are observed in the scalder. The auditor must document the incident observed and s/he must inform management of the company being audited, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. Management must take all actions as necessary to immediately correct the issue. Upon the discretion of the American Humane Certified™ program, the audit may be suspended.** **The presence of live ducks in the scalder is a severe non-conformance, and results in automatic failure of this audit.**	❍ **Yes** ❍ **No**	**/-**

Audit Completion

To be signed at the end of the on-site audit:

Information in the completed *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool* and attached *Non-Conformance Report* and Farm Manual documentation is complete, correct, and has been verified by the auditor. All corrective actions agreed upon at the exit interview must be corrected even if the farm receives certification.

_____	_____
Farm Owner / Manager	**Date**
_____	_____
Auditor	**Date**

American Humane Certified™
Notification of Non-Conformance

Form to be filled out by Auditor and signed at the exit interview. One copy should be left with Producer and one copy should be retained for American Humane.

Auditor: _____

Producer Name:	
Farm Name:	Building ID:
On Farm Contacts: Manager Caregiver Others	
Cell Phone:	Email:

The following non-conformances were found during the American Humane Certified™ audit on _____. Within 10 days, you must submit a Corrective Action Plan that includes the corrective action to be taken, and the person responsible for the correction, and the date the correction will be completed. After correction, submit a Corrective Action Completion Report with supporting documentation to the American Humane Certified™ program. Documentation may include pictures, copies of daily reports, training records, veterinary health plan adjustments, etc. Producers/ managers are encouraged to submit progress reports as corrective actions are taken. All corrections must be made within 90 days and reports should be submitted electronically.

Notes should include each non-conformance item (for example: FW3, H12) and details of infraction. Attach additional pages as needed.

Auditor signature: _____ Date:_____

I, the undersigned, agree to submit a Corrective Action Plan within 10 days. All corrections will be made within 90 days. I will submit a Corrective Action Completion Report and agree to additional audits to maintain certification.

Producer signature: _____ Date:_____