# American Humane Farm Program American Humane Certified™

# Hatcheries (Chicks, Poults, and Ducklings) Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool Introduction



The American Humane Farm Program (American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> Animal Welfare Standards) is the product of over 140 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 Red Star Emergency Services 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<sup>®</sup> certification program, the first *Animal 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 ensure that the American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> 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 ensures 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.

# **Core Criteria**

Items that are essential to the "Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare" are scored higher than other questions in the audit. "Core Criteria" are scored either 25 or 50 points and must be satisfactorily addressed in order to pass the audit. These items are listed below (refer to *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool* following for full descriptions):

#### **M1: Company Policy**

The Company Policy must be available to all workers, in their native language. This policy emphasizes and demonstrates that the company has made a commitment to providing an environment that promotes high standards of animal welfare. Along with this commitment, the company must have "zero tolerance" for any employee who willfully abuses the hatchlings, and a "whistle blower" policy protecting employees who report animal welfare issues. Personnel must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, the Company Policy.

#### M2: Employee Code of Conduct

An Employee Code of Conduct must be available to all personnel, in their native language. 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. All personnel must be instructed to report any incidences related to animal welfare that cause them concern. Workers must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, this Code of Conduct.

#### M6: Veterinary Health Plan

A Veterinary Health Plan must be available. The VHP must be developed in consultation with a qualified veterinarian and documents vaccination protocols and any vaccinations, treatment protocols and any treatments, and tolerance limits for hatch performance.

#### M13: Training for All Stockpersons

Records must be available that all stockpersons in direct contact with the hatchlings has been properly trained.

#### M14: Training for Specific Approved Procedures

Records must be available for stockpersons responsible for performing approved procedures in a humane manner with the minimum level of pain and distress to the hatchlings, including but not limited to: sexing (if applicable); vaccinating hatchlings (if applicable); trimming beaks (if applicable); toe-clipping poults (if applicable); and/or culling hatchlings.

#### M22: Sourcing of Eggs

Records must be available showing that hatching eggs have been sourced from a breeder flock conforming to the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP).

#### M31: SOPs for Beak-Trimming of Hatchlings

If beak-trimming of hatchlings is performed at the hatchery, the hatchery must have SOPs that detail the protocols for the approved procedures for beak-trimming, including the proper use of appropriate equipment in order to minimize pain and distress and optimize recovery of the hatchlings.

#### M33: SOPs for Toe-Clipping of Poults

If toe-clipping of poults is performed at the hatchery, the hatchery must have SOPs that detail the protocols for the approved procedures for toe-clipping, including the proper use of appropriate equipment in order to minimize pain and distress and optimize recovery of the poults.

#### M35: SOPs for the Euthanasia of Hatchlings

Hatcheries must have provisions for acceptable procedures and approved protocols for the euthanasia of hatchlings by properly trained personnel. (See the *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool* for full description.)

# **Pass/Fail Audit Criteria**

The following items must be satisfied in order to pass the audit. Failure of these items will result in failure of the audit, and may result in the hatchery being suspended from the program. (Note: see the *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool* a full description.)

#### P/F 1: No Instances of Willful Acts of Abuse

#### P/F 2: Absence of Live Hatchlings in the Hatchery Waste

P/F 3: Absence of Live Hatchlings in the Washer

# **Audit Scoring**

#### Score Process

There are 59 audit items for 641 total points possible on the **Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool for Hatcheries**. 9 audit items, totaling 300 points, are related to Core Criteria items on this audit- these Core Criteria questions have score values of 25 or 50 points. In order for a site to be certified by the **American Humane Certified**<sup>™</sup> program, each site must meet an audit score of 85% based on the score of Total Points Achieved versus Total Points Achievable score and all Non-Conformances must be corrected. Additionally, there are 3 Pass/Fail audit items. These three audit items MUST be addressed satisfactorily in order to pass the audit.

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

a.) Tot	al Points P	ossible	b.) Total NA's	c.) Adjusted Points Achievable	d.) Total Points Achieved	Overall Audit Percentage
Items	Value	Points	Example	Example	Example	
3	50	150	(core)	150	150	1
6	25	150	(core)	150	150	
16	10	160	1@10	150	140	
34	3	102	1@3	99	99	
A.) Tot	al Points F	ossible	B.) Total NA's	C.) Total Points Achievable = AB.	D). Total Points Achieved	D./C. = Overall Audit Percentage
		=562	=13	=562-13 =549	=539	Example= 539/549=98%

Step 1- Count the Total Points Possible for all items on the scored Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool.

- Step 2- Count the number of Total Not Applicable (NA) audit items. Subtract the Total NA'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.
  - Each site must have an Overall Audit Percentage of 85% or above, all Non-Conformances must be corrected, and each of the Pass/Fail items must be addressed satisfactorily in order for a site to pass the audit.

#### **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 out the non-conformances found by the auditor and must be signed by both the manager and auditor. <u>All corrective actions agreed upon at the exit interview</u> must be corrected even if your site receives certification.

#### **Corrective Action Plan**

A Corrective Action Plan is submitted online to American Humane within 10 days of the Non-Conformance Report date. The Corrective Action Plan describes the items identified through the audit process and the corrective actions that will be taken by the producer.

#### **Corrective Action Completion**

The Corrective Action Plan is completed within 90 days and a Corrective Action Completion form is submitted online with supporting documentation. Producers are subject to a re-audit at the discretion of the American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> program after plan completion. Variances are permitted through submission to the American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> program and upon approval. Producers are encouraged to report to the American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> program on their progress on corrective actions throughout the correction period.

➢ Producer sites in the American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> program are expected to maintain high welfare standards throughout the term of their certification. If it is determined after an audit that a site in the American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> program has fallen out of compliance, the site is immediately suspended from the program. Suspended sites must verify correction of the non-conformances and pass a new audit before being reinstated. <u>The American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> program reserves the right to perform spot checks at any time during the certification period</u>.



# American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool Hatcheries (Chicks, Poults, and Ducklings)

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

AUDITOR:	AUDIT DATE:		AUDIT SCORE:
	From:	То:	
LICENSE HOLDER:			
PRODUCER:	LICENSE	MANAGER:	
Address:		Email:	
City:		Office #:	
State:		Cell #:	
ZIP:		Alt #:	
Country:		Fax #:	
HATCHERY LOCATION:			
HATCHERY:	HATCHERY	MANAGER:	
Address:		Email:	
City:		Office #:	
State:		Cell #:	
ZIP:		Alt #:	
Country:		Fax #:	
EGG SUPPLIER:		TRA	NSPORTER:
NAME:			NAME:
NPIP:			Address:
Address:			City:
City:			State:
State:			ZIP:
ZIP:			Contact #:
List any Significant Management	, Disease, or Clima	tic Events:	
List of Quality Assurance Progra	ms:		

# **Audit Notes**

- ➤ The American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> 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. Facilities must comply with any local, state or federal mandates for hatcheries that affect the environment or safety of their product.
- If an outside company is used for other processes such as transport, sexing, etc., <u>auditors must</u> 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 the Certificate of Conformances.
- If the auditor observes willful acts of abuse towards the hatchlings 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. An investigation will be made to assess the incident and to determine whether remedial actions are required. If the incident is determined to be severe, the producer may be placed on probation from the program. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies that to the satisfaction of the American Humane Certified™ program affectively remedy the issue, and the site must pass a follow-up audit prior to being reinstated in the program. (See also "Pass/Fail Auditor Observations" at the end of the audit.)
- Auditor note: <u>unless noted otherwise</u>, 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 management and husbandry is vital to ensure good animal welfare. Managers and stockpersons must be thoroughly trained, skilled, and competent in animal husbandry and welfare. They must have a good working knowledge of their system and of the hatchlings.

The following records and documentation must be made available to the auditor at the time of the audit. These are to be maintained in the form of a Farm Manual.

## **Company Policy & Employee Code of Conduct**

		Selection	Score
M1	<ul> <li>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: <ul> <li>Emphasis of the company's commitment to providing an environment which promotes high standards of animal welfare;</li> <li>The implementation of a "zero-tolerance" policy stating that willful acts of abuse towards the hatchlings will not be tolerated and, upon the discretion of the company, these actions are grounds for immediate dismissal. Willful acts of abuse include but are not limited to kicking the hatchlings, aggressive handling or throwing (i.e. beyond the minimum handling needed to perform necessary duties), etc.; and </li> <li>The implementation of an animal welfare "whistle blower" policy that protects employees who report animal welfare issues.</li> </ul></li></ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/25
M2	<ul> <li>Employee Code of Conduct An Employee Code of Conduct must be available to all workers, 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: </li> <li>All personnel are expected to handle the hatchlings in a positive and compassionate manner at all times;</li> <li>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 duties; and </li> <li>All personnel have access to the <i>Animal Welfare Incident Report</i> or a similar company document or company protocol 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.</li></ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/25

## **Office Records & Documentation**

	Records of Production		
М3	Comprehensive production records must be available for at least one year in graphic, tabular, or electronic form for each hatch. Records must provide information including but not limited to: <ul> <li>Numbers, source, and delivery date of eggs in storage;</li> <li>Numbers of eggs in each stage of incubation;</li> <li>Specified normal egg and hatchling viability rates;</li> <li>Observed egg and hatchling viability rates;</li> <li>Numbers of outgoing hatchlings; and</li> <li>Temperature and humidity settings in climate-controlled egg storage and incubators.</li> </ul>	Yes No N/A	/3
M4	<ul> <li>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)</li> <li>SOPs must be available at the office in regularly updated, comprehensive written instructions, in workers' native language, relating to daily, weekly, and monthly activities and procedures. Examples may include but are not limited to: <ul> <li>Inspections of egg storage and incubators, and records to be kept by responsible personnel;</li> <li>Inspections of equipment (especially incubators and macerators), routine maintenance and cleaning, and back-up protocols to be followed, as well as records to be kept by responsible personnel;</li> <li>Daily monitoring and recording of egg storage and incubator temperatures (unless automatically recorded);</li> <li>Protocols for procedures for sexing and culling;</li> <li>Any biosecurity protocols (e.g. checking rodent bait, etc.);</li> <li>Cleaning and sanitation procedures;</li> <li>Maintenance and testing of alarm systems; and</li> <li>Any additional procedures to maintain compliance with any applicable local, state, and federal regulations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Yes No N/A	/10
М5	<ul> <li>Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>The Emergency Response Plan must be available at the hatchery office. This plan includes:</li> <li>Contingency plans and precautions to cope with emergencies in order to safeguard the welfare of the hatchlings, and the procedures to be followed by those discovering an emergency such as fire, floods, storms or other severe weather, interruption of power, equipment breakdown, etc.</li> <li>Primary and alternate contact numbers for individual(s) responsible for reacting to emergencies, i.e. workers, managers, and/or owner as appropriate.</li> <li>Emergency contact information and numbers, i.e. site address and other relevant information, contacts for fire department, local utilities, etc.</li> </ul>	Yes No N/A	/10

## **Veterinary Health Plans & Records**

M6	<ul> <li>Veterinary Health Plan</li> <li>A written Veterinary Health Plan (VHP) must be available at the hatchery office.</li> <li>The VHP must include: <ul> <li>Certification or proof that the VHP has been developed in consultation with the flock veterinarian. The veterinarian and the producer must review the VHP at least yearly and update it as needed;</li> <li>Records of vaccination protocols and any vaccinations;</li> <li>Records of treatment protocols and any treatments;</li> <li>Cull data; and</li> <li>Tolerance limits on hatch performance.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/25
М7	Hatch Performance Parameters Hatch Performance Parameters must be continuously monitored for indicators of disease or production disorders as part of the VHP. If any performance parameters (such as specified normal ranges of hatch or viability rates) fall below the tolerance limits identified in the VHP, the veterinarian or properly trained personnel must be informed and where necessary a program of action developed to remedy the problem, as defined in the VHP.	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/10

### **Biosecurity & Sanitation Plans**

	Biosecurity Plan, Structural/Access		
	The structural biosecurity plan must be available and include as a minimum:		
	Maintenance of physical methods for exclusion of pests, predators,		
	and wild birds, such as perimeter fencing, screening of drains/vents/		
	openings, etc;		
	The exclusion of dogs and other animals from the building;		
	The posting of signs at the hatchery entrances which provide	Yes	
M8	biosecurity instructions and information for hatchery personnel and	No	/10
	approved visitors;	N/A	
	The provisions of methods for deterring unapproved visitors, such as preparty gates and/or accurate buildings, and		
	property gates and/or secured buildings; and The logging of all approved visitors: non-hatchery personnel are not		
	permitted on the site unless approved by hatchery managers, and		
	hatchery personnel and approved visitors must comply with the		
	company policy regarding contact with outside poultry, including hobby		
	poultry.		
	Biosecurity Plan, Operational		
	The operational biosecurity 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 hatchery (i.e.		
	removing vegetation which provides shelter to pests and predators);		
	The maintenance of pest control methods and protocols such as		
	baiting and trapping; The removal of trash/ feed sources to reduce the attraction of pests		
	The removal of trash/ feed sources to reduce the attraction of pests, rodents, mold, etc.;	Yes	
M9	The "Hatchery Flow Protocol" for personnel and approved visitors to	No	/10
	control potential contamination from hatchlings to eggs;	N/A	
	Protocol for sanitation as required for external products brought into		
	the hatchery;		
	Facility/ equipment cleaning protocols and schedules; and		
	The provision and maintenance of protective clothing (i.e. coveralls,		
	booties, and hairnets) and disinfectant foot baths for hatchery		
	personnel (if re-entering the facility) and for approved visitors at		
	entrances and any other points as designated by the hatchery.		

M10	<ul> <li>Cleaning and Sanitation Plan</li> <li>The Cleaning and Sanitation Plan must be available as part of the overall health plan and must include details for routine/ scheduled cleaning procedures for facility and equipment, including but not limited to: <ul> <li>Trained personnel to conduct cleaning and sanitation;</li> <li>Description of which areas/ equipment are to be cleaned: all equipment with which the hatchlings have contact must be cleaned, sanitized, and maintained as necessary to protect the hatchling from infectious agents or trauma from equipment;</li> <li>Details of the types of disinfectant, where it is to be used, and the appropriate use (i.e. dilution rates, method of application, allotted down time, etc.); and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/10
	Identification and method of storage of disinfectant.		
M11	Waste Disposal Plan The hatchery must maintain a Waste Disposal Plan which details protocols for the safe and proper disposal in accordance with local, state, or federal regulations of non-hatching/ un-hatched eggs, dead or culled hatchlings, contaminated packing material, and other waste that poses a potential threat to animal and human health and safety. If applicable, records must be available for the outlet name through which hatchery byproducts are contracted.	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/3

## **Records of Stockperson Training**

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

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	Training Documentation		
	Note: applies to <u>all training</u> in this section "Records of Stockperson Training"		
	<ul> <li>Documentation must be available confirming stockperson training at orientation, as well as yearly updates (and opportunities for continuing education and professional development) and specialized training, appropriate to the level of operation. For all training of personnel:</li> <li>Training must be presented in the workers' native language.</li> <li>Training may include videos, manuals, classroom setting, online</li> </ul>		
	instruction, etc.	□ Yes	
M12	Training must include review of company SOPs relevant to the workers' duties, and 'hands-on' experience and evaluations.		/10
	□ Training must include review of the American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards.		
	<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 <sup>TM</sup> .		
	Training records must clearly define what is expected of the trainee so that each is fully aware of their 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.		
	<b>Training for All Stockpersons</b> Prior to being given responsibility for hatchery operations and handling/ processing hatchlings, all stockpersons must be properly trained. As a minimum, the training program for all stockpersons in direct contact with the hatchlings must include:		
	Training regarding the normal operation of the hatchery and its processes, so that in the eventuality of an impending problem arising the second state of the second state of the second state.		
	<ul> <li>they are able to recognize it before it becomes a serious issue;</li> <li>Training in recognition of deviations of normal activity and health of the hatchlings and the identification of unviable hatchlings;</li> </ul>		
M13	Training for the proper way handle hatchlings in a humane manner which minimizes unnecessary pain and distress to the birds;	☐ Yes ☐ No	/25
_	□ Training and orientation for stockpersons responsible for any equipment	□ N/A	
	which impacts the welfare of the hatchlings, including: <ul> <li>Recognizing normal operation of the equipment,</li> </ul>		
	Operating the equipment competently (e.g., sorting, macerator,		
	vaccinator, etc.), Carrying out routine maintenance to ensure that the equipment		
	is kept in good working order,		
	Recognizing common signs of malfunction, and		
	Carrying out any actions in the event of failures; and		
	Training for the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency, i.e. the Emergency Response Plan.		

M14	<ul> <li>Specialized Training for Stockpersons         Documentation must be available showing that stockpersons have been appropriately trained to perform specialized duties, with emphasis on optimizing health and animal welfare and minimizing pain and distress to the birds. Prior to performing any procedures that have the potential to cause suffering, the stockperson must be able to demonstrate to the trainer that they are proficient in performing those procedures. Specialized training includes:     <ul> <li>Training and certification of the proficiency of hatchery personnel in performing approved procedures in a humane manner, including (select only as applicable):</li> <li>Sexing hatchlings (if applicable),</li> <li>Vaccinating hatchlings/ injections (if applicable),</li> <li>Toe-clipping (if applicable), and/or</li> <li>Culling hatchlings.</li> </ul> </li></ul>	Yes No N/A	/25
M15	<ul> <li>Training of Handling and Transport Personnel</li> <li>The training of handling and transport personnel must be documented and full, detailed, written instructions must be available and provided to all personnel.</li> <li>Training includes: <ul> <li>Handling protocols; and</li> <li>Transport protocols and SOPs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Yes No N/A	/10
M16	Training of Outside Workers Where applicable, the training of crews outside the producer's control, such as sexing crews, transport personnel, 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 care as company employees.	Yes No N/A	/10

## Inspections

Inspections of Incubator & Hatchlings	
<ul> <li>Records must be kept on file for a minimum of one year showing that the hatchlings and facilities are inspected a minimum of twice daily. These records must:</li> <li>M17 Identify the person performing the inspection, and the time (i.e. AM/PM) and date of the inspection;</li> <li>The numbers of mortalities with reasons stated, if known; and</li> <li>The numbers of culls, with reasons stated.</li> </ul>	/10

	Inspections of Facility & Equipment		
M18	<ul> <li>Records must be on file in the house for a minimum of one year showing that the hatchlings and facilities are inspected a minimum of once daily. They 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):</li> <li>It must be repaired immediately, with records kept of the nature of the defect and how the defect was repaired; or</li> <li>If the defect cannot be rectified immediately, the records must detail the measures as specified in the SOPs that were followed in order to safeguard the hatchlings 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.</li> <li>Routine maintenance must be performed per the equipment manufacturer's recommendations, with records kept.</li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/3
	Inspections of Environmental Controls		
M19	<ul> <li>Maximum and minimum temperatures for egg storage and in the incubators must be monitored and recorded daily including any adjustments made in order to maintain optimum hatchability.</li> <li>Equipment must be checked daily and maintained for proper operation, with records kept.</li> </ul>	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A	/3
	Inspections of Auxiliary Power Supply		
M20	<ul> <li>Records must be kept showing that an auxiliary power supply (such as a standby generator) is available on-site and is tested and maintained per manufacturer's recommendations with the outcome of the test documented.</li> <li>Records must show that the auxiliary power supply has sufficient capacity to operate critical equipment such as environmental controls for the duration of the outage.</li> <li>Auditor note: an Auxiliary Power Supply is not required for sites that rely</li> </ul>	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A	/3
	on manually operated equipment.		
	Inspections of Alarm Systems		
M21	<ul> <li>Records must be kept showing that alarm systems (audible &amp; remote) are tested weekly, with the outcome of the test documented.</li> <li>Records must show that the alarm systems are operational even if the principal electricity has failed.</li> <li>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.)</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Yes</li><li>No</li><li>N/A</li></ul>	/3

## SOPs for Eggs & Egg Storage

M22	Records must be available showing that hatching eggs have been sourced from a breeder flock that conforms to the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP).	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25
M23	<ul> <li>Records must be available showing that eggs are:</li> <li>Traceable to the breeder flock of origin with traceability maintained through incubation and hatching; and</li> <li>Isolated on entry to the hatchery through to their setting in incubators.</li> </ul>	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
M24	<ul> <li>Egg Storage</li> <li>SOPs must show that fertile eggs are maintained in a controlled environment that optimizes egg viability.</li> <li>SOPs must discuss the procedure for maintaining storage temperature range (unless automatic.)</li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/3
M25	<ul> <li>Where applicable, SOPs must show that eggs are disinfected prior to entering the incubator with a disinfectant in accordance to manufacturer's instructions.</li> <li>Auditor note: this typically applies only to turkey eggs. If eggs are not disinfected, score "N/A."</li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/3

#### **SOPs for Incubation**

M26	<b>Environmental Controls</b> Environmental Controls must be maintained throughout all stages of incubation.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3	
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#### **SOPs for Sexing**

 Auditor note: If hatchlings are sexed, SOPs must be available with the following provisions. Otherwise mark "N/A" for this section:

	Employees must be trained on proper handling and procedures for sexing of hatchlings.	Refer to "Specialized Training of Stockpersons" M14	/ -
M27	SOPs must include a written program for retrieving loose hatchlings promptly from the floor.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10
M28	Equipment must be cleaned, disinfected, and maintained to minimize disease transmission and injury.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

## **SOPs for Vaccination of Hatchlings**

Auditor note: If hatchlings are vaccinated, SOPs must be available with the following provisions. Otherwise mark "N/A" for this section:

	Employees must be trained on use of equipment and proper handling of hatchlings.	Refer to "Specialized Training of Stockpersons" M14	1 -
M29	Vaccines must be authorized for use by the hatchery veterinarian and administered in accordance with label requirements.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
M30	Vaccination equipment must be cleaned, disinfected, calibrated, and maintained to minimize disease transmission and injury.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

#### **SOPs for Beak-Trimming of Hatchlings**

- Auditor note: If beak-trimming is performed on hatchlings at the hatchery, SOPs must be available with the following provisions. Otherwise, mark "N/A" for this section:
- Beak-trimming is not performed on broiler chickens.

## **SOPs for Toe-Clipping of Poults**

- Auditor note: If toe-trimming for poults is performed at the hatchery, SOPs must be available with the following provisions. Otherwise, mark "N/A" for this section:
- > Toe-trimming is not performed on chicks or ducks.

M33	<ul> <li>Toe-Clipping SOPs         <ul> <li>A Toe-Clipping Policy for hens and toms is available, which includes: (select only as applicable:)</li> <li>Poults are sourced from a company hatchery that performs the toe-clipping and/or dewclaw trimming within the first 24 hours of life by microwave trimming and that is certified by the American Humane Certified™ program.</li> <li>OR</li> <li>Poults are sourced from an outside hatchery that performs the toe-clipping and/or dewclaw trimming within the first 24 hours of life, using microwave trimming devices. A Certificate of Conformance must be available from the outside hatchery stating that toe-clipping and/or dew claw trimming was performed by properly trained and proficient personnel using appropriate, well-maintained equipment per all requirements detailed in this Toe-Clipping Policy and applicable animal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/50
	welfare standards.		
	Equipment must be:	☐ Yes	
M34	<ul> <li>cleaned and sanitized; and</li> <li>maintained to minimize disease transmission and injury.</li> </ul>	□ No □ N/A	/3

#### SOPs for the Euthanasia of Hatchlings

		<u> </u>		
	approv	ries must have provisions for acceptable procedures and ed protocols for the euthanasia of hatchlings by properly trained lidated personnel and include the following:		
		Any hatchlings that are severely injured/ unviable must be immediately euthanized.		
		Euthanasia procedures including any equipment must ensure		
		instantaneous death using the latest edition of the American Veterinary Medical Association's <b>AVMA Guidelines for the</b> <b>Euthanasia of Animals</b> .		
I		Personnel must be trained and validated on the use and	L Yes	
M35		maintenance of euthanasia equipment to render immediate	🛛 No	/50
		death.	N/A	
		Records must be available showing that the euthanasia equipment is inspected and cleaned daily.		
		(Select if applicable) If CO <sub>2</sub> is used, records of usage must be available, and it must be demonstrated that the system		
		is working properly.		
		(Select if applicable) If maceration is used, it must be demonstrated that the system is in working order.		
		Procedures for the prompt, proper disposal of carcasses.		

# Environment

# Hatchery

		Selection	Score
E1	A printed or electronic copy of the current <b>American Humane Certified™</b> <b>Animal Welfare Standards for Hatcheries</b> must be available on-site as a reference for all personnel in the facility.	<ul><li>Yes</li><li>No</li><li>N/A</li></ul>	/3
E2	<ul> <li>Biosecurity, Structural/Access</li> <li>Structural biosecurity must be demonstrated by: <ul> <li>Physical methods for the exclusion of pests, predators, and wild birds, such as screening of drains/vents/ openings, and so on;</li> <li>Signs posted at the gates and/or hatchery entrances which provide instructions and information for hatchery personnel and approved visitors regarding biosecurity procedures;</li> <li>The absence of dogs and other animals from the hatchery;</li> <li>Property gates and/or secured buildings for the deterrence of unapproved visitors; and</li> <li>Logging of all approved visitors. (Log should include statement that non-hatchery personnel are not permitted on the site except by approval from hatchery managers, and unless appropriate precautions have been taken, including the company policy for downtime after contact with outside poultry.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/10
E3	<ul> <li>Biosecurity, Operational</li> <li>Operational biosecurity must be demonstrated by: <ul> <li>The vegetation adjacent to buildings in outdoor areas has been kept short and tidy within at least 24" from the hatchery;</li> <li>Pest control methods and protocols such as baiting and trapping are in place along with schedules for maintenance of pest control systems;</li> <li>Potential attractants of pests, rodents, mold, etc. are not visible in the outside of the employee area (i.e. open trash cans with food waste or other potential attractants not necessary to the operation of the hatchery);</li> <li>Adherence to the "Hatchery Flow Protocol" for personnel and approved visitors to control potential contamination from hatchlings to eggs; and</li> <li>The provision and maintenance of protective clothing (such as coveralls, booties, and hairnets) and foot baths for hatchery personnel (if re-entering the facility) and for approved visitors at entrances and any other points as designated by the hatchery.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/10
E4	<ul> <li>The equipment and containers that hatchlings are exposed to must take into consideration the safety of the hatchlings:</li> <li>There must be no sharp edges, projections, protrusions, etc. that are likely to cause injury or distress to the birds.</li> <li>Hatchlings must be protected from becoming entrapped within equipment or dropped to the floor, through the use of guards on belts, etc.</li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/3

## **Auxiliary Power & Alarm Systems**

E5	<ul> <li>Auxiliary Power Supply</li> <li>An auxiliary power supply, such as a standby generator, must be available on-site and functional and have sufficient capacity to operate critical equipment for at least 24 hours.</li> <li>Auditor note: hatchery personnel must demonstrate that the auxiliary power supply is available and functional.</li> <li>Auditor note: an Auxiliary Power Supply is not required for sites that rely on manually operated equipment.</li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/10
E6	<ul> <li>Alarm Systems         Alarm systems (audible &amp; remote) must be installed, functional, and operate even if the principal electricity has failed.         Auditor note: hatchery personnel must demonstrate that the alarm systems are functional and operational even if the principal electricity has failed.     </li> </ul>	□ Yes □ No □ N/A	/3

#### **Environmental Controls**

E/	Fertile eggs must be stored in an area that is environmentally controlled in	Yes		
	order to optimize egg viability.		No	/10
			N/A	

#### Lighting

E8	Daytime lighting levels must allow the hatchlings to be inspected and processed without difficulty.	Yes	
		🛛 No	/3
	processed without difficulty.	N/A	

# Egg Storage

	Eartile ages must be stored in an area that is any ironmentally controlled in	l ∐ Yes	
E9	Fertile eggs must be stored in an area that is environmentally controlled in order to optimize egg viability.	🔲 No	/10
		L N/A	

# Transport

The handling and transport of hatchlings must take into account their welfare needs and be designed to protect them from physical and thermal discomfort.

### **Space Requirements**

	Hatchlings must be transported in appropriately sized boxes/ containers. Chicks (Pullets):		
T1	<ul> <li>Transport boxes/ containers for day old chicks must provide approximately 21-25 cm<sup>2</sup> (3.25-3.88 in<sup>2</sup>) per bird, depending on species and condition.</li> <li><u>Poults &amp; Ducklings</u>:         <ul> <li>Transport boxes/ containers for day old poults or ducklings must provide optimum area for the size, species, and condition of the poults or ducklings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

#### Transport SOPs

Т2	Personnel involved in loading and transport must be thoroughly trained and competent to carry out their responsibilities.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
Т3	Transport equipment and compartments must be cleaned and disinfected by trained personnel.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
Т4	Managers must have full and detailed written instructions for transport in the SOPs.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
Т5	If a transportation company is used, the transportation company must provide a Certificate of Conformance indicating that they are fully responsible for the training of their employees in accordance to the American Humane Certified <sup>™</sup> standards.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

### **Record of Transport**

T6	<ul> <li>Managers must keep records for at least two years of the movement of eggs and hatchlings off the premises including:</li> <li>The date of movement;</li> <li>The number of eggs or hatchlings moved;</li> <li>The age of the hatchlings moved, the building/flock identity (if applicable); and</li> <li>Address of premises to or from which the eggs or hatchlings were moved.</li> </ul>	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
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# Loading for Transport

T7	Doorways must be large enough to allow safe passage of the transport trays. Access routes must be adequately designed and maintained to permit the safe passage of transport vehicles.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3	
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### Transporting

Т8	<ul> <li>Personnel in charge of transport must demonstrate competence in handling hatchlings when loading/unloading and while in transit.</li> <li>Transport boxes must be handled with care to reduce potential piling of the birds.</li> <li>Delivery boxes must be clean and/or be provided with clean, dry floor pads.</li> </ul>		Yes No N/A	/3
Т9	<ul> <li>The time between the start of loading and the completion of unloading of transport trays must be less than 24 hours.</li> <li>Noise levels from all sources should be minimized during loading, unloading, and transport.</li> </ul>	Isport trays must be less than 24 hours.		/3
T10	The transport vehicle must be equipped with thermal regulatory capabilities for temperature control.	Yes No N/A		/3
T11	<ul> <li>Every effort must be made to ensure journeys are completed without unnecessary delays, that drivers are aware of any potential traffic problems and that they plan their journey accordingly.</li> <li>The person supervising the loading of the hatchlings must work closely with the receiver to minimize the time the hatchlings spend waiting on the vehicle.</li> <li>If it is necessary to keep birds on a stationary vehicle, the driver must take action to avoid thermal stress to the hatchlings.</li> </ul>		Yes No N/A	/3
T12	Delivery vehicles and containers should be cleaned and disinfected between deliveries. Drivers must follow biosecurity procedures.		Yes No N/A	/3

**Transport in Extreme Weather Conditions** *Where appropriate, shelters from extremes of weather during transport must be provided.* 

	<ul> <li>Plans must be made in advance and appropriate action taken to reduce the risk of heat stress during times of high ambient temperatures or high humidity. These plans may include:</li> <li>The daily receipt of meteorological forecasts of predicted temperatures; and/or</li> </ul>	(	❑ Yes	
T13	Controlled environment in the transport vehicle.	[	□ No □ N/A	/3
	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 birds. The use of such equipment is encouraged by American Humane.		- 1/2	

## **Transport Mortality**

T14	Where causes of mortality are traceable to any source, prompt action is taken to prevent further deaths, injury, or suffering from occurring due to that source.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
T15	The minimum acceptable level of transport mortality is specified in the SOPs High levels of transport mortality from any single source, in any three-month period, are subject to investigation and must be reported to the American Humane Certified <sup>™</sup> program.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

# **Pass/Fail Auditor Evaluations**

1 455	Fail Auditor Evaluations		-
	No Instances of Willful Acts of Abuse Throughout the course of the audit, the auditor must not have observed hatchery personnel committing any willful acts of abuse towards hatchlings, which include but are not limited to kicking, unnecessary throwing, yelling at, or purposefully scaring the birds.		
P/F1	<ul> <li>Auditor note: this item has no point value.</li> <li>A mark of "Yes" indicates that the auditor <u>did NOT observe</u> willful acts of abuse committed by hatchery personnel towards the hatchlings.</li> <li>A mark of "No" indicates that the auditor believes that willful acts of abuse towards the hatchlings have been committed. The auditor must document the incident observed and s/he must inform management, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. Upon the discretion of the American Humane Certified™ program, the audit may be suspended. See below.</li> </ul>	❑ Yes ❑ No	/-
	Willful acts of abuse are major non-conformances and will not be tolerated. An investigation will be made to assess the incident and to determine whether remedial actions are required. The American Humane Certified™ program reserves the right to place the hatchery on probation from the program if the incident is determined to be severe. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies which to the satisfaction of the American Humane Certified™ program affectively remedy the issue, and the site must pass a follow-up audit prior to being reinstated.		
	<ul> <li>Absence of Live Hatchlings in Hatchery Waste</li> <li>In the hatchling processing area, there must be no live hatchlings in the hatchery waste.</li> <li>Auditor note: this item has no point value.</li> </ul>		
P/F2	<ul> <li>Addition hole. This term has no point value.</li> <li>A mark of "Yes" indicates that live hatchlings are absent from the hatchery waste.</li> <li>A mark of "No" indicates that the auditor observed live hatchlings in the hatchery waste. See below:</li> <li><u>The presence of live hatchlings in the hatchling waste is a severe non-conformance, and results in automatic failure of this audit.</u> The producer will be placed on probation from the program. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies which to the satisfaction of the American Humane Certified™ program affectively remedy the issue, and the site must pass a follow-up audit prior to being reinstated.</li> </ul>	☐ Yes ☐ No	/-

	Absence of Live Hatchlings in Washer In the hatchling processing area, there must be no live hatchlings in the washer.		
P/F3	<ul> <li>Auditor note: this item has no point value.</li> <li>A mark of "Yes" indicates that live hatchlings are absent from the washer.</li> <li>A mark of "No" indicates that the auditor observed live hatchlings in the washer. See below:</li> <li><u>The presence of live hatchlings in the washer is a severe non-conformance, and results in automatic failure of this audit.</u> The producer will be placed on probation from the program. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies which to the satisfaction of the American Humane Certified™ program affectively remedy the issue, and the site must pass a follow-up audit prior to being reinstated.</li> </ul>	❑ 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 site receives certification.

Hatchery Owner / Manager

Date

Auditor

Date

# American Humane Certified<sup>™</sup> **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: