



Ohio Administrative Code Rule 901:12-10-03 Management.

Effective: February 13, 2025

- (A) The responsible party must catch, lift, and move poultry humanely.
- (B) Except for paragraph (C) of rule 901:12-3-05 of the Administrative Code, birds can be caught or carried by one or both legs, and are not to be caught, carried, or lifted by the head, neck, or tail.
- (C) The following livestock management procedures are acceptable to minimize injury to the birds and, if performed, must be performed in a humane manner:
- (1) Beak conditioning;
 - (2) Male back toe conditioning;
 - (3) Dubbing;
 - (4) Caponizing; and
 - (5) Induced molting, which must also meet all of the following conditions:
 - (a) Use only non-feed withdrawal methods;
 - (b) Feed broiler breeders a maintenance ration for non-producing breeders;
 - (c) The light period reduced to no fewer than six hours in closed houses, or to natural day length in open houses, for the duration of the rest period. When the flock is placed back on a production diet, lights should be returned to the normal program; and
 - (d) During molt, monitor flock health, mortality, and bird weight.



(D) Environmental management must be designed to control rodents, non-beneficial insects, and parasite infestation in the birds, as it applies to the flock's housing system.

(E) Housing for broilers and broiler breeders must meet all of the following conditions:

(1) Provide a clean and safe environment that promotes the health, welfare, and performance of broilers/broiler breeders at all stages of their lives;

(2) If provided, a good quality and absorbent bedding;

(3) Manage environmental moisture, whether birds are housed indoors or outdoors, to promote flock health and welfare;

(4) Stocking densities must allow all broilers to rest at the same time without being forced to rest on top of each other at all stages of production and, in addition, provide all broilers access to feed and water without excessive competition that prevents individuals in the flock from maintaining normal body condition;

(5) Housing must be designed in a manner which:

(a) Seeks to minimize the effects of adverse weather conditions;

(b) Seeks to minimize conditions in which the bird cannot effectively thermo-regulate;

(c) Provides sufficient ventilation to reduce concentrations of carbon monoxide, ammonia, and dust;
and

(d) Provides backup systems in working condition, in houses/barns that require mechanized ventilation;

(6) Light intensity adequate for observation during inspection;

(7) If natural light is not available, artificial light is provided for rearing and production; and



(8) Free-range/pastured broilers are provided reasonable protection from adverse weather conditions and predators.

(F) Broiler breeders housing must meet the following conditions:

(1) If slats are used, the slats are designed and maintained so as to minimize bruising and injury;

(2) Where slats are used, if birds get under the slats remove the birds immediately;

(3) Introduction of new broiler breeder males performed in a manner which seeks to minimize aggression and the risk of injury; and

(4) If nest space is provided, clean as necessary to ensure that manure does not accumulate.