

## **FACTA Animal Welfare Quail Audit Tool & Standards**

Overall Assessment of Operations: major topics and humane guidelines in place:

Social housing in stable groups (females, mixed sex) or pairs (males)? (Yes/NO)

Adequate pen space to permit a range of activities and the provision of environmental enrichment? (Yes/NO)

Solid flooring with litter to allow foraging? (Yes/NO)

Appropriate cover? (Yes/NO)

Roofs designed to minimize head injuries (at least 30cm high and of flexible material)? (Yes/NO)

Dust baths with materials of a small particle size? (Yes/NO)

Nest boxes and nesting material for all breeding females? (Yes/NO)

Food presented so as to encourage foraging? (Yes/NO)

Appropriate feeder length to allow simultaneous feeding of all birds? (Yes/NO)

**Hatchery Audit Section #1** 

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
1.1.0	Is someone responsible for animal welfare in the hatchery?	Verify the employee and credentials.  Document the name and title of the employee.	5
1.2.0	Signature of the site manager which ensures corrective action is taken when a quail's well-being is jeopardized by injury.	Obtain the animal welfare statement signature from the employee.	5
1.3.0	Are employees trained in quail welfare?  1.31: Are on-site workers going through an orientation program, i.e., are employees trained in quail welfare before handling live animals?  1.32: Does the hatchery have a documented quail welfare training program conducted annually for all employees involved in the handling of live animals (multilingual if necessary; verbal translation of materials at time of training is acceptable)?	Select five employees to verify training records.	10
1.4.0	Does the hatchery have a posted emergency plan?  1.41: Are emergency contacts and emergency plans posted on site for emergencies such as fire, weather and power outages?  1.42: Does the site have procedures and/or equipment to prevent the death of animals in the event of extreme weather or a mechanical ventilation failure?	Review, document and verify company records.	10

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
1.5.0	Does the hatchery have an alarm system or regular monitoring system in use to alert hatchery personnel to failure of critical systems including, but not limited to, adverse temperature shifts or loss of electricity.	Review and document weekly records.	5
1.6.0	Is there a generator on site?	Yes/No	10
1.6.1	Is there a generator check in place and available for review? How often are generators tested? Are the generators sufficient enough to run the entire hatchery in the event of a power outage?	It is recommended that generators be tested weekly, monthly at minimum. Check generator maintenance log for completion of routine checks.	5
1.7.0	The company has a temperature range goal for the holding room in the hatchery.  The holding room is designated as the location birds are housed after processing until shipment.	View company policy and document temperature range in the notes section.	10
1.7.1	Is the temperature at the time of the audit within the documented temperature range goal stated in 1.7.0?	Document temperature of holding room at the time of audit.	5

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
1.8.0	Does the hatchery have employees who are charged with recording and reporting chick's injuries to management?	Document the name and title of employees responsible for these tasks.  Verify documentation of recording and reporting chick's injuries.  Preventable injuries include:  Improper beak trimming Improper declaw Improper toe trimming  *Pictures of these are included in supplemental information for auditors to view.	5
1.8.1	Are corrective actions taken when (1.8.0) preventable injuries are reported to management?	Verify documentation of the corrective actions.	10
1.9.0	Prior to shipping, visually observe 5 boxes of chicks (total of 1,000 chicks).  Are there more than 1% of chicks with evidence of obvious severe equipment injuries?	*There should be no more than 10 chicks with obvious severe equipment injuries. Severe equipment injuries include torn legs, broken legs and/or wings.  Document in the notes section how many birds you observe with these injuries and the total % out of all birds observed.	50
1.10.0	Are cull, non-sale and injured chicks euthanized in a timely manner?	Minimum of every two hours.	5
1.10.1	Are there any live chicks observed in the hatchery waste collection area?	Visually observe the hatchery waste collection area. A live chick in the hatchery waste collection is a major nonconformance. Report any nonconformance  The hatchery waste area is a designated area where waste is collected for disposal.	0

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
1.11.0	Is there a method that is considered acceptable or acceptable with conditions by the AVMA 2013 Euthanasia Guidelines in place to accomplish euthanasia of pips and culls?	Verify.	10
	And verified for proper operation? Survival of any chicks after euthanasia is a major nonconformance. All instances of nonconformance must be recorded.		
1.11.1	Observe euthanasia method to verify it is in compliance with hatchery protocol.	If this is not possible, you must interview at least one hatchery employee. Document this conversation.	10
1.12.0	Survival of any chicks after euthanasia is a major nonconformance.  Is there a method for documenting nonconformance euthanasia by the hatchery?	Verify this documentation.	0
1.13.0	Are hatcher baskets/trays are in good condition to prevent injuries to the chicks? (50 trays)	Broken or cracked trays that may cause any type of injury to a bird must be documented.  Verify hatcher baskets/trays are in good condition to prevent injuries to the chicks. (50 trays).	20

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
1.14.0	Does the hatchery require cleaning, washing and sanitizing specialized equipment for egg handling, incubation and hatching to protect the newly hatched chicks from infectious agents or trauma from equipment.	Verify these protocols.	10
1.15.0	Are carousels overloaded?	The number of chicks on one carousel at one time cannot be to extent that  Birds fall off the carousel and/or pilling of birds occurs	10
1.16.0	Chicks are placed in boxes at the number of less than 300/box. (Describe box dimensions).	Document box dimensions.	5
1.17.0	Are boxes cleaned and sanitized to prevent contamination after each delivery?	Yes/No	10
1.18.0	Does the hatchery have a certified veterinarian available for consultation as needed?	Verify veterinarian-client relationship by one of the following ways:  • Documented letter signed by the veterinarian pertaining to veterinarian-client relationship • Viewing vaccination/medication prescriptions • Veterinarian-client contract	20
	Hatchery Audit Section:	1	230

**Housing Requirements and Farm GMP Audit Section #2** 

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
2.1.0	Is someone responsible for animal welfare in the live operations department?	Verify the employee and credentials.  Document the name and title of the employee.	5
2.2.0	Signature of the site manager which ensures corrective action is taken when a quail's well-being is jeopardized by injury.	Obtain the animal welfare statement signature from the employee.	5
2.3.0	Are employees trained in quail welfare?  2.31: Are on-site workers going through an orientation program, i.e., are employees trained in quail welfare before handling live animals?  2.32: Do the on-farm employees have a documented quail welfare training program conducted annually for all employees involved in handling of live animals(multilingual if necessary; verbal translation of materials at time of training is acceptable)?	Verify training records.	10
2.4.0	Does the live operations department have a posted emergency plan?  2.41: Are emergency contacts and emergency plans posted on site for emergencies such as fire, weather and power outages?  2.42: Does the department have procedures and/or equipment to prevent death of animals in the event of extreme weather or a mechanical ventilation failure?	Review, document and verify company records.	10

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
2.5.0	Is the temperature and ventilation in the chicks transport trailer adequate for bird comfort? Also, is there a major difference in conditions in the chicks holding room and truck condition?	There should not be a major difference in conditions in the holding room and the truck. Verify that truck conditions are being recorder and the company chicks transport procedures are being followed.	5
2.6.0	Do company dead on arrivals ("DOA") exceed .85% from hatchery to the grower farm in the previous 30 (working) days of hatchery production? (List).	View past records to indicate. If .85% is exceeded in records, a written corrective action must be recorded and verified by the auditor.	5
2.7.0	Driver/transport records are kept for each delivery that include:	Records must be reviewed by auditor for compliance.	10
2.8.0	Is there a company lighting program on the farm and is it being followed?	Verify that there is a lighting program in place or posted on farm. Verify that the program is being followed.	10
2.9.0	Are feeders and drinkers regularly being checked?	Observe visually. This is routinely done on the daily walk/checks of the on-farm employees. Verbally confirm with the farm worker that he/she is checking these issues.	5
2.10.0	Is company policy on stocking density being followed for adequate, maximum performance and health?	Calculate density based on number of birds placed and square footage.	20
2.11.0	Are the drinkers and feed levels such that the quails can access them at all times?	Quails must be able to access feed and water at all times on the farm until feed withdrawal period prior to shipment to the processing plant.	5

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
2.12.0	Does the company have a maximum and minimum temperature policy in each house, or primary rest area for range quails?  Is the policy being followed	If a policy is in place regarding maximum and minimum temperature ranges then verify that it is being followed.	10
	correctly?		
2.13.0	Is there a company policy in place managing litter, ventilation, drinking systems and feed formulations to maintain appropriate paw integrity?	Assess that the company is following the guidelines to promote paw integrity on the farm. Is the policy being followed?	10
2.14.0	Are structural integrity and environmental controls set up to protect birds from extreme cold weather and extreme heat during the growing cycle?	Observe the circumference of the housing conditions and environmental controls. Be sure to document if any holes, structural failure, or broken fans etc. are observed during the audit.	10
2.15.0	Is the ammonia level in the house below 25ppm? Take the ammonia reading at the center of the house at bird level.	Document ammonia levels from a digital ammonia reading device provided by FACTA. Ammonia strips cannot be used in this certain criteria.	25

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
2.16.0	Enrichment is provided to the birds to mitigate persecution? (What/describe if working).  Use the definitions in the standards to complete and observe if the enrichment provided is working properly.	<ol> <li>Types of enrichments:</li> <li>Social enrichment, which can involve either direct or indirect (visual, auditory) contact with conspecifics (other quails).</li> <li>Occupational enrichment, which encompasses both psychological enrichment (e.g., devices that provide quails with control or challenges) and enrichment that encourages exercise.</li> <li>Physical enrichment, which can involve altering the size or complexity of the animal's enclosure or adding accessories to the enclosure such as objects, substrate or permanent structures (e.g., nest boxes).</li> <li>Sensory enrichment, or stimuli that are visual (e.g., television), auditory (music, vocalizations), or in other modalities.</li> </ol>	5
2.17.0	Are birds on site currently being injured by equipment or the building structure?	No sharp edges, or broken gate rods, etc. that could potentially cause injury to animals.	25
2.18.0	Is there a backup power system or emergency ventilation plan in place and written documentation is provided with up-to-date verification of weekly testing? (Document and review dates).	Document the plan is being followed and review dates.	10
2.19.0	Are house structural integrity, biosecurity, and rodent control in place to exclude quails from predators of all kind?	Describe what is in place and if there is any documentation of rodent control, etc.	10
2.20.0	Is there a rodent control program in place? Is there evidence of rodent infestation or rodent feces?	What type? List and document what is in place?	5
2.21.0	If culling exceeds 10% per flock, are there preventative measures being performed to reduce the high percentage?	Document the corrective actions being taken.	5

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
2.22.0	Are the methods of euthanasia used on site approved by AVMA?  2.24.1: Are only trained/certified individuals allowed to perform the euthanasia?	Document the names of individuals trained/certified at the individual site being audited.	20
2.23.0	Is culling occurring by on the farm employees at minimum of once daily?	Removal of abnormal birds by humanely culling them from the flock and disposing of them should be done routinely.  The determination of whether or not to cull can be more easily made by answering the questions listed:  a. Is the bird experiencing pain or distress?  b. Is the bird able to access the feed and water?  c. Can or should the bird be treated?  d. Is recovery likely?  e. Is the bird likely to transmit disease to other birds?  f. Is the bird suitable for human consumption or will it be suitable for consumption after recovery or treatment?	5
2.24.0	Evaluate inside feeder for mold/mildew, etc. (evaluate 20 feeders).	Document findings.	15
2.25.0	Feed formulations are approved by a professional quail nutritionist. (Name).	Document the nutritionist's name. This can also be verified by:  - Direct contact with nutritionist - Contract between nutritionist and Company - Feed formulation order form with nutritionist name present	10
2.26.0	Is feed and water withdrawal kept to the minimum level consistent with good processing practices?	Verify company records/documentation.  Water withdrawal should not exceed two hours prior to catch. Feed withdrawal should not exceed 24 hours prior to slaughter.	5

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
2.27.0	Is feed and water consumption monitored? Is feed intake monitored with every change of feed type; water consumption is monitored daily?	Verify that feed and water consumption is being monitored on farm.	5
2.28.0	Does holding time ever exceed 24 hours?	Document if holding time exceeds 24 hours.  A holding time greater than 24 hours is a major nonconformance for catching and transportation. Non conformances must be documented.	0
	Housing Requirements and Farm	GMP Audit Section	265

**Catching and Transportation Welfare Audit Section #3** 

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
3.1.0	Is someone responsible for animal welfare in the live haul department?	Verify the employee and credentials.  Document the name and title of the employee.	5
3.2.0	Signature of the site manager which ensures that corrective action is taken when a quail's well-being is jeopardized by injury.	Obtain the animal welfare statement signature from the employee.	5
3.3.0	Are employees trained in quail welfare?  3.31: Are on site workers going through an orientation program, i.e., are trained in quail welfare before handling live animals?  3.32: Does the live haul department have a documented quail welfare training program conducted annually for all employees involved in handling of live animals(multilingual if necessary; verbal translation of materials at time of training is acceptable)?	Select five employees to verify training records.	10
3.4.0	Does the live haul department have a posted emergency plan?  3.41: Are emergency contacts and emergency plans posted on site/trucks for emergencies such as fire, weather and power outages?  3.42: Does the live haul department have procedures and/or equipment to prevent death of animals in the event of extreme weather or a mechanical ventilation failure?	Review, document and verify company records.	10

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
3.5.0	Are catchers placing quails carefully into the transport coop?	Live haul coops must be large enough for the birds to lie down and move around without being pinned by other birds in the cage. Gates or doors on each coop must close completely to prevent the accidental escape of birds during transport.	10
3.6.0	Does the company have a documented program to protect quails from extremes of heat and cold during transportation and holding, and provide birds with adequate ventilation?	Verify and document what procedures are in place.	5
3.7.0	Are cages/modules/crates/coops used during transport kept in proper working condition?	Live haul coops must be large enough for the birds to lie down and to move around without being pinned by other birds in the cage. a. Gates or doors on each coop must close completely to prevent the accidental escape of birds during transport. The coops must be free of gaps six inches or more.	5
3.8.0	Visually inspect 40 coops for condition. Document the number of cages that are in proper condition.	"Proper condition" would be the number of coops free of broken metal objects, working doors and bent metal.	5
3.9.0	Is there a documented protocol in place to address coop damage and make necessary repairs?	Describe the protocol. This would be a protocol to make fixtures to broken metal, rough flooring and nonworking doors to minimize injury opportunities during transport.	10
3.10.0	Is the trailer unfit for transportation of live quails?	Check to see if there are several broken coops or any major areas of concern related to the welfare of birds during travel and make documentation.	5
3.11.0	Transport records must be kept by flock and include:  • Flock #  • Delivery date	Verify this is being done.	20
	Catching and Transportation Welfare Audit Section		

**Plant and Processing Welfare Section #4** 

Q#	Audit Tool Verification/Guideline Process		Numerical Value
4.1.0	Is someone responsible for animal welfare in the plant?	Verify the employee and credentials.  Document the name and title of the employee.	5
4.2.0	Signature of the site manager which ensures corrective action is taken when a quail's well-being is jeopardized by injury.	Obtain the animal welfare statement signature from the employee.	5
4.3.0	Are employees trained in quail welfare?  4.31: Are on-site workers going through an orientation program, i.e., are employees trained in quail welfare before handling live animals?  4.32: Does the Plant have a documented quail welfare training program conducted annually for all employees involved in the handling of live animals (multilingual if necessary; verbal translation of materials at time of training is acceptable)?	Select five employees to verify training records.	10
4.4.0	Does the plant have a posted emergency plan?  4.41: Are emergency contacts and emergency plans posted on site for emergencies such as fire, weather, and power outages?  4.42: Does the site have procedures and/or equipment to prevent death of animals in the event of extreme weather or a mechanical ventilation failure?	Review, document and verify company records.	10
4.5.0	The company has a program and equipment for keeping birds comfortable in holding sheds.	Yes/No	10

Q#	Audit Tool Verification/Guideline Process		Numerical Value	
4.6.0	Are holding areas covered and equipped with an adequate number of fans to ensure proper ventilation for birds; company procedures for fan operation have designated temperatures at which fans and misters are to be operated?	Verify that company guidelines and temperature ranges are being followed for holding shed fans and misters.	10	
4.7.0	Are there procedures in place to retrieve loose birds in a timely manner?	If so, what is the company procedure and is it being followed?  If no loose birds are seen during the audit, then confirm verbally with plant employee that loose birds are retrieved in a timely manner. (minimum of 2 hours)	5	
4.8.0	Are holding times kept to the minimum consistent with good processing practices? Plant/Yard holding time must not exceed 24 hours? (Check records for previous week)	Check records for previous week.	5	
4.9.0	Is DOA documented with anything over 0.85% average per week having a documented corrective action?	Check records for previous week.	5	
4.10.0	Are there any live birds in the DOA bin? A live bird in the DOA bin is a major nonconformance.	Visually verify.	0	
4.11.0	When unloading are cages lifted and moved from trailers in a manner not to injure birds?  4.11.1: Are birds being unloaded on top of other birds?  4.11.2: Are birds being handled by the wings or head?	Visually verify.  Birds should not be unloaded on top of other birds.  Birds should never be handled by the wings or head.	15	
4.12.0	Are light levels in the hanging and unloading area lowered in order to keep birds calm?	Observe lighting conditions during audit.	5	

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
4.13.0	In electrical stunning are the proper amperage, voltage and salt solution known and checked hourly for the equipment used? (Except for Kosher or Halal slaughter, which have separate guidelines)	Proper amperage, voltage and salt solution should be known and checked hourly for the equipment used.	10
4.14.0	Is stunning with CO2 or other gas, proper concentration of the gas should be known and checked each hour of operation?	When stunning with CO2 or other gas, proper concentration of the gas should be known and checked each hour of operation.	10
4.15.0	Is effective stunning resulting in unconsciousness and insensibility (no eye reflex) in at least 98.5% of birds are properly stunned. (No more than 15 birds in 1,000-bird samples are apparently not stunned).	Take 1,000 bird samples and document the findings.	60
4.16.0	The automatic knife is effective to cut blood vessels to induce bleedout and is at least 98.5% effective. (No more than 15 birds in 1,000-bird samples need to be killed by backup person).	Take 1,000 bird samples and document the findings. (Except for Kosher or Halal slaughter, which have separate guidelines)?	30
4.17.0	Are all birds dead before entering the scalder? Evidence that a live bird entered the scalder consists only in a finding after the picker that a bird's vessels were not cut.	Take 1,000 bird samples and document the findings.	0

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
4.18.0	Is the shackling line located in a closed area, and the belt on the line must include parameters to prevent birds from falling off.	What kind of parameters are in place?  Document what is in place.	5
4.19.0	Are appropriate measures taken to prevent wing flapping and birds raising their heads before reaching the stunning bath?	Visually verify. (CAS Exempt.)	10
4.20.0	Are shackles of a size and type, and the slaughter line run at a speed, which permits the birds to be hung on properly?	Shackles must be of a size and type, and the slaughter line run at a speed, which permits the birds to be hung on properly.	5
4.21.0	Are quails suspended for more than 60 seconds before they are stunned? Quails must not be suspended for more than 90 seconds before they are stunned.	Verify time with timer. This must be recorded during a complete 90 second cycle with NO line stoppage. If line stoppage occurs then you must restart to the timer to get an accurate line time before quails are stunned.	5
4.22.0	Does more than 10 seconds elapse between stunning and neck cutting?	Verify with timer. Line must be in working order to conduct this portion. If line stoppage occurs then the auditor must start this portion of the audit over.	10

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value
4.23.0	A count of 500 birds leaving the de-feathering area must show no more than two birds with bruised legs. Document the auditor findings. (Recent bruises on thighs and drumsticks indicate rough handling and should be corrected. Green trim defects are not fresh and are caused by an injury or activity that occurred on the farm prior to loading and should be addressed there).	<ol> <li>Live haul defects caused by loading for market and hauling to the processing plant.</li> <li>a. Loading bruises and bone breaks, chasing bruises and stuffing bruises are diagnosed by location on the bird and the presence of swelling and edema in the wound.</li> <li>b. Leg coop congestion and leg-out of coop bruises are caused during hauling.</li> <li>c. Training of live haul personnel with feedback from the plant diagnostician is important to improving bird damage and humane bird handling.</li> <li>2. Processing plant defects that occur prior to kill.</li> <li>a. Bruises and bone breaks that occur in the plant do not have time to change much prior to kill and are dark in color without swelling or edema present. They occur on the wings and leg primarily due to excessive bird activity and wing flapping. A quiet dark shackling area with smooth line operation and minimum turns is helpful. Training personnel to keep birds quiet is important.</li> <li>b. Bruises and damage from pulled muscles and tendons can occur when birds are shackled on only one leg or during plant delays.</li> </ol>	20
4.24.0	Are quails immersed in a scalding tank or plucked only after at least 55 seconds have elapsed since the major blood vessels in their necks have been severed?	Verify with timer. Quails must not be immersed in a scalding tank or plucked until at least 120 seconds have elapsed since the major blood vessels in their necks have been severed.	50
	Plant and Processing Welfare Sec	tion:	300

**Corporate Review and Responsibility Audit Section #5:** 

Q#	Audit Tool	Verification/Guideline Process	Numerical Value	
5.1.0	Does the company have a written program for animal welfare with a clear understanding of how the program is operated throughout the company?	Document and verify.	10	
5.2.0	Does current senior management sign off on the animal welfare program annually?  Is there a review of documented operating procedures being performed annually?	Document and verify.	10	
5.3.0	Does the company have an internal auditing inspection process in place? If so, how frequently is it to be completed?	The company must have an internal auditing inspection in place at least annually.  Document and verify that this is being followed consistently.	10	
5.4.0	Does the company have a certified veterinarian available for consultation as needed?	Verify veterinarian-client relationship by one of the following ways  • Documented letter signed by veterinarian pertaining to veterinarian-client relationship  • Viewing vaccination/medication prescriptions  • Veterinarian-client contract	10	
	ility Audit Section:	40		

## **Quail Lameness/Gait Evaluation**

When scoring gait, the auditor will separate 25 quails from each flock he/she is auditing. (Note: the birds may need to be gently encouraged to walk. If birds become stressed, especially in hot weather, discontinue scoring immediately). U.S. gait scoring is referenced below:

- a. Score 0 Walk at least five feet, and while the bird may appear ungainly, there are no visible signs of lameness.
- b. Score 1 Walk at least five feet, but appears awkward, uneven in steps.
- c. Score 2 Will not walk five feet without sitting down or there is obvious lameness.

#### Gait Score = 0

- Zero abnormality when quail is walking or running.
- Quail is well balanced and can function normally.
- Gait is in proper form.
- Foot does not curl inwards.

### Gait Score = 1

- The quail is forced to use one or the other wing to balance itself properly.
- Foot does not curl inwards.
- Uneven gait.
- Spend most time in a downward position on the floor.

## Gait Score = 2

- Unable to get to food or water.
- Must use both wings to help perform movement.

Complete 4 samples of 25 quails. (Gait score must not exceed 25).

(Total # scoring  $0 \times 0$ ) + (total number scoring  $1 \times 1$ ) + (total number scoring  $2 \times 2$ ) = Lameness sum.

Gait Score:	Flock #1	Flock #2	Flock #3	Flock #4	Total/Sum:
0					
1					
2					
				Lameness Sum:	

# **Summary Sheet and Score**

Date Completed	Audit Section	Possible Points/ Actual Points
	Hatchery Welfare Audit Section #1	230 ( )
	Housing Requirements and Farm GMP Audit Section #2	265 ( )
	Catching and Transportation Welfare Audit Section #3	90()
	Plant and Processing Welfare Audit Section #4	300 ( )
	Corporate Review and Responsibility Audit Section #5	40 ( )
Total Score:		925 ( )
Total %:		100.00%