

## Food Labeling Program Standards for Meat Chickens

<b>Animal Welfare Standard</b>	<b>Industry Guideline</b>	<b>USDA Certified Organic Program</b>	<b>Certified Humane Program</b>	<b>American Humane Certified Program</b>	<b>Animal Welfare Approved Program</b>
<b>Antibiotics</b>	Permitted	Prohibited	Permitted for disease treatment only	Permitted for disease treatment only	Permitted for disease treatment only
<b>Access to Outdoors</b>	Not required	Required; temporary confinement allowed	Not required	Not required	Required
<b>Max. Stocking Density</b>	6.5 lbs per sq ft (for birds below 4.5 lbs) to 8.5 lbs per sq ft (for birds more than 5.5 lbs)	Not addressed but opportunity to exercise & freedom of movement required	6.0 lbs per sq ft	56 lbs per sq yd	1 bird per 1.8 sq ft
<b>Litter for Dust Bath</b>	Not required	Not addressed	Required	Required	Required
<b>Indoor Lighting</b>	Near-continuous lighting allowed; 4 hrs darkness per day recommended	Access to direct sunlight required	Min. 8 hrs light, 6 continuous hrs of darkness required per day	Min. 8 hrs light, 6 continuous hrs of darkness required per day	Natural lighting required; Max. of 16 hrs artificial lighting
<b>Beak Trimming</b>	Prohibited in meat birds; permitted in breeding birds	Alterations to be performed as needed to ensure welfare	Prohibited in meat birds; not specified for breeders	Prohibited in meat birds; not specified for breeders	Prohibited for all birds including breeders
<b>Max. Transport Time</b>	No limit	Not addressed	10 hrs from start of loading to unloading at plant	12 hrs from start of loading to unloading at plant	Transport to slaughter must not exceed 4 hours
<b>Acceptable Methods of Stunning for Slaughter</b>	Not specified	Not addressed	Electrical bath, dry, hand-held stunning permitted; gas not permitted, used for killing only	Electrical stunning bath, dry stunner, hand-held stunner	Preferred method is stunning birds in crates using controlled atmosphere killing