

MANAGEMENT GUIDE

PARENT STOCK MALE
MATED WITH
PREMIUM FEMALES



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1. KEY MESSAGES REARING PERIOD (0–20 WEEKS): EQUIPMENT AND STOCKING DENSITY

Successful rearing = More than 80% males with a good sexual development in line with female maturity. All males should show straight legs, correct toes, beak, body conformation and feathering.

OBJECTIVE PER PERIOD	0–4 weeks:	Obtain a good start and a successful grading
	5–10 weeks:	Develop the skeleton of the birds
	11–15 weeks:	Control the breast muscle development (fleshing)
	16–22 weeks:	Prepare the males for a proper development of the testicles

Flock management to be adapted according to the local rearing conditions (housing type, climate...).

- *Ad libitum* feeding during the first 2 weeks and until 3 weeks of age if the 2 weeks bodyweight target is not achieved. Review again at 21 days before controlling feed amounts.
- Combine the reduction of day length and light intensity in the first 2 weeks: 24 hours light/60 lux → 8 hours light/5–10 lux. If the males and females are brooded in the same house, a specific lighting programme will be applied. In separate houses, it may be possible to delay the step down of light if growth is below target.
- Provide 5 cm/male of perch space or 4 m² of platform/1000 males from 28 days to train the males to jump up to the slats.
- Grade or at least isolate the smallest chicks from 7 days. Following the grading performed before 4 weeks of age, the pen with the small males must reach the 8 weeks bodyweight target to secure skeletal development which is almost completed at this age.
- Maintain 45–60 minutes eating time.

EQUIPMENT AND STOCKING DENSITY DURING REARING	Stocking density *	3–4 birds/m ²
	Brooders	1 for 500 chicks
	Watering – bell drinker	1 for 80 birds
	Watering – nipple	1 for 8–10 birds
	Feeding – chain	20 cm/bird (10 m/100 birds)
	Feeding – round pan	1 for 8 birds
	Feeding – oval pan	1 for 8–10 birds
	Spin feeder	1 for 1000–1200 birds
	Feed distribution time	< 4 minutes

* Stocking density may be subject to local regulations which must be observed at all times.

- Avoid disruption in growth between 16–22 weeks especially when changing feed type and after vaccinations. Assess body conformation on a regular basis. Throughout the life of the flock:

- Ensure good distribution of both feed and water for a good flock uniformity.
- Where possible males should be grown using the same type of feeder in rearing and in production.
- Maintain good litter quality (dry, not caked).
- Meet the environmental and air quality requirements for a healthy flock.
- Weigh 3–5% of the flock or at least 60 birds per pen per week.

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[Management guide
Premium Mini PS](#)



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Redbro PS](#)



[Hubbard Poster
Feed distribution](#)



[Hubbard Bulletin
Grading](#)



2. KEY MESSAGES PRODUCTION PERIOD (20–65 WEEKS): EQUIPMENT AND STOCKING DENSITY

LIGHT

- To ensure a good balance of the male and female sexual maturity, males may be stimulated few weeks earlier than females.

TRANSFER TIME (20–22 WEEKS) TO 27 WEEKS OF AGE

- Avoid disruption in growth between 20–27 weeks, especially when changing feed type and mixing males. Ensure the weekly growth rate is on target.
- Mixing is crucial to establish a good relationship between the males and females:
 - Mix males that are on target bodyweight with uniform skeleton size and good shank length (Ensure the 10 weeks bodyweight is achieved to maximise skeletal growth). Never mix shy and/or sexually immature males.
 - The mating ratio will depend on the male breed used. More than 9.5% males could be a risk to maintain good female feathering and low floor eggs %.
- The risk of excessive weight gain and/or loss of condition up to 28 weeks is high:
 - Control male access to female feeders by using the correct grill size on chain feeders (Premium Mini: 43–45 mm wide x 55 mm high; Redbro: 45 mm wide x 60 mm high). Consider adding a pipe of 20–25 mm width to the top of the grill if a taller grill is used and adjusting pan feeders to the minimum width and height setting.
 - Ensure that the corners of the feed track are sealed with covers. Check behaviour throughout the day to see if males are stealing feed. If males are still stealing feed adjust the feed amount in male feeders.
 - Check feed distribution at least 2 times per week at first and then every week. Feed males when the first female feed is being distributed.



Open sided production house

- Weigh 3–5% of the flock or at least 60 males per pen weekly. Adjust feed according to both condition and bodyweight.

AFTER 28 WEEKS OF AGE

- Male bodyweight gain should be regular and within the range shown on the graph of the Performance Objectives. Feed to maintain their condition. → See *“Performance Objectives”*.
- Depending on the male breed, specific male diet could be used to help to maintain male in good condition. → See *“Nutrition Recommendations”*.
- Depending on the male breed, male replacement is one option to maintain fertility after 40–45 weeks of age only if all biosecurity risk controls at all times are respected. → See Bulletin *“Male replacement”*.
 - “Intra-farm” male replacement where males can be exchanged between houses.
 - External flock replacement where the males should come from a known source with known health status.

WATER

- Control water quality: pH = 5.5 to 6.8; Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) or Redox potential > 600 mV with chlorine; Chlorine concentration at the end of the pipe = 1 ppm (Acceptable range: 0.5 to 3 ppm). → Maintain a good litter quality.

EQUIPMENT AND STOCKING DENSITY DURING PRODUCTION	Watering – bell drinker	1 for 80 males
	Watering – nipple flow 70–100 ml/min*	1 for 6 to 10 males
	Feeding – chain	20 cm per male / 10 m length for 100 males
	Feeding – round pan ø 35 cm – 13.8 in	1 for 8 males
	Feeding – oval pan	1 for 8–10 males
	Feed distribution time	< 4 minutes
	Light intensity	60–80 lux

* Some nipple drinker systems are designed to operate with lower flow rates for breeders so check the manufacturer's recommendations or seek advice from your Hubbard Technical Specialist.

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[Management guide
Premium Mini PS](#)



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[Nutrition
Recommendations](#)



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Water Quality](#)



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Male replacement](#)

3. REARING PERIOD (0-20 WEEKS): HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL BROODING PERIOD?

The key management practices are shown in our brooding poster. → See Poster “**Brooding PS**”. Close observation during the first 10 days of the chicks in their environment will make brooding successful by adjusting light, feed, water, equipment, heat and minimum ventilation.



✓

Check the height and the pressure of the nipples



✓

Good chick distribution in the brooding pen



✓

After 24 h, 96% of the chicks with a full and soft crop



Optimal crumble starter feed

KEY POINTS

- Ensure that the floor temperature is above 29 °C.
- Chick paper on at least 50% of the surface with feed and avoid a build-up of feed dust during the first 14 days.
- A daily growth graph for the period 0-35 days is available to follow early growth → See Performance Objectives for the relevant male breed.
- Keep using starter crumbles if bodyweight not on target at 28 days and use grower feed if bodyweight is on target.
- Use of all the floor space by 10 days if brooders are used.
- Ideal water pH: 5.5 to 6.8 with an optimal ORP or Redox potential higher than 600 mV (with chlorination) or chlorine concentration at the end of the pipe = 1 ppm (acceptable range: 0.5 to 3 ppm). Water at ambient temperature: 24-26 °C.

- Grade or at least isolate the smallest birds from 7 days.
- If possible, use an intermittent lighting programme to promote early feed intake (e.g. cycles of 2.30 h light/30 min dark from day 1 to day 7) and always respect the recommended hours of light below and a minimum of 4 cycles of light dark per day (if permitted by local regulations).
- The rate of step down of the photoperiod may often be slower (e.g. achieve 8 h light not earlier than 21 days) in the following cases:
 - ▷ For open-sided housing, allow birds to feed in the cooler part of the day. Also use the experience from the previous flocks.
 - ▷ In case the target weight of the males is not achieved at 7 days.



Hubbard Poster
Brooding PS

AGE	Days	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
TEMPERATURE	Under the heaters	35–36				32–34				28–30						
	Living area	28					27–28				25–26					
	Whole house heating	31–32	30–31	29–30	28–29		26–27									
HUMIDITY	%	50–60														
EQUIPMENT	Drinker	1 round drinker for 60 birds; 1 nipple for 8 birds								1 round drinker for 80 birds; 1 nipple for 8–10 birds						
	Feeder	1 feeder/50–70 birds + chick paper (> 50%)								Chain feeder: 6–8 cm/bird; 1 oval pan feeder/13–14 birds*; 1 round pan feeder/12 birds						
DENSITY	Chicks/m ²	25–30				12				6–8						
LIGHT PROGRAMME	Light duration (h)	24		22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11–12 **	8–12 **
	Intensity *** (lux)	60								40			20		5–10	
FEED	Ad libitum	Ad libitum for 2 weeks and until 3 weeks if the 2 weeks bodyweight is not achieved. Review again at 21 days before controlling feed amounts.														
	Feed type	Pre-starter crumbles or mini pellets (< 2.5 mm diameter) for a minimum of 14 days														

* Feeding space to be adjusted according to the behaviour of the birds.
** In case the target weights of the males are not achieved at 7 days.
*** If permitted by local regulations.

3. REARING PERIOD (0–20 WEEKS): HOW TO FOLLOW THE BODYWEIGHT TARGETS?

MANUAL WEIGHING



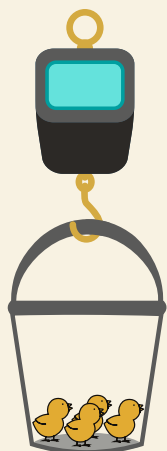
Every week, always the same day: hatch day is the best.



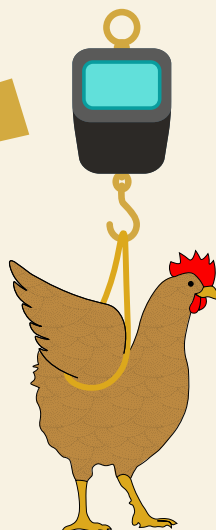
Best before feeding.

After feeding, use a with feed and water bodyweight target.

Age < 2 weeks



Age > 2 weeks



- Check the calibration of the scale before weighing the birds.
- Take samples from 3 separate places but not too close to the main feed hopper. Always keep the same location.
- **Sample size: 3–5% of the flock size or at least 60 birds per pen.**
- Weigh all the birds of the catching pen.



Analysis of the weekly results for an optimal feed allocation management:

1. The feed allocation per bird should be based on the average bodyweight calculated after weighing.
2. Compare the average bodyweight with the bodyweight target. Plot the average weight on the growth curve to see the trend.
3. Calculate the weekly gain and compare it with the objective mentioned in the Performance Objectives of the relevant male breed.
4. Adjust feed allocation according to the weekly weight gain achieved and the weight gain targeted for the next week. Please do not strictly follow the feed intake targets as they are only provided as a guideline and consider actual feed increases.

AUTOMATIC WEIGHING

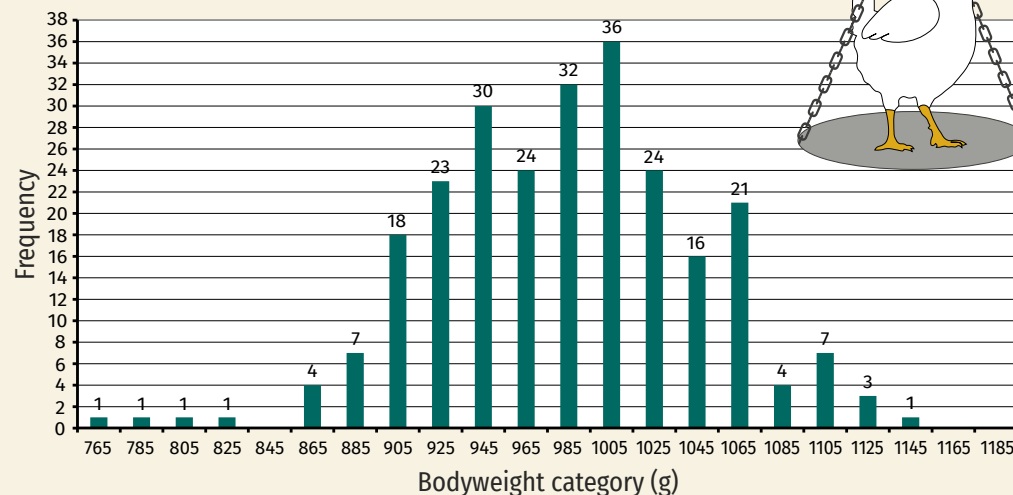


Every week, always the same day: hatch day is the best.



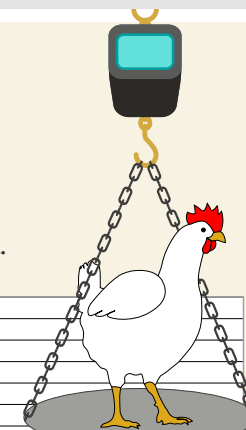
Best before feeding.

After feeding, use a with feed and water bodyweight target.



Results from an automatic scale—good bodyweight distribution

- Ensure to place the scales as soon as possible to maximise the number of birds weighed.
- Always check the number of birds weighed per pen (at least 300 birds/weighing) and make sure that the bodyweight distribution shows a “bell curve” shape (see figure above). The lower and upper limits of the bodyweights often need to be adjusted.
- If an unexpected variation of the bodyweight from the objective is observed, it is recommended to re-weigh by hand a new sample.
- Check weekly the calibration of the platform scales.



3. REARING PERIOD (0–20 WEEKS): HOW TO REACH AND MAINTAIN A GOOD FLOCK UNIFORMITY?

There are two possible indicators to express flock uniformity:

1. Uniformity is defined by the percentage of birds weighing between $\pm 10\%$ around the average flock bodyweight. → See chart below.
2. The coefficient of Variation (CV) is the variation of bodyweights within the flock (= Standard deviation/average flock bodyweight). The lower the CV%, then the flock is more uniform.

GRADING

➤ 7 days: grade or at least isolate the smallest chicks by eye and manage them with special care to achieve target weight by 4 weeks.

➤ 21–28 days: grade 100% of the flock and create weight groups, each with at least 85% uniformity (CV < 7.5). → See Bulletin “Grading”.

➤ 29–84 days: aim to maintain or improve flock uniformity by having a close follow up of the feed distribution. → See Poster “Feed distribution”. Poor wing feather quality may be an indication of poor feed distribution or feeder management.



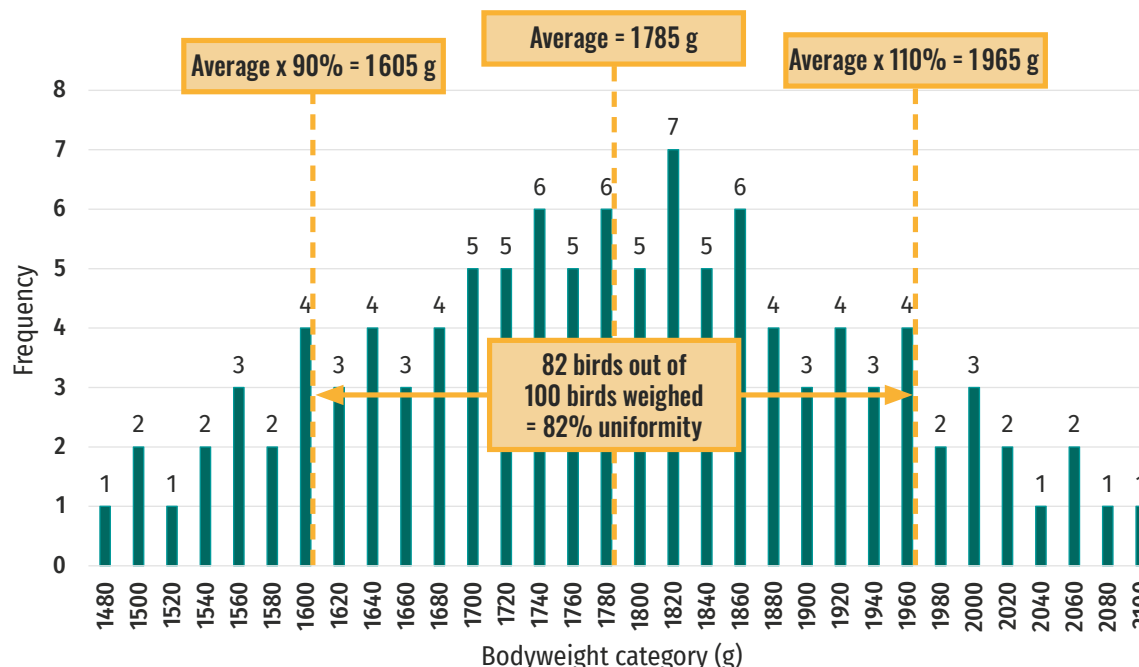
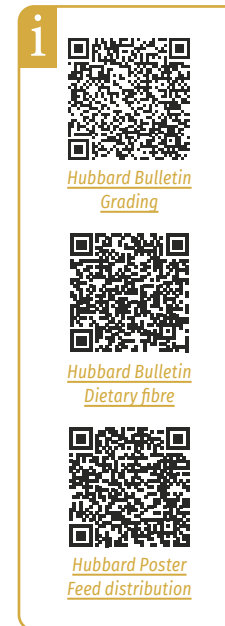
➤ 84–98 days: if flock uniformity is less than 80% (CV > 8), re-grade the flock to ensure that each weight group achieves at least 85% uniformity (CV < 7.5). Have a close bodyweight follow up during the vaccination periods. Anticipate this with extra feed.

FEED PROGRAMME

➤ Daily feeding gives successful results in many situations. If fractionated feeding is considered then please contact your Hubbard Technical Specialist to discuss possible solutions to optimise feed distribution.

➤ Adjust the feed depth in the feeders each time the feed allocation is changed to ensure the correct distribution.

➤ Use of a low energy grower feed (< 2650 kcal/kg) is preferred to improve gut health and eating behaviour. If high fibre sources are added to the feed these must be of consistent quality and mycotoxin free. → See Bulletin “Dietary fibre”.



Results of one manual weighing – % uniformity definition

3. REARING PERIOD (0–20 WEEKS): HOW TO PROMOTE GOOD BEHAVIOUR AND PROVIDE GOOD ANIMAL WELFARE?

For all enrichments it is important to consider the risks to compromise biosecurity, especially from straw or other bales and material brought into the house and also the ease of washing of fixed enrichments like platforms.

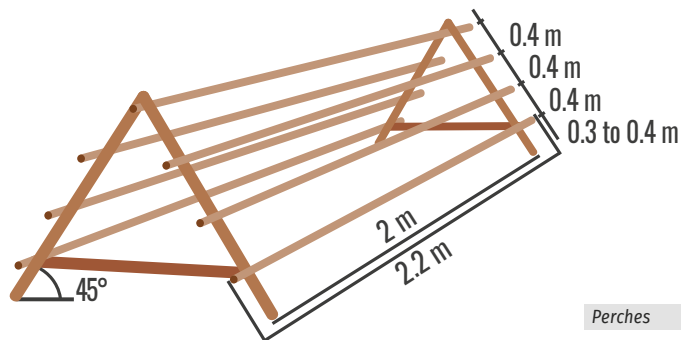
■ PERCHES AND PLATFORMS

From 28 days, the use of a perching system is strongly recommended to stimulate activity and to train birds to jump onto the slats.

- Provide 5 cm of perch space per bird.
- Provide 4 m² of platform for 1000 birds. Optimal position of the platform is under the drinking system once the birds are able to jump onto the slats.
- Platforms and perches should not have sharp edges that may damage birds.



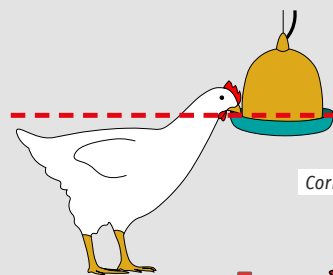
Platforms



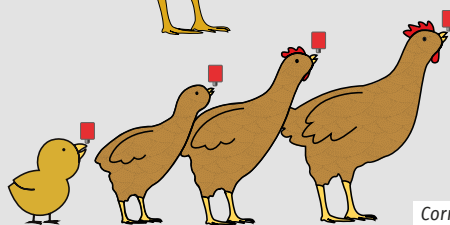
Perches

■ WATER MANAGEMENT/WATER QUALITY

- With a regular and proper management of drinker height and water flow according to flock age, no controlled access to water should be needed.



Correct bell drinker height



Correct nipple height

- Regularly check the chemical and bacteriological water quality to ensure that water sanitation is working properly.

1. Optimal water pH: 5.5 to 6.8.
2. Optimal ORP higher than 600 mV with chlorine.
3. Chlorine concentration at the end of the pipe: target = 1 ppm (acceptable range: 0.5 to 3 ppm).

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Bulletin
Water Quality

■ GRIT AND GRAIN: optional.

- Insoluble grit to promote the gizzard development.

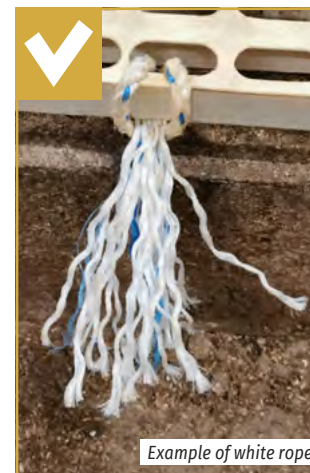
1. Ø 2–3 mm: 3–5 g/bird/week from 5 weeks of age.
2. Ø 3–5 mm: 3–5 g/bird/week from 10 weeks of age.



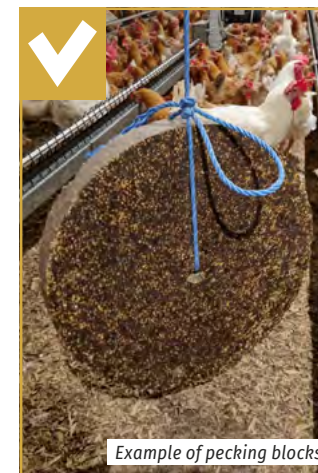
- Sanitized scratch grain (cracked maize or whole wheat): 3 g/bird/day 4–5h after feeding from 5 weeks of age.

■ ENRICHMENT: optional unless required by local regulations.

- White ropes – max 20 cm long – no contact with the litter.
- Wood shaving balls – 1 piece for 500 to 1000 birds, placed on floor.
- Pecking blocks – 1 piece for 500 to 1000 birds – Consider the hardness of the material.
- Alfalfa balls – 1 piece for 500 to 1000 birds, hanged or placed on floor.



Example of white ropes



Example of pecking blocks



Example of pecking blocks



Example of alfalfa balls

4. PRODUCTION PERIOD (20–65 WEEKS): HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL MIXING PERIOD AND GOOD EARLY FERTILITY?

OBJECTIVE: REACH THE FERTILITY PEAK AT 32 WEEKS OF AGE.

► The objective is to avoid disruption in growth between 20–27 weeks which is a key period to develop the fertility potential of the males.

► A good broiler breeder male shows:

- ▷ red comb and wattles;
- ▷ a good beak and long shanks;
- ▷ a good body condition (fleshing score: 2–3);
- ▷ good legs and feet (no bent toes, footpads with no injury);
- ▷ good feather cover with partial feather loss and a red and moist vent.

LIGHTING PROGRAMME: Once the males are mixed with the females, use the lighting programme table of the Premium female used. → See Management Guide “*Premium Mini PS*” or “*Redbro PS*”.

MALE TRANSFER BEFORE THE FEMALES (20 TO 22 WEEKS)

► Where possible (controlled house with 18 °C, dry litter), it is a good practice to place males in the production house 3 to 5 days before the females to allow males to have a better adaptation to the new feeding and drinking systems (especially if spin feeding is used in rearing).

- Place males all along the house for a uniform distribution and not near a door.
- During the first days after the transfer, check if they find drinkers and feeders. The male feeding system could be lowered to help them find the feed.

MALE MIXING

- Mix males that are on target bodyweight with uniform skeleton size and good shank length.
- Never mix shy, sexually immature or underweight males as they will be dominated by the females.
- For a better integration mix males ideally in the evening. Carefully observe the male/female interaction.



Good M99 male condition



Good level of sexual maturity



[Management guide
Premium Mini PS](#)



[Management guide
Redbro PS](#)

MALE CONDITION / BODYWEIGHT CONTROL

The risk of excessive weight gain and/or loss of condition up to 28 weeks is high:

- Weigh at least 60 males per pen weekly. Adjust feed according to both male condition and bodyweight.
- Check feed distribution at least 2 times per week at first and then every week to correct feed allocation and distribution if need be. It is better to attend to the feed distribution to make sure that every male has a normal access to the feeders.
 - ▷ Use a proper grill size (Premium Mini: 43–45 mm wide x 55 mm high; Redbro: 45 mm wide x 60 mm high) or adjust pan feeders to control male access to the female feeder. Also ensure that the corners are sealed with covers. Check behaviour and if males are still stealing feed adjust the feed amount in male feeders.
 - ▷ Feed males in the morning when the first female feed is being distributed. The feed distribution needs to be uniform all along the feeding system (check if the sensor of the last pan feeder works properly).
 - ▷ The male feeder should be high enough to prevent the females from eating with the males. Consider the risk of under-feeding, e.g. if male activity is very high which will affect energy requirement. The comb will be paler and listless and body conformation will change. Check fleshing progress very carefully from 19 to 25 weeks to ensure males not over or under fed.



Importance of controlling male access to the female feeder.
Yellow circle: open feed access for males.



Importance of the grill size on female feeders.

4. PRODUCTION PERIOD (20–65 WEEKS): HOW TO MAXIMIZE THE PERSISTENCY OF FERTILITY?

OBJECTIVE: MAXIMISE THE FERTILITY RATES UNTIL DEPLETION.

MALE CONDITION / BODYWEIGHT CONTROL

■ Weekly control of male bodyweight (3–5% of the flock or at least 60 birds/pen), male condition (fleshing: shape and amount of breast, footpads, vent) is essential.

■ Check the mating activity in the last 2 hours before lights are turned off by sitting on a chair along the sidewalls for at least 30 min. Please seek advice from your Hubbard Technical Specialist.

▷ Record the number of mating attempts that may normally be between 60 and 100 per hour for 1000 females.

▷ Record the number of hens that escape after one mating attempt. It should not be above 30% of the number of mating attempts.

ANALYSIS OF THE WEEKLY RESULTS FOR AN OPTIMAL MALE MANAGEMENT

■ Feed:

▷ Feed should be immediately adjusted at any time that bodyweight drifts away from the recommended objective.

▷ Boost feeding especially when a decrease in the fleshing score is observed e.g. 2 to 3 days with 150% of the current daily feed allocation (see example on page 13).

▷ Check the physical quality of the feed on a regular basis using the Hubbard feed sieve and the Hubbard software. → See **“Hubbard Feed Sieve Tool”**.

■ Mating activity could be encouraged by:

▷ Giving scratch grain in the late afternoon after 40 weeks of age (e.g. 1g/bird every 2–3 days).

▷ Adjusting the mating ratio: regular culling of poor-quality males.

▷ Ensuring that the litter will be kept in a good condition (dry, not caked).

Severe under-fleshing



Target



Severe over-fleshing



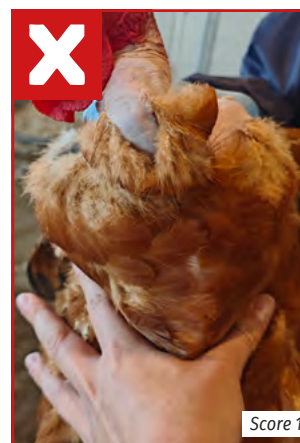
Good looking M99 male



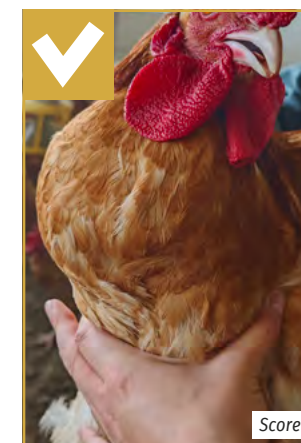
Good looking Redbro Naked Neck male



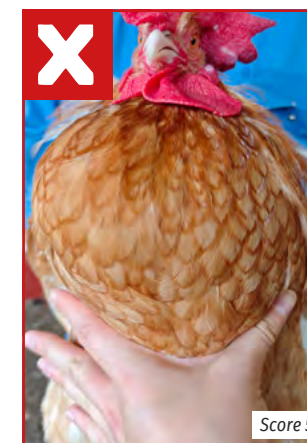
Good looking Grey barred male



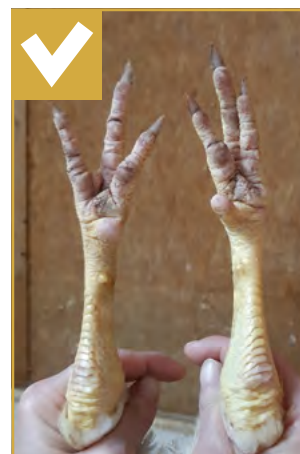
Score 1



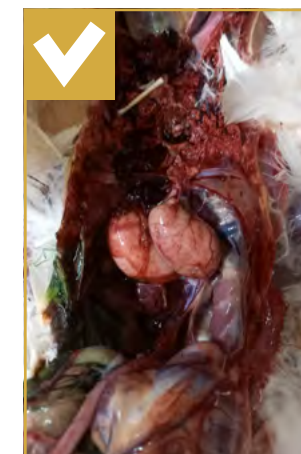
Score 3



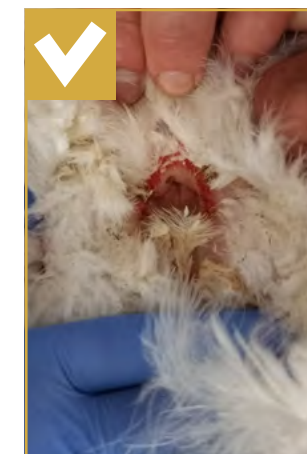
Score 5



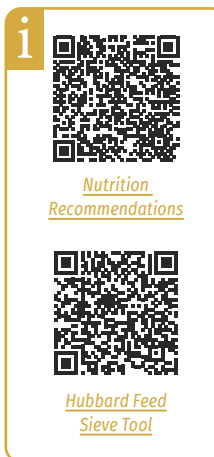
Strong and straight legs



Good testicle size



Red and moist cloaca



5. MANAGEMENT SPECIFICATIONS: INTERMEDIATE AND SLOW GROWTH MALES

INTERMEDIATE MALES

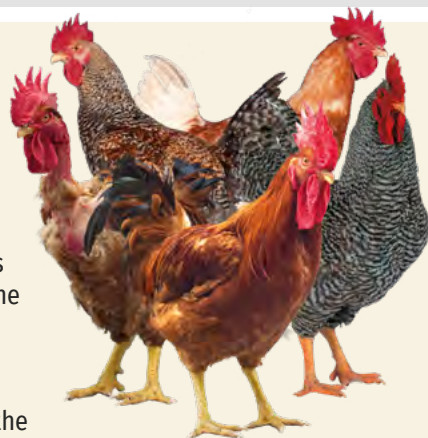
REARING PERIOD

- During the brooding period, it is recommended to increase the ambiance temperature by 1 °C for the naked neck males.
- It is possible to rear the intermediate males together with females in the same house (not the same pen).
- Lighting programme:
 - ▷ If the males are reared separately from the females, the 8-hours light programme at 5–10 lux could be provided from 4 weeks of age.
 - ▷ Increase the light duration so that males and females follow the same lighting programme at transfer time → See table 1. Monitor the flock behavior after the light stimulation.
 - ▷ The light intensity can be increased (if permitted by local regulations) and adjusted according to the behaviour of the birds, but it should never be decreased between the rearing and production house.
- Some enrichment such as white strings, alfalfa balls and/or wood shavings may be provided.

PRODUCTION PERIOD

- The Male 2 diet is not recommended for the Intermediate males.
- Mating ratio management:
 - ▷ Regular culling of poor-quality males during the weekly weighing procedure.
 - ▷ Adjust the mating ratio according to flock age using table 2.
- Specific focus on male condition/bodyweight control
 - ▷ Use the weekly weighing procedure as an opportunity to assess male condition (fleshing-shape and breast volume, footpads, and vent).
 - ▷ Male replacement: Not usually necessary, but it can be carried out depending on flock condition and fertility performance.

TABLE 1: EXAMPLE OF LIGHTING PROGRAMME	Male age	Case N°1 : 10 h light for the females	Case N°2 : 12 h light for the females
		Light duration for the males	
	112 d	8 h	8 h
	119 d	9 h	10 h
	126 d	10 h	11 h
	133 d to transfer	10 h	12 h



SLOW GROWTH MALES

REARING PERIOD

- During the brooding period, it is recommended to increase the ambiance temperature by 1 °C for the naked neck males.
- It is possible to rear Slow Growth males together with females in the same house (not the same pen).
- Lighting programme:
 - ▷ If the males are reared separately from the females, the 8-hours light programme at 5–10 lux could be provided from 4 weeks of age.
 - ▷ Increase the light duration and light intensity so that males and females follow the same lighting programme at transfer time → See table 1. Monitor the flock behavior after the light stimulation.

PRODUCTION PERIOD

- The Male 2 diet is not recommended for the slow growth males.
- Feed management:
 - ▷ The slow growth males could share the female feeders.
 - ▷ As they are close to ad libitum feeding, ensure that the feeders are empty every day.
 - ▷ In some cases (open sided houses, cold climate), the feed intake can go up to 280 g/day/bird to keep the males in a good condition.

TABLE 2: MATING RATIO ACCORDING TO FLOCK AGE	Flock age	Intermediate males	Slow Growth males
	20–22 weeks	9% max	9% max
	26 weeks	8.5–9% max	8.5–9% max
	30 weeks	8.5%	8.5%
	40 weeks	8%	8%
	50 weeks	8%	7.5%
	60 weeks	8%	7%

- Mating ratio management:
 - ▷ Regular culling of poor-quality males during the weekly weighing procedure.
 - ▷ Adjust the mating ratio according to flock age using table 2.
 - ▷ Male replacement: Not usually necessary.



5. MANAGEMENT SPECIFICATIONS: CONVENTIONAL MALES (M77 & M99)

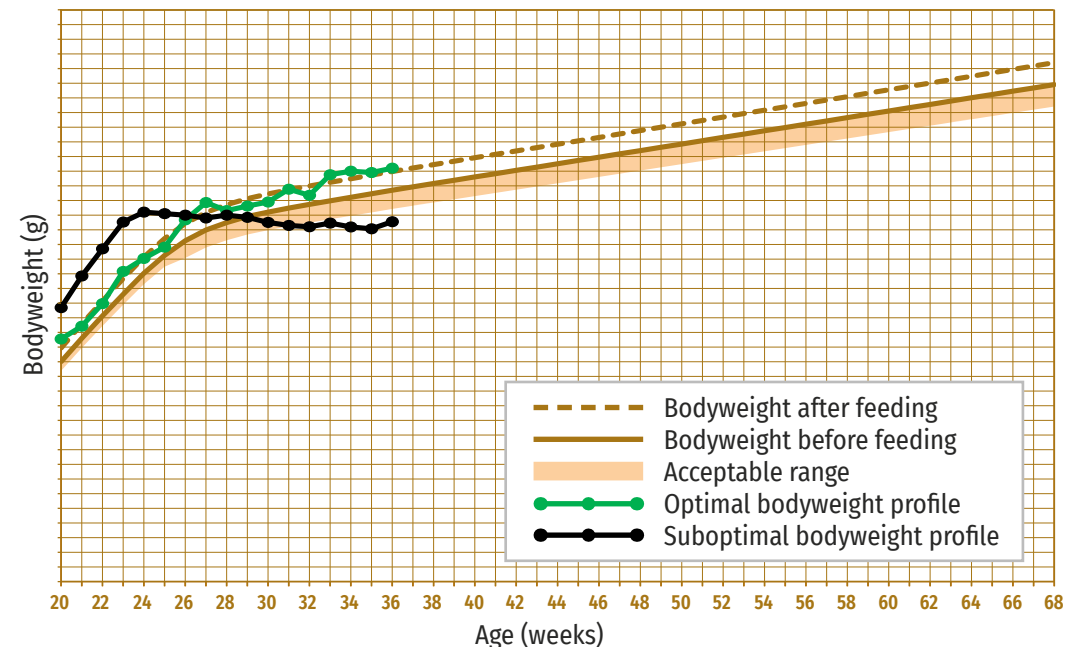
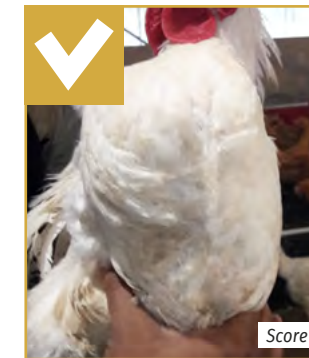
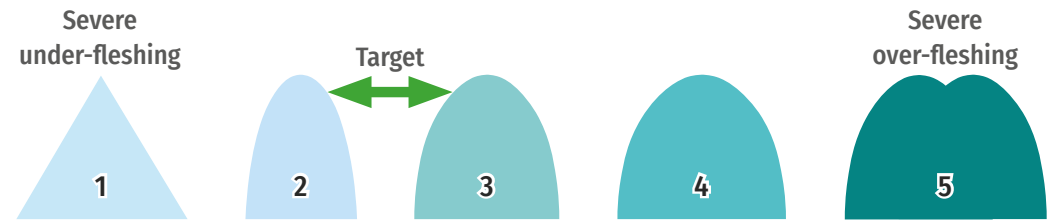
LIGHTING PROGRAMME FROM 17–18 WEEKS OF AGE

- Necessary to ensure proper synchronization of sexual maturity especially with Premium Mini females.
- Increase the light duration so that males and females follow the same lighting programme at transfer time → See table below.
- The light intensity can be increased (if permitted by local regulations) and adjusted according to the behaviour of the birds, but it should never be decreased between the rearing and production house.
- Some enrichment such as white strings, alfalfa balls and/or wood shavings may be provided.

EXAMPLE OF LIGHTING PROGRAMME	Male age	Case N°1 : 10 h light for the females	Case N°2 : 12 h light for the females
		Light duration for the males	
	112 d	8 h	8 h
	119 d	9 h	10 h
	126 d	10 h	11 h
	133 d to transfer	10 h	12 h

SPECIFIC FOCUS ON MALE CONDITION/BODYWEIGHT CONTROL

- Weekly control of male bodyweight (3–5% of the flock or at least 60 birds/pen).
- Use the weighing procedure as an opportunity to assess male condition (fleshing—shape and breast volume, footpads, and vent). A fleshing scoring scale is shown on the right-hand side of this page.



Male bodyweight profile in production

5. MANAGEMENT SPECIFICATIONS: CONVENTIONAL MALES (M77 & M99)

ANALYSIS OF THE WEEKLY RESULTS FOR AN OPTIMAL MALE MANAGEMENT

► Feed:

- ▷ Use the Male 1 diet from 20 weeks of age for an optimal control of the bodyweight.
- ▷ Boost feeding especially when a decrease of the fleshing score is observed e.g. 2 to 3 days with 150% of the current daily feed allocation.
- ▷ Use the Male 2 diet after 30 weeks of age (lower protein and higher energy content) to meet the weekly growth targets and to allow males to maintain sufficient energy intake without an increased risk of excess fleshing. → See *“Nutrition Recommendations”*.



► Mating ratio management:

- ▷ Regular culling of poor-quality males during the weekly weighing procedure.
- ▷ Adjust the mating ratio according to flock age using table below. Under certain circumstances (toe treatment, beak treatment), the mating ratio could be around 7.5–8% from transfer time.

MATING RATIO FOR M99 AND M77 MALES	Flock age	Mating ratio M99	Mating ratio M77
	20–22 weeks	9.5%	9%
	26 weeks	9%	8–8.5%
	30 weeks	8.5%	8–8.5%
	40 weeks	8%	7.5–8%
	50 weeks	7.5%	7–7.5%
	60 weeks	7%	6.5–7%

► **MALE REPLACEMENT:** Biosecurity must be considered before doing this, especially in areas with all health risks. → See bulletin *“Male replacement”*.

- ▷ Inter-house male replacement does not require importing males from outside. All poor-quality males are taken out and humanely euthanized and replaced by males with similar bodyweight.
- ▷ External male replacement with young males (25–28 weeks old) involves strict sanitary control of the new males. Between 20 and 30% of the male flock size will be replaced to stimulate the old males and will replace the males with poor physical condition.

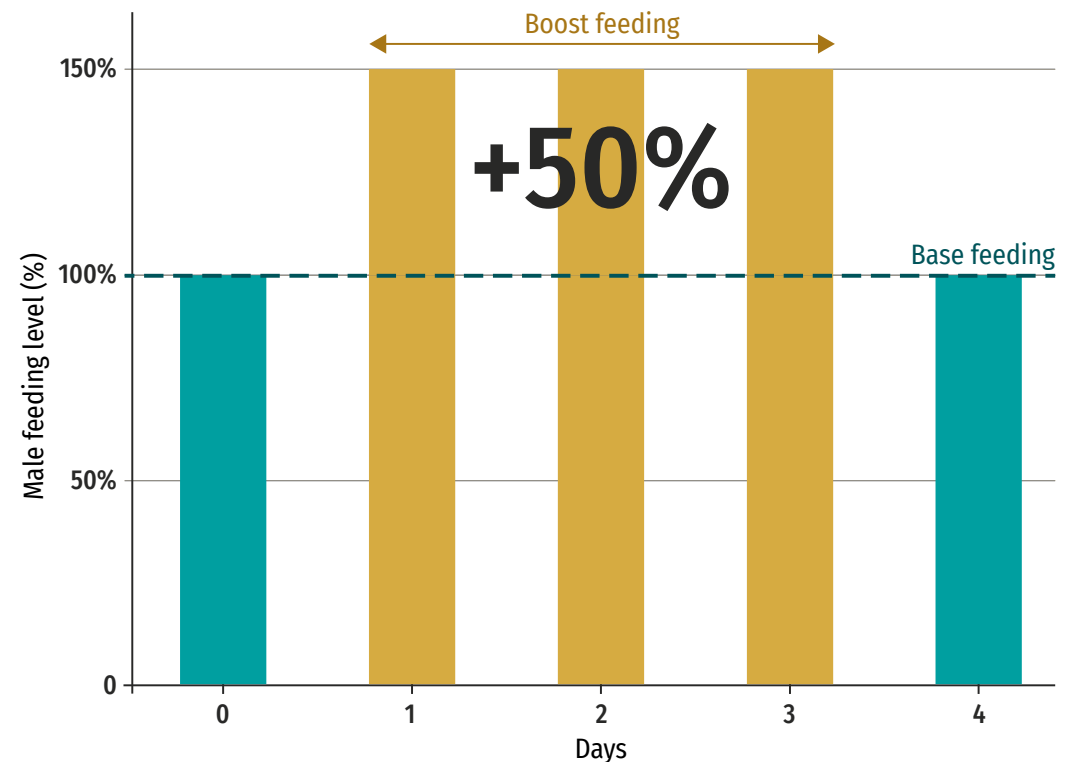
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[Nutrition Recommendations](#)



[Hubbard Bulletin Male replacement](#)



Example of boost feeding

6. BIOSECURITY

LITTER MANAGEMENT



Litter/bedding storage in an adapted biosecure area to maintain the pathogen-free status (inside the house).



No accumulated litter at the end of the cycle.

SHED TO SHED ACCESS

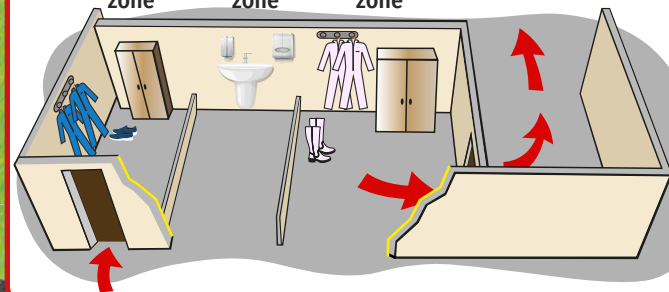


If corridor between the two houses provide three-zone entry.



If no corridor between the houses, provide one shower unit in each house.

Transit zone Changing zone Clean zone



VISITORS



Restrict visitors and adapt quarantine period.



Provide shower facilities.



Provide change of clothes and boots.

VEHICLES



Vehicles must be cleaned prior to entering the farm facility.



DO NOT allow unauthorised vehicles on the farm.



Make sure all feed and gas deliveries stay outside of the fence.



Shoe covers are to be worn on shoes from cars into the shower facilities.

EXTERIOR



Do not treat the concrete or area inside the fence as clean.

INTERIOR



Easy to clean and disinfect concrete floor.



Easy to clean and disinfect equipment. The resting period ideally lasts for at least 10 days.



Ensure good quality water is available.

ANIMAL CONTROL



Keep other livestock away from facility.

PEST CONTROL

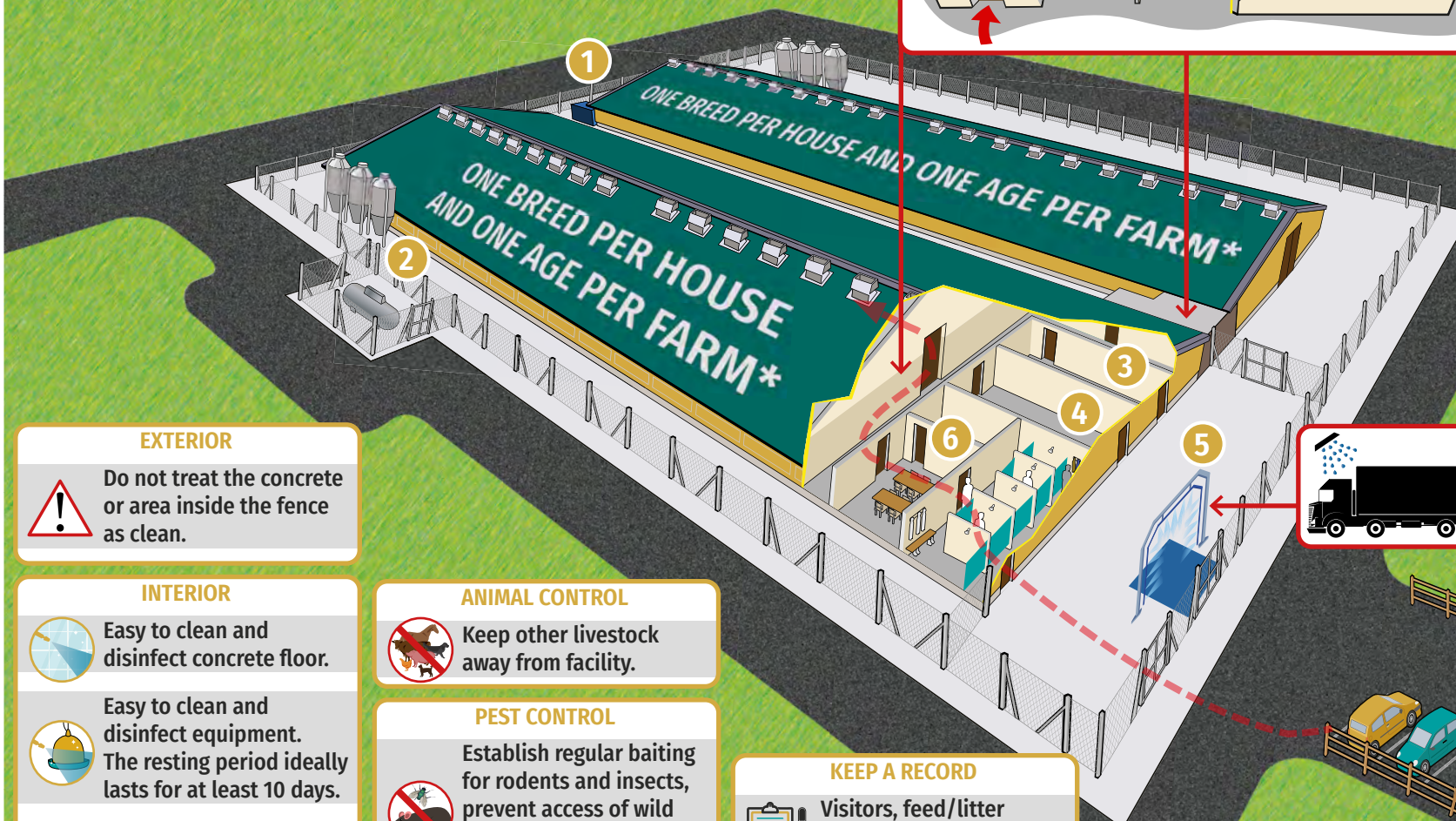


Establish regular baiting for rodents and insects, prevent access of wild birds according to local regulations.

KEEP A RECORD



Visitors, feed/litter delivery, cleaning and disinfecting, pest control.



- 1 Freezer room: disposal of dead birds in a biosecure freezer.
 - 2 Gas tank
 - 3 Fumigation room
 - 4 Egg storage room
 - 5 Vehicle disinfection unit
 - 6 Staff room
- Go forward principle

* It may be possible to rear different Premium breeds in the same house. Please consult your local Hubbard Technical Specialist.





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